



Mariana Federica Wolfner is Goldwin Smith Professor and Stephen H. Weiss Fellow in the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics. She was an undergraduate at Cornell (College of Arts and Sciences) with majors in Biology and Chemistry, obtained a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Stanford University, and did postdoctoral work at UCSD. In 1983 she joined the Cornell faculty. Mariana's research is on the function, regulation, and evolution of proteins that are essential for reproduction, primarily in insects. The results have potential relevance to control of insect vectors of disease and to understanding human infertility. Her work is collaborative and interdisciplinary, a feature that she enjoys. Mariana has mentored over 40 graduate students, 20 postdoctoral fellows, 80 undergraduates and several high school students in her research lab. She teaches courses in developmental biology, genetics, and their interface with evolution. Mariana has been active in many areas at Cornell, including serving as Associate Dept. Chair, Director of Graduate Study, Faculty-elected Trustee (term ends 6/18), and member of FACTA. Her interest in biology and scientific research has led to service in a number of capacities here, such as on the Provost's Life Science Advisory and Research Advisory Councils. Mariana is also actively involved in mentoring junior faculty in her department and beyond. Her interest in undergraduate and graduate education/mentoring and the student experience led to service on the General Committee of Cornell's graduate school, and on transformative curriculum committees in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of Undergraduate Biology, and the Provost's office. Mariana was a Rawlings House Fellow at Alice Cook House for 12 years, and participates in a range of educational/advising workshops including the Faculty Institute for Diversity and CIRTL. She has been very active in her discipline, including serving as President of AAAS' Biology Section and as an Officer on the Genetics Society of America's Board. She is an Editor at several biology journals, has organized numerous scientific conferences, and is (or was) a member of several NIH and NSF grants-panels. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and has been honored to receive awards from the Entomological Society of America and the Genetics Society of America.

I am enthusiastic about the possibility to serve on the UFC. I have seen and greatly appreciated the important work that the UFC does, thoughtfully raising pressing concerns to faculty and administrators on matters including academics, campus-climate, and scholarship, and striving to find solutions that foster an inclusive, safe, and intellectually-vibrant campus. As a Cornell faculty member, I have enjoyed contributing to the university and the discipline in research- and teaching-centered, as well as graduate-

undergraduate-, postdoc-, and faculty-focused, ways. While biology is my scholarly passion, it is so in the context of the much broader intellectual landscape that is represented at Cornell. Among the things that I find particularly special at Cornell are the collegiality and caring, and the collaborative and interdisciplinary thought that pervade our university's top-level scholarship and academics. I would like these unique features to remain nurtured in the face of pressures that affect our university, colleges, departments, scholarship, colleagues, and students. I am eager to work with UFC members and will do my best to bring to the UFC the perspectives I've experienced and encountered as a faculty member and faculty-elected trustee. At the personal level, I have always enjoyed working with colleagues outside, as well as in, my discipline. I find it valuable (and enjoyable) as we combine different perspectives and knowledge to help Cornell be and remain the best possible University for its faculty, students and staff.