Faculty Senate

September 14, 2022

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Good afternoon. I'm senate speaker, Jonathan Ochshorn, recently emeritized in the Department of Architecture. We start the meeting with the Gayogo̱hó:nǫ' Land Acknowledgement. Cornell University is located on the traditional homelands of the Gayogo̱hó:nǫ' (the Cayuga Nation). The Gayogo̱hó:nǫ' are members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, an alliance of six sovereign Nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The Confederacy precedes the establishment of Cornell University, New York state, and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Gayogo̱hó:nǫ' dispossession and honor the ongoing connection of Gayogo̱hó:nǫ' people, past and present, to these lands and waters. Now the official call to order. We should have a slide about the minutes, which are just literal transcriptions of the meeting, so there shouldn't be any objections, but if there are, just raise your virtual or real hand. Otherwise, I'll presume consent and we'll move on to the next order of business, which is a sense of the senate resolution. Eve De Rosa, Dean of Faculty, has five minutes.

>> Eve De Rosa: Hello, everyone. Good afternoon. If you are a senator, please sign-- Actually, everyone here. Everyone in Zoomland and everybody here, please sign in. that would be helpful. I'm going to move this mic a little bit. The sense of the senate is an informal resolution, relatively informal. The university faculty committee decides that there is a topic that's important for discussion and it warrants an informal motion. The USF, at the request of one of our senators, asked us to consider a sense of the senate resolution expressing our appreciation of all who kept us safe for the first two years of the Covid 19 pandemic. We wanted to share with you that this

mechanism doesn't require a quorum. It also wanted to give you a sense of the burst sense of the senate resolution. It was this policy that-- I just remind everyone at the beginning of every semester not to schedule academic work during breaks like Thanksgiving. This is the feeling of the what the next proposed sense of the senate resolution has. This sense of the Senate resolution expresses our appreciation for the generous community efforts at Cornell University, especially (1) the frontline services that kept us safe during those first years of the COVID-19 pandemic, including dining, cleaning, health, and testing services; (2) those who helped manage the logistics, including modeling infectivity, housing, information technologists, audio-visual technologists, facilities, and university leadership; and (3) the faculty and students who continued to be adaptable and dedicated to an enriched higher education experience. It is acknowledged that we are still learning to manage COVID-19 and that its repercussions will be felt for a long time to come, but we have learned lessons that will guide us through future challenges to our community. Next slide. This will be our next senate vote. I just wanted, for new senators, to let you know how we vote. We will send you a Qualtrics link tomorrow. You will have a two-week window, I believe it's the 29th, to submit your Qualtrics link. Yes if you're in support of the sense of the senate resolution, no if you're not in favor, and abstention. I just wanted to give people a sense of why someone might abstain. Our hope is that even if you feel conflicted or you have a conflict of interest and you don't feel like you can say yes or no, we still want you to vote. We still want to hear your voice. Next slide. We're just going to open it up to senate discussion. Anybody who's physically here, please come down to a mic. Anybody on Zoomland, just put up your virtual hand and we'll call on you. We prioritize people who have not spoken. If you have given a comment you want to get back in the queue, no problem, be we will give preferential opportunities to those who haven't spoken yet. With that, we'll just open the

floor for people to discuss. You'll note that the word safety is in red. That's different than what was on the agenda. This is because I heard from environmental health and safety asking if we could just include that word so that they're acknowledged. I thought we captured them in the word health, but we came up with a collaboration there to put the word safety in. The idea of this sense of the senate is that people see themselves in it and understand that this was a community effort. We open up the floor for comment.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: I see no hands up in Zoom, but I'll wait another few seconds. Anyone here in person, feel free to just walk up to one of the microphones.

>> Eve De Rosa: With that, we're going to change the agenda a little bit. I will go to my slides and use my time until-- The design tech will be arriving at 3:59, so we'll use our time wisely. Maybe we might be able to finish before 5:00 today. Who knows? I like the aspiration. I'm Eve De Rosa, Dean of Faculty. I am also the Chair of the University Faculty Committee. The University Faculty Committee, for those of you who were not at the orientation two weeks ago, they serve as the executive committee for the office of the Dean of Faculty. If there are University Faculty Committee members here in the audience, please put up your hand or stand up. If you're on Zoomland, just put your hand up. One of the things that we're working on is having more representation of the university faculty in the senate meeting. Chelsea's going to-- She's the Associate Dean of Faculty and she's also the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. Chelsea will also provide some updates today as well. Next slide. These are our new appointed members for all the twelve senate committees we have. Here, you'll see their department, their college. We tried to have good representation across the different units,

colleges, campuses. You'll see that here and on the next slide are the rest. If there is anybody who's opposed to any name that you see, please let us know. With that, we'll go to the next topic.

>> Chelsea Specht: Hi, everyone. It's great to see you guys. Hi, everyone in Zoomland. I'm Chelsea Specht. I'm a professor in plant biology, and I am your Associate Dean for the Faculty. I'm also Chair of the Nominations and Election Committee. I just want to give you a bit of an update of where the Nominations and Election Committee is going right now. Is anyone here in this room or in Zoomland, if you want to raise your hand, a member of that committee? I don't see anyone here. We have-- The committee is comprised of nine members. Six of whom are elected, and three of whom are appointed. The job of this committee is to nominate candidates for election to the faculty trustees, the Dean of Faculty, and Associate Dean when those positions are up, members of the senate, the at large group members, as well as for any both elected and appointed offices in any of the committees that are generated from the senate. That's a huge number of people when you think about the-- I actually should have counted the number of people that were responsible for getting appointments for, but the goal-- As many of you have probably been involved in faculty searches recently, you recognize the importance of really beating the bushes to make sure you have a robust candidate pool. The goal of that committee, this year in particular and moving forward, is to really ensure that we do have a robust pool of candidates that we can then select from either for elected positions or the appointed positions. I'm really putting the word out to all of you as individuals who are leaders on campus who know what the committees look like, who know the importance of different roles of these committees and jobs of these committees have. You're the people who are identifying and seeing somebody. Wow, that person would be great to have on this committee. They would represent early career

faculty. They would represent my department, or my unit, my college. They would represent a small department, they would represent a large department, they would represent a particular identity that gives them a positionality when they're making decisions or helping to support inclusivity within all of our decision making processes. As you as individuals might identify somebody that you can imagine would be a great addition to one of these committees, don't wait. Go right to your email. You have it on your phone. Send to the Dean of Faculty, "Oh my gosh. I just saw this person give a passionate speech. Please include them on one of our curriculum committees or one of our safety committees." There's so many opportunities for them to participate. The minute-- Honestly, seriously, if you do wait, you'll forget. Send it right away. Between myself, and Eve, and Jill, and CA, we maintain a list of people that we think would be great for these committees. If you include just a little bit about why you think they would be ideal, that can even help us when we're going through the process of ensuring that committees, each committee has a diversity of voices and spans different values. You can see some of the values that we're looking at. We want to make sure that there are individuals that span all the parts of campus, the expertise that they have, their individual diversity, as well as the units that they represent. This is really critical. We're meeting now once a month to get together, to review the list of names, to review the vacancies, and to ensure we really do have a robust pool of candidates. The more people we have involved-- You guys as senate members also, nominate yourselves. Get involved in the committees. That's a way to ensure that your voices are being heard. Thank you. If you have any questions, I'm happy to take them now or answer them at any time.

>> Eve De Rosa: Jonathan will keep us honest in terms of time. We can come back. We have

open time for us to speak and discuss any content that I'm presenting at this moment. I just wanted to let the previous senators know that the results of the votes that were pending at the end of the academic year, we had three pending. One was now Resolution 182, which is the resolution regarding the Award of Honors and Distinctions to Cornell's undergraduates. That passed. Resolution 183 was the Posthumous Academic Awards Policy. That was passed. Increasing the transparency and effectiveness of faculty senate proceedings, that one did not pass. Next slide. Before you go, I did those really red circles to really, really urge you to vote. Abstinence-- [Laughter] I'm not gonna go there. Abstention was where I wanted to go. Abstention is just fine. It still communicates to us that you're invested in what we're thinking about, what we're discussing, what we're debating. If you feel conflicted or some other reason why it was just difficult for you to express your dissent, use the abstain option as a way to communicate those things to us. Next slide. I wanted to also update the senate. There's a resolution that passed in the spring of 2021. This was a request for the crime alerts not to include racial biased identification. This was voted on by us in April 2021. It was acted upon by the Chief of Police in May 2021. I include a quote for him where-- Actually, Chief of Police Honan is no longer the Chief of Police. He's the Associate Vice President of Public Safety. I believe I got the title correct. In fact, he's going to come to the next meeting to share his vision for this new division that we have on campus. We're looking forward to his visit. I just wanted to include the quote. Let you know that what we discuss here in the senate, what we vote on does have impact. It the impacts the quality of life in our community. Next slide. These are topics that I'm virtually certain will be here, and will be discussed, and it will be debated. We started the conversation about eliminating the swim test. There have been very active discussions by our athletics, or physical education senate committee. They've been working with the Associate

Dean of Phys. Ed. and Student and Campus Life. They've created a report, they are drafting a formal resolution, and they will bring that to the senate this year. This semester in fact. Academic integrity. This is something where we are seeing an uneven application of academic integrity across the colleges. Can we work on a policy that we can formalize here in the senate that can be applied evenly so that a student in CALS gets the same academic integrity experience as they would in arts and sciences for example. The committee that looks at the professional status of faculty. The reason I hesitated because it's a really long title with a long acronym. Basically the professional status of faculty. They've been sitting since the previous Dean of Faculty with a revision in how the Chair's letter is transparent or not transparent to the entire faculty. There's some strong voices on either side of this, inside of their senate committee, so we're going to bring it to the senate to be discussed again and voted on hopefully this semester. Another conversation that may or may not make it to the senate is this idea of really bringing the interdisciplinary and disciplinary contributions to the super departments to the same values for a tenure. That's a conversation that we'll have here. We have, and I did get the title correct, the Associate Vice President for Public Safety will come to the senate. President Pollack will come to senate. The new University Librarian, Elaine Westbrooks, has also been invited to the senate. We haven't set up a date. We want her to, of course, get established. Our university, our Senate Committee Library Board has been really working hard and been very helpful to the library as well. Next slide. How are we doing on time?

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: We have plenty of time.

>> Eve De Rosa: We do? Okay. We can use this opportunity to start senate discussions on topics

we should be discussing in this current academic year. Also, this is an opportunity for senators to bring new business. Feel free to walk up and use the mic or use your Zoom hand. We have a Zoom.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Okay, we'll start with a Zoom. Ken Birman, identify your department.

>> Ken Birman: Yeah, Ken Birman. I am the senator from Computer Science, one of the senators from Computer Science. I would like the senate to consider, reconsider actually, a decision that was made several years ago in connection with our authorization of the research professor titles. At that time, a decision was made that we would cease to use research scientist as a title with Cornell. Since that time, I've become aware that this a problem that harms the career prospects of Cornell's RTE scientists who currently hold titles typically of research associate, which sounds like graduate student, or senior research associate. You may remember that more than ten years ago, we created research scientist as a career path for these RTE individuals because it connotes greater stature. We originally thought that we would use research professor for these people, but there seems to be a large group of RTE researchers where research professor isn't quite right. They don't have the full mix of professorial activities. Because the senate eliminated the use of research scientist, we're forcing them back into that deprecated title of senior research associate, which sounds like old graduate student. I would like the senate to consider this, at least if there is support particularly from the RTE research community.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Again, anyone here is welcome to step up to the mic or-- I think I see

someone. Harold Hodes, identify your department. You can speak for two minutes.

>> Harold Hodes: Hi. I'm Harold Hodes in Philosophy. I gather that the size of the undergraduate classes at Cornell has been expanding and is due to expand further. My impression from a conversation with my Chair is that no corresponding increase is planned in the size of the professoriate or in the number of teaching assistantships available to grad students. This is sounding like speed up. I think it would be good for the faculty to have more information about what is planned by the way of both expansion of the student populations and expansion of the teaching population because this, I think, should be a matter of concern to all of us.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: We have a speaking in person. Identify yourself, please.

>> Mike Kotlikoff: Sure. Mike Kotlikoff, Provost. Professor Hodes, I can speak to your question. We have had for some time with the construction of North Campus a plan to increase the total undergraduate population to 15,800. That's a limit on that total population. At the same time, we have had a plan to increase the faculty. With Covid and with the last couple of years, we have not kept up, it is true, with faculty numbers, but we've just gone through a discussion with the Deans, and in fact, a formal commitment of every college to hiring tenure track faculty. That will account. The goal is greater than 100 new tenure track faculty over the next three years in aggregate over all the colleges. I can assure you that there is a plan to increase the tenure track officorial.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Come to the mic and identify yourself and your department.

>> Paul Ginsparg: Paul Ginsparg. I'm here representing the Information Science Department. I want the faculty senate to consider the surreptitious change in the calendar that took place in September. When I say surreptitious, it really was done without notifying anybody in the physics department. The staff was caught completely by surprise. They have a sequence of events that takes place for incoming graduate students, and they were not informed of it. The faculty wasn't it all informed that the calendar had moved up. The extent to which this was out of the ordinary. Let me recall to you, there was a previous calendar change implemented in the spring of 2014. When I communicated the problems that it was causing to the then Provost, his response was that the calendar is the purview of the faculty senate, and so he would have to push it to the faculty senate. Now, I'm fully aware, because I've done some legwork on this, checked with other people who are in the know, why it was changed. The answer that will come back is that it had something to do with New York State accreditation, that ours weren't consistent, but there are still multiple problems with this. First of all, I had my first academic trip planned for August based on the previous calendar, and I had to curtail that trip. If you poll the faculty, most of us would agree, and next year, it's even going to be a day earlier because the number of days in the year is 1 mod 7, so, it'll start August 21st next year. Again, a Monday where historically, it always started on a Wednesday. It just caught all of us by surprise. It's already too early. A few of us who dramatically inconvenienced by this went and checked the internet archive and saw in the calendar, it was one thing up to November of 2021. It was changed in 2021 December without notifying anybody. So, I would like to propose two discussions. One is, was the calendar change right? Should we have put more days into December rather than bringing it forward? And number two, while I wasn't the faculty senate involved in the discussion, and actually there's a

number three, which is how could they possibly do this without notifying any faculty or stuff?

>> Eve De Rosa: So, as the person who worked with the registrar's office on the academic calendar, this was to put Cornell in compliance. So, that is actually one of the responses. It was also-- So, one is compliance with New York State Education Department. The number of credits that are defined by the number of hours that students and faculty have, face-to-face hours, we were out of compliance with that. Additionally, there was a large cohort of lab classes that said that it would be preferential to have the calendar start on the Monday because they were missing out on putting labs forward on the very first week of classes. It was a large chunk of our faculty in STEM that actually benefited from our feedback, that they benefited from having a Monday start. So, it was posted last year, very early, but I guess I, as a new Dean of Faculty, did not realize that this is something that should have been broadcast, but I'm happy to do so in the future. It is possible that it is time for us to move on.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Well, we saved quite a bit of time. [Crosstalk] So, David, identify yourself, and then maybe we'll cut it off.

>> David Delchamps: David Delchamps, Electrical and Computer Engineering. Last fall, I was the chair of the education policy committee. At the end of October, the registrar and Eve got in touch with me about this change. We had an email exchange. It was kind of presented as a done deal. They sort of said, "We want to ask your view on this, but it's going to happen." So, to be honest, Eve, that's how it came across. I said, "Okay." So, I was informed as a faculty member, Chair of the Education Policy Committee. I figured would be it broadcast. I immediately dumped

it from my stack of memory, figuring I'd hear about it. Okay, fast forward five months, six months. March, I saw this academic calendar. We're starting on a Monday in August, August 22nd. I'm like, "Whoa, where did that come from?" I had completely forgotten about this conversation I've had with those folks, so I sent an email to the registrar and Eve politely asking, "Wait, no one told me about this." They said, "Yes, we did. Look at your email." Now, the moral of this story is I think it should have been broadcast by somebody. I don't know who. I don't know whether it's you, but somebody should have broadcast the faculty probably last November, but it did happen.

>> Paul Ginsparg: Not in my email. I was on the faculty senate last fall. It wasn't mentioned.

>> David Delchamps: It wasn't, no. Yeah, I totally agree with that.

>> Eve De Rosa: I should let you know that it went to the entire education policy committee, so it wasn't just the three of us making this decision. The EPC at the senate committee did make this decision. But yes, I did not broadcast it.

>> [Indiscernible]

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: I think would be a good time to move on to the agenda item involving Design & Technology Department in the Colleges of AAP, Bowers College of Computing and Information Science, College of Human Ecology, and Cornell Tech. We are scheduled to have a 10 minute presentation by the Dean of AP Meejin Yoon, followed by 5 minutes of discussion

from some of the collaborators, followed by 15 minutes of faculty senate discussion. I think there's a little bit more time than that, so let's start with the presentation by Dean Meejin Yoon, College of AAP. Oh, and Professor Jenny Sabin from Architecture.

>> Meejin Yoon: So, thank you. On behalf of the collaborating deans, Dean Dunifon of College of Human Ecology, Dean Bala, Computing and Information. Science, Dean Archer. Okay. Yes. And Dean Archer, College of Engineering, Dean Morissette of Cornell Tech, and myself, the Dean of the College of Architecture Art and Planning. We'd really like to express our collective enthusiasm and support for the proposal of a multi college Department of Design and Technology. We'd like to thank the faculty task force, as well as all the collaborating units across Cornell for their thought, leadership, input, and development of this proposal. We think it's a very unique proposal, very thoughtfully developed by the faculty, and will further advance Cornell's standing as a leader in Design and Technology. I also want to thank Professor Jenny Sabin and Professor Ju, who co-chaired the Faculty Design Tech Task Force.

>> Jenny Sabin: Thank you, Meejin. It's my pleasure to provide an update on the Design and Technology Initiative, and specifically our proposal for the creation of a new multi College Department of Design and Technology. Importantly, this proposal differs significantly from the previous proposal that was presented last May at the faculty senate in that the structure for the new proposed department is multi-college. We propose to create a multi college academic Department of Design and Technology with the ambition to be recognized nationally and internationally as the leader in this emerging area. The new department will bridge and enhance the Design and Technology disciplines, domains, and departments at Cornell University across

AAP, the College of Human Ecology, Bowers CIS, Engineering, an A&S, and Cornell Tech with a concentrated focus on the intersections between design and technology across disciplines to enhance, advance, and expand design technology education, research, and practice. Next slide. Sorry. We should be on slide two. Perfect. The new multi College Department of Design Tech is an outcome of over two years of conversations between the Deans of AAP, Human Ecology, Engineering, Bowers CIS, and Cornell Tech on how best to strengthen and expand design education and research in emerging technologies here at Cornell. This has also importantly been complemented by a parallel conversation of close to two years of collaborative work developed by a multidisciplinary and multi college faculty task force to develop and lay groundwork for joint initiatives for Design Tech at Cornell. The members highlighted here on the slide. Next slide. The proposal is one development in response to the charge that our provost put forth on design education and design research at Cornell and areas related to Design and Technology. Importantly, input from the Design and Technology taskforce, the Chairs of Human Centered Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning, and faculty from AAP, HCD, and Cornell Tech have helped to shape this current proposal. Next slide, please. Design Tech will complement existing departments in the design arts, design science, design engineering, and design professions at Cornell across the participating colleges by recruiting faculty working at the interface between existing disciplines. In collaboration with the Deans of College of Human Ecology. Bowers CIS, Engineering, and Cornell Tech, this transdisciplinary department will administered by the College of Architecture, art, and Planning. Next slide. This list and diagram, and by no means comprehensive, provide a quick look at the minor's program student groups, majors concentrations, and rubrics across Cornell, with a focus on Design and Technology broadly defined. The department will be synergistic with and complement existing departments. It will

support existing the new opportunities around design and emerging technologies with design focused departments as well as computing, science, and engineering, Clearly, Cornell has a foundation and breadth of creative imagination, design excellence, and technology development. The department will build upon Cornell's strengths in the design arts, design practice, design theory, and ethics and methods towards actualizing digital tools, products, materials, visualizations, and environments as they pertain to design tech. Next slide, please. The primary degree program will be a Master of Science and Design Technology. The new design tech department will partner with Cornell Tech to deliver an MS and design technology that will straddle both Ithaca and Cornell Tech in NYC. The academic department will be the unit responsible for administration of the MS in design technology in collaboration with Cornell Tech. Next slide, please. The MS and Design Technology builds on the existing MS and matter design computation and the learnings from a four-year pilot collaboration with Cornell Tech to educate broad, innovative leaders and hybrid creative skills and design and Technology. Next slide, please. This slide highlights several of the collaborative courses that our AAP and Cornell Tech students have taken together in the context of the four year pilot, which has allowed us to pilot what will become core courses and studios in the new MS. Next slide, please. A collaborative, connected, and concentrated unit with a focus on design and emerging technologies, the multi-college department will be composed of a multidisciplinary faculty in design science and engineering, who will co-teach transdisciplinary design studios, courses, and seminars and engage in collaborative research and workshops by sharing resources and moving beyond existing barriers, The Design Tech faculty will include current faculty. Previous slide, please. A small number of current Cornell faculty may be invited to have dual or joint appointments or 0% appointments. Affiliated faculty from the participating colleges will also be

invited to take part in the design and technology founding faculty, and we will launch a Design Tech fellows program, which will allow us to invite visiting fellows to engage in collaborative teaching and research. Next slide, please. A steering committee of faculty drawn from the Design Tech Task Force with approval from the deans will work together to launch the new department. They will form the Radical Collaboration Hiring Committee at the initial stage. This committee will closely with the participating deans throughout the formation process. The department will hire dedicated core faculty through the recently launched Radical Collaboration Initiative. They will identify key teaching research areas and implement radical collaboration hires and new searches to develop a unique, transdisciplinary model for design education and design research in design and technology. This slide highlights the breakdown of those initial hires across the participating colleges. Next slide, please. The development of the new Department of Design and Technology will not only facilitate bridging fields and faculty already here at Cornell, but will also fill gaps that are in demand in areas concerning design technology across the university including, for example, product design, interaction design, and digital media design. This work will offer an effective tool to recruit and train the most outstanding domestic and international students in a highly integrated research and educational environment. Thank you.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Before we get into the discussion, there is five-minute slated for collaborators, Dean Kavita Bata, CIS, Rachel Dunifon, CEH. Did I get this wrong? Sorry. Got it.

>> Rachel Dunifon: I'm Rachel Dunifon. I'm the Dean of the College of Human Ecology. It's great to be here with you. I'm here to speak to express my support about this new multi-college department. I want to thank Jenny and Wendy on the Zoom, and all the other members of the

task force. This is a fantastic group of faculty spanning all of our colleges, who spent years coming together to think about new ways we could connect and collaborate. I had a chance to attend their retreat earlier in the summer. The energy around, not just this multi college department, but all the other ways in which faculty from across campus can come together to collaborate in this area is really exciting. So, some of the reasons I'm supportive and excited about this multi college department, I think it will really elevate this area, this really important, emerging area of design tech internally at Cornell. It'll give our students a greater visibility and pathway here, and also elevate it to the world around us, and allows Cornell to really shine in an area in which we're excellent. This will also allow us to build a stronger partnership with Cornell Tech and the campus in New York City, which is something we've been really excited to do for many years now. And then, finally, most importantly, through the radical collaboration hires, we'll be able to hire additional faculty and new faculty that we might not have been able to hire if we're just working independently and on our own. In human ecology, we're part of a lot of different multi-college departments. We have multi college departments with CALS, with Arts and Sciences, and I'm really supportive of this type of structure, which allows us to get out of our silos and come together in areas that allow us to collaborate and enhance what we're doing. So, I'm excited to be here and excited about this new initiative.

>> Kavita Bala: I'll go next. I'm Kavita Bala. I'm the Dean of the Bowers College of Computing and Information Science. Meejin Yoon and Rachel Dunifon already said it very well, so I'll just add my support to it. The task force did a really great job of identifying this important area, design and tech, as an area that Cornell can really lead in if we all invest together. We have been talking a lot about it. We are very excited to build this department together collaboratively to

achieve world-class excellence in this area that we know that we can lead in by pulling across all of campus and building a new department in this space. So, I just wanted to express my support and the thanks to the task force for the work they did. We're looking forward to building this together.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Okay, it's open for discussion. We generally start with-- Not on my agenda. Sure. So, speakers.

>> Wendy Ju: Hi, my name is Wendy Ju, Associate Professor of Information and the Jacobs Technion Cornell Institute at Cornell Tech in New York City. I have been part of this design and technology initiative since 2019. I've worked with Jenny Sabin to helm the multi-college, multidisciplinary task force, which has been gathering regularly to develop this initiative since 2020. I think a lot of the things I wanted to say have been really nicely covered by Rachel Dunifon and Kavita. I want to underline that the new department in design technology builds on Cornell's strength and design, but isn't meant to be the only place where it's happening. In many ways, we think the department will help us be able to pull together things that are going on all across the university and help give it support. I think design is about the cross application and bringing together interest of technology and methods for science development education. So, it is a difficult thing to house, but by giving it a place, which I think Cornell is uniquely situated to do, we can actually make Cornell a center of excellence in design. So, in conclusion, I want to say we are really excited about this new department and we think-- it's our every hope that it will help us attract faculty and students as well as support space and funding for design efforts all across the university.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Go ahead.

>> Yasser Gowayed: Hello, everyone. My name is Yasser Gowayed. I'm the Chair of the Department of Human Centered Design. The senators of my department and myself came to you in May when this proposal was first submitted. We shared with you our concerns regarding that proposal. We noted that the way the document was written made the proposed department seem to be redundant or [indiscernible]. There was no clear-- In that proposal, there was no clear delineation between its mission and the work we do in this city. We stress the fact that design is a concept. It's much broader than just design technologies, and that the document needs to be focused on this aspect, design. Over the summer, a more focused approach emerged and was adopted, and the department's structure is now envisioned, as the deans have shared with you, to be a cross college department, creating a more connected and robust entity. Dean Yoon and Dean Dunifon met twice with the faculty of human centered design to explain the mission of the proposed department and address their concerns. Having attended both sessions, I'm satisfied with current articulation of the document and can foresee an exciting possibility for joint activities with the faculty. I'm looking forward to start working with this administration to build bridges and understanding for understanding and collaboration. It is important at this point that like what was mentioned by Jenny and Wendy earlier is that this is an opportune time to look broadly at the future of design at Cornell. As some of you may know a MIT has just received a $100 million grant to start a design center in Morningside Height in New York. Now, when this department's best, we'll have two design departments, Cornell plus many others who conduct research in design and conduct design activities. I believe it's time to develop a clear vision for

the future of design at Cornell that includes all these entities and encourage the provost and the deans [indiscernible] this opportunity. Thank you.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Do we have other collaborators on because they're not listed on my agenda. That's why I'm hesitating. Come on down. Identify yourself.

>> Francois Guimbretiere: Francois Guimbretiere. I'm a professor in information science and I was part of the task force. Many of the things I was going to say have been said already, but what I want to [indiscernible] from an information science perspective. When we look at graduate students, we are all in competition with other faculty which already have an entity like that. So, MIT has been mentioned, but before the center, there was, of course, the MIT media lab. At Stanford, there is a [indiscernible]. At Berkeley, there is a design center, the Berkeley Design Center, and there is also a structure, which is equivalent at the University of Washington. So for me, it's a great opportunity for Cornell to be able to attract top talent for graduate students. I'm also looking forward to design part of our curriculum for all the students, something which I'm very excited about.

>> Timur Dogan: Hello everyone. My name is Timur Dogan. I'm an associate professor in architecture, just recently became an associate professor. I couldn't be more excited about this development. I was also part of the task force, and it's been a pleasure to work with everyone, especially under Wendy's and Jenny's leadership. I think most of the important points have really been made, and I just want to echo them. I really do believe that we need to blend the creativity, imagination of the creative disciplines with the ingenuity of more technology and engineering

disciplines to really solve the problems that we're facing in our world today. I think I was the most junior member on the task force. Maybe I can just add one thought here to the discussion. So, as someone who's been really kind of trying hard, doing my time here at Cornell to work across disciplines to bridge between architectural design and engineering, the engineering that goes into buildings and the computer simulation that goes into buildings. I know that cross-disciplinary collaboration is not always easy. In fact, in the tenure process, it might actually be also risky, especially maybe for the true engineering disciplines to participate be such that then is maybe not regarded as cutting-edge research in their profession. That's why I'm really in particular excited that we create a room for this kind of cross-disciplinary collaboration in a radical way. I'm excited about the opportunities to do cross-disciplinary teaching, cross-disciplinary research, and mostly what kinds of students this will bring to the campus. Thank you very much.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: So, are there others that are included in the collaborative group or are we ready for the discussion? Okay, so I think at this point, we open it up to discussion. If anyone in the room wants to speak, please walk up. Meanwhile, if there's anyone on Zoom, they go first. Not seeing any hands up on Zoom. Why don't you introduce yourself?

>> Thomas Bjorkman: Thomas Bjorkman, horticulture. Horticulture was part of a merger recently, so I'm attuned to some of the things that go well and go poorly in a merger. So, I am still unclear on how this works out for the faculty and human-centered design. They got added on kind of towards the end, but that's a recently merged department already, so what exactly happens to current and continuing members in that department, its identity within human

ecology?

>> I can speak to that. So, human ecology was part of the collaboration the entire time. This is always actually conceived of as a multi college department. We simply had to refine the document to more accurately reflect that. So, just like all the other participating colleges like CIS and Engineering, we will hire faculty, who will be jointly appointed between our human center design department and this new multi-college department. Additionally, some existing faculty in human center design, if they choose to, could have a 0% appointment or affiliate with a potential new graduate field and things like that. So, to me, this isn't a merger. This is a new super structure that allows us to hire new faculty into this new department. The creation of human center design was a merger that we chose purposefully within human ecology to enhance our design programs there.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Let's go to Zoom. Betsy, introduce yourself.

>> Betsy Bihn: Hi, Betsy. I'm with the Department of Food Science. I'm brand-new, so this may be a question that has already been asked and answered before, so I'll apologize if that's the case. I'm a little curious that this group doesn't include a department of plant science of some sort given the research on design and human benefits, the tendencies towards people putting in living walls in design construction these days. So, I was curious why, if it's cross-department, why there wasn't a consideration of some department that deals with plants, I guess. I'm a food scientist. I'm in the department of food science, so I'm not advocating for food science, I'm just curious.

>> Meejin Yoon: So, I can share. We would love to, as the proposal kicks off, welcome other deans, and other colleges, and other departments to the collaboration, The proposal reflects the initial five deans and their colleges that came together, both from the faculty task force and then from the collaborating deans. What's reflected is the commitment around the faculty hiring that the collaborating colleges have made with the provost.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: We'll have in-person comment, and then we have someone on Zoom.

>> Thank you for your comment. This highlights that design is not limited to one thing. Design is much broader than design technologies. The need for articulation of a vision for the whole university is [indiscernible].

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: Kathryn Caggiano.

>> Kathryn Caggiano: Thank you, Jonathan. I think this sounds like a really, really exciting initiative. I did have a question that maybe I could ask some of the proponents of this to maybe comment further on the cross campus just nature of this, not just cross-disciplinary. Speaking as someone who has a little bit of experience with running master's programs that span campuses, it's obviously not an easy thing. So, if there's any further comment on the fact that this new MS and technology design is intended to straddle Ithaca in New York City, I guess I'd be interested to understand some of the thought behind that, and without getting too much in the weeds though, how the thought is that that might work. I'm thinking, of course, from the student

experience perspective. Thank you.

>> Jenny Sabin: Thank you. I can address that question. So, the structure for the new MS and design technology features two tracks. So, incoming students will spend their first foundational year here in Ithaca, taking core studios and required courses. And then, after the first year is complete, the students will pursue one of two tracks. One track will be thesis research based, following a very traditional model that's already in place here at Cornell in terms of establishing a committee and working on a thesis with the committee. And then, the second track is more of a studio based professional entrepreneurial track, and those students will go to Cornell Tech and participate in the year-long studio sequence, which is a cornerstone of the Cornell Tech curriculum. We've been fortunate to pilot this for the last four years. I've been the boots on the ground, as it were, traveling back and forth, but we will have dedicated faculty there with the students. So, we're feeling confident about what we've been able to pilot.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: We have an in person comment from Caroline O'Donnell.

>> Hi Caroline O'Donnell, Chair of the Department of Architecture. I'd just like to speak in enthusiastic support of the multi college department design and technology. That's a large part of what we do in architecture, and has been shared as a large part of what is done across campus and many other departments that engage with questions of design. We're so fortunate to exist within a university surrounded by other disciplines that are both different from us and who share core challenges and values. While we sometimes collaborate, we're also sometimes very comfortable within our departments. I think this multi college department is an opportunity for

us to bridge, to collaborate fully in ways previously impossible or unimaginable to share knowledge and techniques and to find synergies between our different expertise and modes of operation. Speaking as an architect, I know architecture is not an isolated discipline. When we build buildings, we have a lot of people around the table. Why do we do this? It's because we think it makes our buildings better. So, I think there's a lot of work ahead to ensure amongst all of us that we, just like any building or any bridge, that the structure and the infrastructure are in place to make this function and truly strengthen connections. I'm excited to roll up our sleeves and become better together.

>> Jonathan Ochshorn: We have time for additional comments. If there are any, come up if you're in person. Raise your hand if you're in Zoom. I'm not seeing anyone on Zoom nor in person. There is something scheduled for good of the order. I don't know if we had any requests for that. So typically, a good of the order is something that you would articulate to the Dean of Faculties Office in advance if you want to just talk about something that's not exactly a motion, but it's on your mind and it concerns something about Cornell, but we don't have any today. So, I think with our informal Robert's Rules of Order, I will just bring this meeting to a close. We are adjourned.

[End of transcript]