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Bird songs

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By day, Brian Fenner listens to people with parking tickets invent excuses. At night, he's an inventor. And after a series of near-misses, one of his ideas may go all the way: a transmitter that broadcasts bird songs indoors to FM radios.

New faculty

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Cornell's newest faculty include a professor who found his way to academe from filling prescriptions and a legal scholar who writes and talks about law 70 to 80 hours a week and thinks about it "all the time." Meet one dozen of our new colleagues.

Trustees, Council gather for meetings, talks, tours

Several public sessions of Cornell's Board of Trustees will be held today and tomorrow, Nov. 7 and 8, as hundreds of alumni volunteers and friends of the university convene for the annual joint meeting of the trustees and the University Council.

The full board will meet at the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art on Nov. 8 at 9:15 a.m., when Provost Malden C. Neshheim will discuss the 1992-93 budget for the state-assisted colleges, and several committees will give reports. There also will be a resolution passed to honor a former board chairman and presidential councillor, Robert W. Purcell, who died in August.

The board will move to Bailey Hall to join the council when it opens its 41st annual meeting at 11 a.m. President Frank H.T. Rhodes will give his State of the University Address.

The council, elected by the trustees, includes 440 alumni and friends who help the university in its immediate and long-range development. With 16 committees and subcommittees — covering such areas as athletics, campus life, career placement for students, technology transfer, human resources, real estate and international programs — the council works throughout the nation and world.

Besides board and committee meetings that council members may join, there will be many joint events, including lectures, tours, lunches with deans, focus-group discussions on campus planning, financing education, the future of private research

universities, undergraduate life at Cornell and the global university.

In addition to the full-board session on Nov. 8, the following trustee sessions will also be open to the public:

- Academic Affairs and Campus Life, Nov. 7, 8 p.m., the Taylor Room of the Statler Hotel. The provost will report on the work of the Commission on Graduate Student Life and the recently appointed Human Resources Development Council, as well as on recruitment and admissions, student support activities and status of the search for a director for the Hispanic American Studies Program.

- Audit Committee, Nov. 7, 5:45 p.m., the Rowe Room, Statler Hotel. The state controller's audit report will be discussed.

- Buildings and Properties Committee, Nov. 7, 9 a.m., Johnson Museum. There will be a report on planning for space for the ILR School.

- Executive Committee, Nov. 7, 2 p.m., Johnson Museum. The only open segment is the president's report at the start of the meeting.

- Committee on Land Grant and Statutory College Affairs, Nov. 7, 2 to 4 p.m., Rowe Room of Statler Hotel. Current and prospective state budgets and legislative action will be discussed.

Anyone wishing to attend the open meetings of the Executive Committee and of the full Board of Trustees may obtain tickets at the Information and Referral Center in the Day Hall lobby.

FCR to discuss finances Nov. 13

The Faculty Council of Representatives will discuss proposals concerning tuition levels, financial aid policy and faculty salaries for 1992-93 at its meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 13, beginning at 4:30 p.m. in Room 110, Ives Hall.

The FCR's Committee on Financial Policies will present a series of recommendations for discussion as the administration begins preparing its 1992-93 financial plan, said the committee's chairman, physics Professor Donald F. Holcomb. Then, at its December meeting, the FCR will be asked to vote on recommendations.

The committee's recommendations will be based on concerns about the level of tuition

increases. An associated concern is the extent to which those increases are driven by growing financial aid pressures on the university's budget, Holcomb said.

The committee also is expected to report that there has been a small improvement in endowed faculty salaries compared to peer universities, but that Cornell remains "substantially below" the top institutions, he said. The committee is expected to recommend an 8.5 percent salary increase for continuing endowed faculty for 1992-93, according to Holcomb.

The committee also will share its views on the growth of academic and non-academic staff, Holcomb said.

Athletics considers trimming programs to reduce expenses

The university's Department of Athletics is in the midst of a comprehensive reassessment of its intercollegiate, physical education, intramural and recreational programs in the face of spiraling costs, increasing operating deficits and universitywide budget cutbacks.

"Some programs undoubtedly will have to be cut, as has already happened at other Ivy League institutions," said Laing E. Kennedy '63, director of athletics. But, he added, "The alternatives being discussed are not nearly as severe as the consideration the university gave during the Depression to eliminating all interscholastic athletic teams.

"There is no question there will have to be some streamlining in our varsity, intramural and recreational programs. Exactly what these will be and how and when it will happen will not be determined until early in the coming year," Kennedy said.

Cornell's athletic programs ended the 1990-91 academic year with a deficit of \$400,000, or 4 percent of a \$9 million budget. This year, the university is provid-

ing a \$3.7 million appropriation to the department. When the department was established in 1935, it was to have been self-supporting, and it was until just after World War II. It even showed a profit of \$40,000 in 1944-45.

The university appropriation to the department has been an accepted fiscal way of life since the early 1950s, when Ivy League schools, to use terminology of the time, embraced a "sanity code enforcing the principles of amateurism": they turned their backs on the athletic "big time" in a commitment to the non-scholarship scholar-athlete philosophy.

Cornell has 35 intercollegiate varsity sports, 20 men's and 15 women's teams with 1,200 participants. Some 10,000 stu-

dents are enrolled in nearly 150 different physical education courses — a third of them non-credit — in everything from Adirondack skiing to modern dance to yoga. One of the nation's most extensive intramural programs includes 30,000 participants on more than 2,000 teams in more than 300 leagues. The university's athletic facilities are used almost daily by some 2,500 faculty and staff.

The recession and the rising costs for everything, including increasingly sophisticated athletic facilities and equipment, is even affecting the big-time athletic schools, where gate receipts, mostly from football and basketball, have underwritten athletic programs for years. For example, the University of

Wisconsin has announced it is dropping baseball and men's and women's fencing because of an athletic department deficit of \$1.9 million. Other Division I schools have and are making cuts in the number of their programs.

"I don't see us having 31 sports in five years, unless we come up with something we don't have now or find a different way to compete in some of those sports," Ohio State Athletic Director Jim Jones told USA Today.

According to Dick Schultz, former director of athletics at Cornell and now executive director of the NCAA, about 70 percent of the NCAA's 298 Division I programs are operating at deficits.

Substantial cuts already have been made this year in the Ivy League. Yale has dropped men's varsity water polo and wrestling and junior varsity ice hockey. Last spring, Brown University announced it was dropping four sports: men's water polo, men's golf, women's gymnastics and women's volleyball.

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Pinpoint detail



Charles Harrington

Joel D. Brock (left), an assistant professor of applied and engineering physics, and graduate student Emma Sweetland examine the tip of a refrigerator cylinder that is used to chill tiny metal samples to a few degrees above absolute zero. Once chilled, the materials are exposed to X-rays to help researchers learn more about their microscopic structure.

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