

Vice Provost Robert Richardson elected to American Philosophical Society

By Bill Steele

Robert C. Richardson, the Floyd R. Newman Professor of Physics and vice provost for research at Cornell, has been elected a member of the American Philosophical Society.

Richardson also is a member of the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics at Cornell, where he conducts research in the unusual properties of solids and liquids at temperatures closely approaching absolute zero. In 1996 he shared the Nobel Prize in physics with David Lee, the J.G. White Distinguished Professor in Physical Sciences at Cornell, and Douglas Osheroff, now



Richardson

professor of physics at Stanford University, for the discovery of superfluidity in liquid Helium-3.

Richardson attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute, earning his B.S. in 1958 and his M.S. in 1960, both in physics. He came to Cornell in 1966 as a research associate after earning a Ph.D. in physics the same year from Duke University. He was named assistant professor of physics at Cornell in 1968, associate professor in 1972 and a full professor in 1975. He has served as the Newman Professor since 1987. In 1990 he was named director of the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics, a post he relinquished in 1997. He was named vice provost for research in 1998, when the post was first created.

Richardson is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Physical

Society. Other honors include two Guggenheim fellowships and the Eighth Simon Memorial Prize of the British Physical Society and the Buckley Prize of the American Physical Society, both shared with Lee and Osheroff.

Throughout his years at Cornell, he has pursued research in low-temperature physics, in particular working with Lee and John Reppy, the J.L. Wetherill Professor of Physics.

Founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743, the American Philosophical Society is the oldest learned society in the United States devoted to the advancement of scientific and scholarly inquiry. The society currently has 868 elected members, 728 from the United States and 140 from more than two dozen foreign countries.

Over the society's history, 17 Cornell faculty members and administrators have been elected to membership.

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pleased that progress was made this year in improving both faculty and staff salaries, although the formal multiyear improvement program does not begin until July 1. He said faculty salaries in the endowed colleges rose from 10th to ninth place among Cornell's peer institutions, and in the contract colleges, from 11th place to 10th.

He said some progress was made in staff salaries in select areas and he expects "to make further progress in the coming year."

Robert Harris, vice provost for diversity and faculty development, reported that his office has placed great attention on interactional as well as structural diversity over the past year.

"Structural diversity is important for us to increase the number of women and minority students, staff and faculty, but we need to consider interactional diversity in how individuals experience the campus once they arrive here. Interactional diversity involves the campus climate and the extent to which we have a welcoming and supportive campus environment. ... A major challenge for us is understanding that diversity requires a change in our practices to become inclusive, that we can no longer do things the way we have always done them and that we cannot expect women and minorities to become clones of traditional students, staff and faculty."

Provost Bidy Martin reported on the first faculty seminar that was initiated last fall and took place once a week over the academic year. The seminar, which included Rawlings, Martin, 15 leading faculty and five postdoctoral students, explored the social sciences – where they stand at Cornell, where they are going internationally and where Cornell's should be heading.

"It's a complex picture and one we feel we need to get a better grasp of for the future," Martin said.

A report written by the faculty at the



Robert Harris

conclusion of the seminar found major problems in the social sciences at Cornell that need addressing over the long term, although there are "pockets of distinction," she said. "Our social scientists are scattered throughout the colleges and are not collected into centers of excellence."

Martin said there would be two faculty seminars next year. One will continue discussion of the social sciences, but this time will be problem-based. The other will address the humanities, focusing on race and ethnicity in the field of American studies.

"These faculty seminars are unique at Cornell and were started in an effort to promote intellectual exchange on campus," Martin said. "We've made them a priority and, in fact, supplied funds to hire people to help teach classes of the participants. I'm happy to report that while Hunter and I became obstreperous at times, we found it both intellectually challenging and rewarding and believe the other participants did as well."

The \$1.8 billion spending plan approved by the trustees for 2001-02 is 5.4 percent



Photos by Nicola Kountoupes/University Photography

Trustees Denise P. Meridith and Robert A. Cowie take a break during the trustees meeting May 25 in the Johnson Museum.

more than the \$1.7 billion that is forecast in expenditures this year.

The budget includes a 4.2 percent increase in tuition and fees, a projected 14.5 percent net increase in investment income, an expected 0.6 percent increase in unrestricted gifts and an expected 11.8 percent increase in restricted operating gifts from 2000-01.

CU Trustees vote to close university's Ward Center

The Cornell Board of Trustees voted May 25 to accept the recommendation of President Hunter R. Rawlings to begin the process to close the Ward Center for Nuclear Studies and to decommission the nuclear reactor associated with the center.

The decision by the trustees was taken after a 40-minute, in-depth discussion in

which the trustees reviewed both the written and oral arguments that had been submitted to them on both sides of the question.

The initial recommendation to close the center and decommission the reactor was made by the Local Advisory Committee, a standing committee of the Cornell Faculty Senate, after a three-month study of the issue initiated by Vice Provost for Research Robert Richardson.

Prior to the board's consideration of this issue, and in accordance with the university's by-laws, Harold Tanner, chair of the board of trustees, appointed a special committee of trustees to meet on May 24 with a group of faculty opposed to the administration's recommendation. The ad hoc committee, after meeting with the faculty group, unanimously recommended the approval of the administration's resolution.

Deans reappointed *continued from page 3*

sociology from California State University-Long Beach, in 1966 and 1968, respectively, and a doctorate in sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1972.

Swieringa took office as dean of JGSM in July 1997. As dean he has overseen one of the nation's leading graduate management schools, with an annual budget of \$35 million, an enrollment of 530 students and 45 full-time faculty members.

"I have accepted with enthusiasm Provost Bidy Martin's offer for reappointment as dean of the Johnson School," Swieringa said. "I very much appreciate the commitment, support and encouragement from faculty, staff and students in the Johnson School. Together we have transformed the school over the last several years. Our entrepreneurial spirit is contagious, we have high aspirations and our agenda for change reflects the 'Fast. Forward' tag line that appears in all of our publications.

"We live in a rapidly changing and highly competitive world," Swieringa said. "To remain at the forefront of graduate management education, we are investing heavily to enhance our intellectual and technological capabilities and are extending our reach and impact by strategically aligning ourselves with others at Cornell and elsewhere. We are a highly interactive and agile organization that is constantly experimenting, responding and innovating. These are exciting times for the

Johnson School, and I very much appreciate this opportunity to continue to lead this engaged community."

Before coming to Cornell as dean, Swieringa was a professor in the practice of accounting at the School of Management at Yale University. Swieringa's appointment as dean marked his return to the Johnson School, where he served as a professor of accounting from 1974 to 1985. Before that he was an assistant professor of accounting at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University from 1968 to 1974. He joined the Yale faculty in June 1996 after spending more than 10 years as a member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the key policymaking organization for accounting issues in the United States.

Swieringa earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Augustana College in 1964, an MBA from the University of Denver in 1965 and a Ph.D. in accounting and complex organizations from the University of Illinois in 1969.

Smith became dean of the Veterinary College in July 1997. He has led the college through reorganization and significant growth, building upon a legacy in veterinary medicine and the related biomedical sciences. The college, which has an annual budget of \$85 million, is recognized as the leading veterinary college in the United States.

As dean, Smith has encouraged new initiatives that foster collaboration in basic research and clinical practice: appointments of new chairs in three academic departments

(clinical sciences, biomedical sciences, microbiology and immunology), establishment of the Cornell Comparative Cancer Program, hiring of faculty in genomics and pathogenic bacteriology and completion of renovations for additional clinical instruction and research facilities.

"The dynamic interactions that unite biology and the biomedical sciences with applications in medicine mandate the future direction of the College of Veterinary Medicine," Smith said. In his second term, he plans to continue the emphasis on multidisciplinary collaboration as the college builds strengths across the full domains of teaching, discovery and professional service, he said.

Smith is an elected member of the National Academy of Practices and a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. He earned the doctor of veterinary medicine degree, with distinction, from the University of Guelph in 1974. He was an assistant professor of surgery at Cornell, from 1977 to 1983, then at University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine for four years; he returned to Cornell in 1987 as chair of the Department of Clinical Sciences. He served the college as associate dean for academic programs from 1990 to 1997.

The College of Veterinary Medicine was chartered by the state of New York in 1894. Today the college has 320 students in the four-year D.V.M. program and 120 students in graduate programs; faculty at the college total 160.