Student and Academic Services

Annual Report 2011–2012

Cornell University

A Message from Susan Murphy

Susan H. Murphy '73, PhD '94, vice president for Student and Academic Services

As in years past, I am renewed and strengthened by what our students achieve when they are challenged to be leaders—in public service, in building new communities, in addressing societal and world issues.

Among these pages you will find stories of positive change led by students. From the creation of organizations by and for students to the remarkable achievements of Cornell's scholars, and from the envisioning of a Greek new member education period to victories in athletic competition, all are examples of how our students are making Cornell a better place.

This year we marked the 20th anniversary of our Public Service Center, where student-led service-learning projects link academics with meaningful community service, personal growth, and social responsibility. We also celebrated the opening of the Center for Intercultural Dialogue, a place that fosters conversation across differences and embraces diversity. We are excited for a new year of activity on West and North Campus, where residential programs create living-learning communities filled with opportunities for discovery.

Setting the stage for these accomplishments is the domain of our talented staff and our faculty partners. They create the nurturing environment in which our students can grow and thrive. They are there at all times of day and night to provide mental and emotional support, to help students learn about themselves, and to help them build a vision for their own future.

I trust you will be as inspired by the energies and achievements of our students as I have been this year. Please join me in thanking all who support our efforts through donations of time and treasure, and in celebrating what we can do together when we collaborate with others to achieve objectives that are greater than could be achieved by the individual alone.

2011–12 Facts at a Glance

Academic and Career Services	
Students using tutorial services	11,742
Students using services through supplemental instructional services	1,692
Students visiting the Carol Tatkon Center (daily average)	750
Students using services at the International Students and Scholars Office	3,868
Students receiving services from Student Disability Services	839
Employers recruiting on campus through Career Services	426
Interviews held by recruiters	11,177
Student postgraduate activities	
Employed	54%
Graduate school	30%
Other	16%
Athletics and Physical Education	
Students enrolled in physical education courses	11,155
Student memberships in Cornell Fitness Centers	11,015
Varsity athletes	1,098
Students participating in intramural sports	5,487
Students participating in Cornell Outdoor Education	3,302
Gannett Health Services	
Gannett Health Services utilization	
Students receiving services	17,481
Student visits for services	72,975
Gannett's Counseling and Psychological Services	
Students receiving services	3,254
Student visits for services	22,077
Students enrolled in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)	10,530
Housing and Dining	
Undergraduates in university housing	6,296
Residents in graduate and professional student housing	
Single contract holders	533
Family group/domestic partner contract holders	282
Children in graduate and professional student housing	148
Students who are members of a fraternity	2,408
Members in fraternity housing	893
Students who are members of a sorority	2,148
Members in sorority housing	405
Students on university meal plans	9,798
Service and Philanthropy	
Students participating in ongoing community service	4,894
Hours provided through ongoing community service	213,576
Students participating in one-time community service	2,786
Hours provided through one-time community service	20,668
Hours of community service provided by fraternities and sororities	51,026
Dollars raised through fraternity and sorority philanthropic activities	220,041

Student scholars focus on innovation, community

Three students' dedication to entrepreneurship, research, and making a difference in the lives of others has earned them the honor of participating in The Cornell Commitment. They are among a select group of 900 outstanding undergraduates who exemplify the university's commitment to academic excellence, work and service, research and discovery, and leadership and learning.

Kit Dobyns '13, an Africana studies major, was chosen as a Meinig Family Cornell National Scholar because of his leadership and promise to change the world for the better. He is also a Public Service Center Scholar and a 2012 Udall Scholarship award recipient. Dobyns is the founder of Social Business Consulting, which offers pro bono social entrepreneurship consulting in 15 countries, and in 2012, Dobyns won first prize for his invention, CapLight, at the Entrepreneurship@Cornell undergraduate business competition. CapLight uses soda bottles to create inexpensive, energy-efficient lighting for people in sub-Saharan Africa.

Kit Dobyns '13, Meinig Family Cornell National Scholar

This summer he used Meinig funds to travel to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as a delegate to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

"Meinig provides funds for me to get hands-on experience working internationally," Dobyns says. "The financing has been incredibly helpful, but of equal value is meeting other like-minded students with common goals and having the program director, Kristine DeLuca, as a mentor."

Karim Abouelnaga '13 benefited from a financial incentive program called REACH (Rewarding Achievement) while he attended high school in Long Island City, Queens. After coming to Cornell, he was curious about whether financial incentives really are a good way to motivate high school students.

Abouelnaga, a Hunter R. Rawlings III Cornell Presidential Research Scholar and a student in the School of Hotel Administration, designed a study with Professor Michael Sturman. By examining five years of REACH data, Abouelnaga found that the program helped increase the number of students taking advanced placement courses, even when the dollar amount of the incentive decreased. A paper detailing his findings will appear in the *Education and Urban Society* journal this fall.

Karim Abouelnaga '13, Hunter R. Rawlings III Cornell Presidential Research Scholar

"This research opportunity gave me the skill set to write as a researcher," he says.

In 2012, Abouelnaga was selected to attend a conference run by the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress. This year, he will travel to Washington, D.C. as part of his year-long research project on the president's role in setting the agenda on education.

Steve Bosak '13 wanted to teach young people the lessons he learned through wrestling. Bosak has been wrestling since he was six years old and is now a Division I national champion. He is a Cornell Tradition Fellow because, as Bosak says, wrestling has taught him the importance of combining a strong work ethic, public service, and academic achievement. He passes these values on to others as a volunteer coach with the Finger Lakes Wrestling Club, a region-wide program for boys ages five through 18. The Cornell Tradition emphasizes leadership, and Bosak has worked closely with the director of the Finger Lakes Wrestling Club, Clint Wattenberg '03.

"I've excelled in wrestling and see its benefits," Bosak says. "I want to present a similar opportunity to young men. Wrestling prepares you for the real world."

commitment.cornell.edu

Steve Bosak '13, Cornell Tradition Fellow

Students at the Intercultural Center enjoy each other's company. The center at 626 Thurston Ave. welcomes all students for both serious discussion and casual gatherings.

The new Intercultural Center at 626 Thurston Ave.

A place for all students to celebrate diversity

Following renovations, the building at 626 Thurston Ave. reopened as the Center for Intercultural Dialogue, or the Intercultural Center, in the fall of 2011.

The changes to the 8,000-square-foot building created a multipurpose conference room, bathrooms that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a library, an elevator to all floors, an open area for social events, and an ever-popular kitchen.

"You never know who is going to be sitting at the kitchen table," says Renee Alexander '74, associate dean of students and director of intercultural programs. "At any time of the day, you'll see students here."

Students will come and grab a snack and share anything that is on their minds. According to Alexander, it's a spot where strategic conversations often take place.

And that's the idea of the Intercultural Center: to create a safe space for conversations among people who come from different backgrounds, a place where they can feel comfortable talking about ideas and cultures that may be new to them.

The center draws diverse students from across campus, and

its programming "galvanizes students who are committed to working across differences," Alexander says.

While promoting diversity and multicultural initiatives across campus, the center houses the Asian/Asian American Center (A3 Center), the African, Latino, Asian, Native American (ALANA) Students Programming Board, the Alumni-Student Mentoring Program, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center, and Student Development Diversity Initiatives. Every day, and sometimes late into the night, students use the center as a place to hold organizational meetings, study, and discuss diversity- and identity-related issues.

In addition to creating an informal gathering space, the groups are housed together with a strategic purpose, according to Kent Hubbell '67, the Robert W. and Elizabeth C. Staley Dean of Students. "These groups have very interesting and energetic staff that really benefit by being close to one another," he says. "Being in one building results in a very interesting constellation of programming."

Walk-In Wednesdays is one program that debuted in the fall of 2011. It's a time each week when professional counselors are available to provide career services assistance.

Thursdays at 626 Thurston Ave., a popular luncheon speaker series, launched as well. The series provides opportunities for open dialogue on any topic between administrators and students. Provost Kent Fuchs participated in its inaugural year along with other senior administrators including Susan Murphy '73, PhD '94, vice president for Student and Academic Services, and Charlie Phlegar, vice president for Alumni Affairs and Development.

In the spirit of creating partnerships among groups in the building, the LGBT Resource Center and the A3 Center initiated a highly successful dinner discussion group.

"One of our largest goals is to increase visibility around LGBT issues, but I also frequently say that we're really here to provide education for a variety of communities," says Matthew Carcella, associate dean of students and director of the LGBT Resource Center. "Our goal is to help people figure out how all their different identities intersect and work in the world. It's about getting a better sense of who you are."

Nate Treffeisen '12, a biology and society major, sees the LGBT Resource Center's location at 626 Thurston Ave. as vital. Treffeisen successfully ran for Student Assembly on a platform of creating a smaller divide both within the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) community and between the LGBTQ students and the rest of the Cornell community.

"The environment helps us realize how the communities have a lot of common goals," says Treffeisen. "That's created a shift on campus, knowing we can work together and get more done."

Treffeisen, who is working toward a career in health and science policy, used his position as the vice president of outreach and the LGBTQ representative to the Student Assembly to promote health policies. He was behind the passage of a resolution establishing that renovations or new construction include gender-neutral bathrooms and locker rooms, which benefit everyone, particularly the transgender community.

Remembering four years of "Conversations at Keeton"

Seventy residents crowded into the house professor-dean's apartment to sit at the feet of legendary historian Walter LaFeber, the Andrew H. and James S. Tisch Distinguished University Professor Emeritus, as part of the Keeton House series called Cornell's Most Interesting and Influential. Cowie conceived of the series in answer to his question: Which professors are students going to want to have experienced by the time they leave Cornell?

Jeff Cowie, professor of labor history and former house professor-dean

The afternoon before Professor Steven Strogatz was scheduled to meet with students in Jeff Cowie's living room, Cowie got cold feet.

"It's very difficult to talk about high end mathematics," says Cowie, "and I thought: 'Oh! My! What have I done? I've got the math guy coming!'"

Strogatz, the Jacob Gould Schurman Professor of Mathematics and Aerospace Engineering and author of *The Calculus of Friendship*, impressed with both his intelligence and personality. Cowie, who had been the house professor-dean of Keeton House on West Campus for the last four years, found Strogatz the most moving and unpretentious of the more than 50 speakers that attended Conversations at Keeton.

As is the case with similar programming on West Campus, Cowie's speaker series struck a balance between in-depth academia and lighthearted conversation. Programs like these provide an opportunity for residents and faculty to talk about common interests or exchange ideas outside of class.

"We want students to interact with faculty on a human dimension," Cowie says, "to see that they are more than their intellect and that they are people with wide ranging interests and feelings."

Cowie limited speakers' opening remarks to 20 minutes and allowed Conversations at Keeton to be just that—an opportunity for students to practice "engaged citizenship," give-and-take, and even for them to say "I disagree with you" to a leader in the field. Students did not hesitate to disagree with Robert H. Frank, the Henrietta Johnson Louis Professor of Management and professor of economics at the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management. Frank's controversial "Economic View" column appears monthly in *The New York Times*.

Cowie also knows the benefit of a strategically placed challenge. When Mark Bauerlein, author of *The Dumbest Generation*, was scheduled to speak, Cowie emailed the house: "This guy says you're dumb; you better come and defend yourself!"

"I saw people reading his book to get ready!" he says.

Stephanie Tsang '12 found that Cowie welcomed conversation himself. He was accessible, too—as professor-dean, he lived right in Keeton House with his family and dog.

"When I saw him I didn't think, 'Ah, gosh, he's a professor so I have to be on my best behavior,'" says Tsang, who lived in Keeton House for three years. "He's such a comfortable person and it was easy to speak with him. He made Keeton a very friendly place."

Cowie, a professor of labor history at the ILR School, finished his final semester as professor-dean at Keeton House in spring 2012.

westcampushousesystem.cornell.edu

From career advice to dinner conversation

Outside of class, faculty and students come together in a number of ways

First-year students might be surprised—and glad—to hear that they have the chance to get to know some of their professors outside of their weekly lectures even without attending office hours.

That's because the ongoing interaction between faculty and students outside of class and coursework is an integral and everyday part of the undergraduate experience. Everyone, including faculty and students alike, is part of a shared, supportive community.

Formalized this year, a new partnership between the North Campus Faculty Programs and the Carol Tatkon Center will make the existing student-faculty connection even stronger.

Both the Tatkon Center, which is a student resource center of the Office of the Dean of Students, and the North Campus Faculty Programs promote intellectual and creative interactions between students and faculty—the faculty programs bring professors to residential communities, while the Tatkon Center connects undergraduates to academic resources and programs.

Carol Grumbach '78, JD '87, associate dean of students, associate dean for New Student Programs, and the Jack and Rilla Neafsey Director of the Carol Tatkon Center, sees the partnership as a milestone for the residential initiative. "To further the work of the living-learning initiative, we have developed a shared academic, intellectual, and cultural focus," she explains.

Participating professors include faculty-in-residence in eight residence halls on North Campus, faculty fellows affiliated with residence halls and program houses, faculty-at-large connected to colleges or campus organizations, dining discussion fellows who share meals and conversation with students, and Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellows who are distinguished Cornell faculty. Offerings at the Tatkon Center are varied—from lectures and advising forums to dinners and "coffeehouses" around topics from diverse disciplines.

Paul Merrill, the Gussmann Director of Jazz Ensembles and a faculty-in-residence at Clara Dickson Hall/Multicultural Living-Learning Unit (McLLU) since August 2011, says that his experiences have made him more sensitive to students' needs and allowed him to "explore more effective ways of motivating students, especially in one-on-one interaction." He anticipates repeating his Latin jazz band's performance at the Tatkon Center during Orientation, to reinforce "what musicians all over the globe know: the intersection of cultural phenomena is vital to exploring who we are."

The Carol Tatkon Center exhibited the Southern folk art collection of Riché Richardson (left), associate professor of Africana studies, who began collecting art in 1999. Cheryl Finley (right), associate professor of the history of art and faculty-in-residence for the Low Rises, presented on the history of African American quilting.

A graduating Tatkon student staff member in charge of faculty interactions, Jorge Sarmiento '12, adds, "What the new partnership does beautifully is that it takes advantage of the community building that RAs and the residential program staff emphasize and brings that over into deeper intellectual engagement." A former RA, he says the center offers "stress-free, interactive educational opportunities that students don't have in a large lecture course."

"It's all about empowerment," Sarmiento summarizes. "We want students to connect with faculty and know and use our resources so they can be successful." He believes that the path to a fuller, more engaged living-learning experience can start with a casual conversation or a simple question. "Ask us anything," he says with a bright smile, quoting the Carol Tatkon Center's motto.

newstudentprograms.cornell.edu

A safer **social scene**

Participation in a nation-wide collaboration helps Cornell make steady strides toward a safer culture

In April 2011, Cornell joined the National College Health Improvement Project (NCHIP), a coalition of 32 American colleges and universities committed to reducing high-risk drinking among college students.

NCHIP was the brainchild of Dartmouth's then-president Jim Yong Kim (who is now president of the World Bank), a public health researcher and policy leader who considered unsafe drinking on college campuses to be the most intractable problem he has ever encountered. Kim called for addressing this issue systematically by sharing information and ideas, trying many tactics, and comparing notes.

Nearly a year and a half later, Cornell has emerged as a shining example of NCHIP's efficacy, largely because Cornell's multi-pronged, university-wide campaign in this area was already robust. In 2001, the President's Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs was established and charged with designing, implementing, and evaluating the university's prevention efforts.

Cornell has piloted dozens of programs and shared research with the other 31 members of NCHIP.

"We've knit together a tight group of student leaders and campus administrators," says Deborah Lewis, the alcohol projects coordinator for Gannett Health Services and one of 18 members of Cornell's NCHIP team, also called the Campus Improvement Team.

"It's a requirement that students be members of these

Photo provided by Jennifer Davis, Student Activities Office

More than 4,000 students attend the alcohol-free Senior Week Carnival, an annual kickoff event held on campus the first night of Senior Week.

[NCHIP] teams," says Tim Marchell, director of Mental Health Initiatives with Gannett Health Services. "Students play a vital role. They need to be directly involved in leadership of these efforts to create support and genuine commitment."

The team participates in NCHIP conference calls every month to exchange information about what programs or policies are working at peer institutions. The team also convenes its own monthly in-person meetings on campus, and a subset of the group meets weekly.

All of the team's work has one theme: "We're focused on improving the student experience by reducing the harm that comes from drinking," explains Travis Apgar, associate dean of students for the Office of Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living.

Cornell's efforts to reduce high-risk drinking during the past two semesters include a new screening program that captures information from patients at Gannett Health Services about their drinking, and then targets counseling and information to students who need it most; programming designed to reduce the incidence of first-year students leaving campus during orientation; collaboration between campus police and Ithaca police (they now walk patrols together in Collegetown) that has effectively increased the visibility and effectiveness of campus police; a county-wide marketing campaign that has educated students and the public about the new state Good Samaritan law that removes perceived consequences of seeking medical care for drug and alcohol-related accidents and illness; and the introduction of new late-night campus programming and venues.

One particularly successful measure introduced recently is the revised Greek recruitment schedule: no first-year students allowed at Greek parties during the first six weeks of school, no first-year students allowed at any party with alcohol during the second six weeks of the semester, and a total ban on alcohol at recruitment events during the new member education and initiation period.

It appears to be working. An Interfraternity Council survey indicated that significantly fewer students drank during formal recruitment, and those who did drank less.

At its July 2012 NCHIP meeting, the Cornell team was able to report a 5 percent decrease in high-risk drinking among Greek-affiliated first-year students over the previous year. More important, according to both student and administrative members of the NICHIP team, is the incremental yet demonstrable shift in culture they see occurring and gaining momentum.

www.nchip.org

John Mueller '13 and Adam Gitlin '13, student members of the NCHIP team and founders of Cayuga's Watchers

Cayuga's Watchers: Keeping an eye on safe parties

Student Assembly leaders John Mueller '13 and Adam Gitlin '13, both members of the NCHIP team, have played a part in making student parties that involve alcohol safer.

"Go to any party at any house in Collegetown or any fraternity house," says Gitlin proudly, "and you'll see our stickers or posters explaining the new state amnesty law."

And they are especially optimistic about another safety tactic, borrowed from Dartmouth College: paid party watchers who look out for intoxicated students.

"At Dartmouth," Gitlin explains, "if someone comes up to you at a party and maybe, say, offers you a glass of water, or asks if you're all right, they call it 'being Green Teamed.'"

Gitlin and Mueller will register their version of the Green Team, called Cayuga's Watchers, as a non-profit organization. When they graduate, the organization will be passed down to other Cornell students to run.

Watchers are not law enforcers or bouncers. Instead, they make a party safer by taking small actions, such as telling an intoxicated student who is losing a drinking game that his friends are looking for him and then escorting him away from the table.

Gitlin's hope is that party hosts will jump at the chance to help make their parties safer, at little or no cost, by inviting Cayuga's Watchers to attend. It won't take many semesters, he thinks, for a significant change.

"With Cayuga's Watchers, we hope to foster a culture in which people look out for each other," Mueller says.

Taskforce offers recommendations for Greek recruitment free of hazing

In May 2012, the Recruitment, Acceptance, Retention, and Education (RARE) Taskforce released 10 preliminary recommendations that point the way toward an innovative means of addressing hazing by changing the process through which the Greek community acquires new members. In a dramatic departure from current practice, the taskforce advocates that students, before they consider joining specific chapters, first be given the opportunity to learn about and commit to a set of values that the Greek organizations were founded upon: self governance, leadership, scholastic achievement, and service.

Giving students a shared experience that would educate them about the history and tradition of Greek life prior to pledging—as well as warning them of potential negative experiences and how to respond—is consistent with the university's commitment to providing an outstanding first-year experience, explains Travis Apgar, associate dean of students for the Office of Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living.

"The university wants to help first-year students transition to campus life so they can be successful and get the most out of the educational experience," Apgar says. "So, too, we want them to know what Greek life stands for up front so they can get the most out of membership."

The RARE Taskforce was convened in October 2011 to meet President David Skorton's challenge to the Greek community to "end pledging as we know it." Its 24 members include national experts and local and national Greek community leaders, administrators, alumni, and students. The students (numbering more than half the taskforce's membership) and alumni represent equally the three Greek governing councils—Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, and Multicultural Greek Letter Council—with the intention of creating a more inclusive environment in which all students will feel welcome.

"Students and alumni are the ones who will end up changing the process at the ground level, so we wanted them to be central in creating solutions that chapters will be most likely to accept," Apgar notes.

The preliminary recommendations call for an expanded role for alumni, with a minimum of three active advisors per chapter, and clear-cut standards by which the university will periodically assess chapters' compliance with new member processes.

Recommendations also will reflect the goals of pledging, which can be accomplished without hazing. These goals include educating new members on aspects deemed important to the chapter, bonding brothers and sisters together through accomplishment, underscoring that membership is a lifelong commitment, and helping candidates understand that by joining a chapter they are promising (the defining aspect of "pledging") that they will be a reliable and compatible member.

The taskforce's co-chairs, Corinna Romantic '12 and Bob Forness '87, presented its preliminary recommendations to alumni in a webinar in May 2012. In the summer and fall, focus groups of alumni, national fraternity and sorority representatives, experts in the field of anti-hazing and leadership development, faculty, staff, and students (both members of the Greek community and not) provided feedback and additional suggestions. Also, the taskforce created a public blog, where alumni, students, and other community members, including Ithacans, could learn about RARE's recommendations and offer feedback. All of their ideas will be considered when the taskforce issues its final recommendations. If accepted by Kent L. Hubbell '69, the Robert W. and Elizabeth C. Staley Dean of Students, and Susan Murphy '73, PhD '94, vice president for Student and Academic Services, they will present the recommendations to President Skorton.

blogs.cornell.edu/rare

Movers and Shakers, a Greek community service program, welcomes and assists first-year students and their families at the residence halls during Move-In Day.

Big Red teams rank among the best, **athletes receive honors**

The Big Red athletics department was ranked No. 66 in the 2011–2012 standings of the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup, which measures success of athletic teams around the country. The Big Red finished as the third-highest Ivy League school in the rankings, behind only Princeton and Harvard, and ahead of nationally renowned athletic powers and major conference schools.

Success in numbers

6 Ivy League championships
3 individual national championships
9 teams ranked among the nation's top 10
19 named All-American
162 named All-Ivy
3 named Ivy League Player of the Year
5 named Rookie of the Year
11 on the Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-District team
2 earned Academic All-America honors
30 named Academic All-Ivy
2 received the Elite 89 Award

Highlights

- Christine McIntosh, fencing, and Amanda Tremaglio, women's rowing, won the Elite 89 Award for having the highest grade point average at the NCAA championships in their respective sports. Cornell was the only school in the country to have two different athletes honored with the award in the same season.
- Wrestling continued its reign as one of the Ivy League's great dynasties, winning its 10th straight Ivy title and capturing its sixth consecutive EIWA crown. Cornell finished fourth overall at the NCAA championships behind three national champions (Steve Bosak, Kyle Dake, and Cam Simaz) and five total All-Americans.
- Women's hockey also competed at the top of the national charts, advancing to the NCAA Frozen Four for the third straight year.
- Men's hockey finished a win shy of going to a Frozen Four, knocking off top-seeded Michigan in the first round of an NCAA regional.
- Baseball won a program-record of 31 games and its first-ever Ivy title.
- Women's rowing posted its best finish at the Ivy championships (second) in 22 years before earning a spot in the NCAA meet.

cornellbigred.com

Christine McIntosh '14, fencing, finished 18th in foil after qualifying for the national championships for the second straight year. McIntosh was one of five Cornellians chosen to join head coach Iryna Dolgikh in the Korea-USA Elite Fencing Invitational (KUEFI), held in August in Busan, South Korea. Academically, McIntosh is a member of the 400 Club for posting a grade point average of 4.0 or better, was selected for the Academic All-Ivy League team, and became the first Cornellian to take home the Elite 89 award. She sports an impressive 3.89 grade point average in biological sciences.

Photo provided by Patrick Shanahan

Photo provided by Patrick Shanahan

James Voter '12 was the co-commodore of the men's heavyweight rowing team and was credited with reinforcing and strengthening the Cornell crew's culture of persistent hard work and positive attitude. After helping the Freshmen 8 earn its first Eastern Sprints medal in 32 years he moved into the Varsity 8 boat for his final three seasons. This year, Voter helped Cornell earn a top-six national ranking and led the team to a victory in the Carnegie Cup, defeating Princeton and Yale for the fifth time since 1984. He is just as exceptional out of the water, serving as a student-leader of an ROTC Navy unit and as a member of the Quill and Dagger and Red Key honor societies.

A network of helping hands

Public Service Center celebrates 20th anniversary

For 20 years, Cornell's Public Service Center (PSC) has given thousands of Cornell students the opportunity to change the world in ways large and small.

Founded by President Frank H.T. Rhodes in 1991, the PSC has grown from engaging about 700 students in community service in 1992, to nearly 7,800 during the 2011–2012 academic year. The PSC estimates that its 30 student-run projects and programs totaled more than 258,000 hours of volunteer service and service-learning in the past year. In 2012, Cornell also was awarded Honor Roll with Distinction by the U.S. President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

"I think the greatest thing about the PSC is that it links you up with other students who are interested in public service and allows you to learn from them and allows you to see the initiatives that they're involved in," says Roneal Desai '13.

Initially, Desai connected with the PSC as an officer of the Cornell chapter of a global youth organization. Working with one group in the PSC network often leads to joining another. In Desai's case, he was introduced to Cornell's chapter of Half in Ten, the first collegiate chapter of the national Half in Ten anti-poverty campaign, that aims to cut poverty in America by half in the next ten years.

Roneal Desai '13

"I wouldn't have known about Half in Ten if it wasn't for the PSC," says Desai.

Desai's group worked with several student organizations to coordinate volunteer efforts in Owego, New York, after the town suffered extensive flood damage from consecutive storms, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, in 2011. More than 1,100 Cornell students pitched in by cleaning out damaged homes, running food drives, and gathering clothing and supplies.

For Katheryne Small '11, MHA '13 and eight other women from Cornell, volunteering at Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS), through the PSC's Alternative Breaks program, was a life-altering experience. GEMS is the only organization in New York State specifically designed to serve girls and young women who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking.

Photo provided by Joyce Muchan, Public Service Center

Students from the PSC helped clean up debris in Owego, New York after the town was devastated by record flooding in fall 2011.

"It was inspiring . . . to see these young women, who have been through experiences I can never imagine, just overcome it and find themselves," says Small, who also served as president of Alternative Breaks in 2011–2012.

"We came back and said, 'It's not enough for us just to have this experience and not do something about it,'" says Small.

The women founded Students Against Sexual Solicitation of Youth (SASSY), a PSC-affiliated program that, in its short history, has organized campus forums, sponsored a training session for local public and law enforcement officials, and brought GEMS' founder to campus for a book signing.

Desai and Small both say the PSC staff encourage a family-like atmosphere at the center.

"At the end of the day, the great thing about the PSC and its leaders is most people don't care about the recognition they get," says Desai. "People care about the difference that they make."

psc.cornell.edu

Katheryne Small '11, MHA '13

Student educates others about seizures

Kaitlin Hardy '12 was on the women's gymnastics team since her first year at Cornell. After being diagnosed with a non-descript seizure disorder at the age of 16 and suffering her first grand mal seizure during her sophomore year, she is still a terrific athlete and has become an inspirational spokesperson.

After several more seizures while she was on medical leave, Hardy's grandfather challenged her to take control of her life "and start living it" on her terms. His advice sparked the idea that led her to create FACES (Facts, Advocacy, and Control of Epileptic Seizures), a PSC-affiliated organization, with fellow seizure sufferer and hockey player Dan Nicholls '11.

The mission of FACES is to help those with epilepsy and their families cope with seizures, raise awareness about their social and psychological effects, and combat the stigma surrounding seizures, explains Hardy. Created with the assistance of a grant administered by the Community Partnership Board, a student organization of the PSC, FACES has opened chapters at other universities and gained its status as a non-profit. The organization has published a children's book, pioneered mentoring and educational programs for area youth, and established the first student-run research laboratory in Cornell's history.

Hardy presented the lab's work at a Society for Neuroscience conference in Washington, D.C., and was the only undergraduate to do so alone. Since then, she has delivered talks at other universities about her experiences.

"Upon meeting Kaitlin, I immediately observed her remarkable ability not only to bring diverse groups of students together, but also faculty, staff, administrators, and community members," says Joyce Muchan, assistant director of student services at the PSC.

Hardy plans to pursue a graduate degree in neuroscience at King's College London and is considering medical school. She also wants to work toward building FACES into a nationally recognized organization.

"I really want to excite the next generation of researchers and advocates," says Hardy. "I've had parents come up to me in tears and say 'I can't tell you how much you've helped me and my child,' and that, to me, is worth every night that I spend frustrated, or in tears, or anything, about what's going on in my life."

facesepilepsy.org

More student achievements

Cornell DREAM Team calls attention to immigration issues

The Cornell DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act) Team supports Cornell's undocumented students by raising awareness and coordinating programming that inspires an open dialog about immigration. The team values the university's commitment to inclusiveness (Cornell accepts students regardless of immigration status) and works to give these students a voice.

In just one week, the DREAM Team led an effort that successfully raised $10,000 for an undocumented Asian student so he could complete his education at the university. The group also partnered with the Student Assembly to pass resolutions backing Cornell's undocumented students who represent communities from around the world. In the future, the group's members plan to create "safe spaces" on campus where these students can find encouragement and support.

The Cornell DREAM Team was awarded the 18th annual James A. Perkins Prize for Interracial Understanding and Harmony on April 4, 2012.

"Immigration is one of the most contentious and important topics in the world today," the team wrote in its application for the prize. "Our hope is to enrich the Cornell experience so that students are well prepared to join the discourse on immigration."

Camaraderie with coffee

Coffee Hour, a student organization designed to promote new friendships and connect social networks on campus, now makes its appearance weekly in the Browsing Library at Willard Straight Hall. Free coffee, tea, and hot chocolate is served at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday afternoons to a bustling group of undergraduate and graduate students—about 70 or so each week.

"The simple idea of Coffee Hour is meeting people over a cup of coffee or tea and being introduced to friends of friends," says David Ge '12, MHA '13, the organization's founder and president. "It's a social outlet that can achieve casual conversation between complete strangers."

"Coffee Hour is for that person who doesn't have a strong social circle yet and needs to be reached out to," says Ge. "I hope to make it a Cornell tradition before I leave."

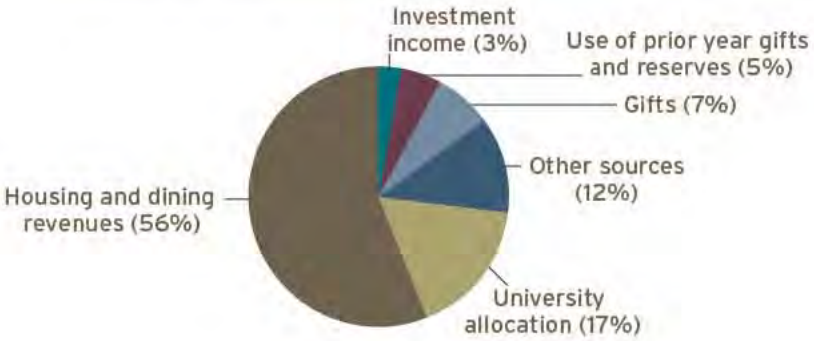
Cornell student EMS team wins award

Students on the skills team of the Cornell University Emergency Medical Service unit were recognized for their proficiency in basic life support skills. They won first place at the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation conference in February 2012. The team—Jonathan Bar '13; Austin Chang '12; Andrew Lazar '10, MA '12; Rebecca Goldstein '13; Alyssa Tutunjian '13; and Jacob Solomon '12—was scored on its clinical, leadership, and creativity skills.

Division of Student and Academic Services Financial Report 2011–12

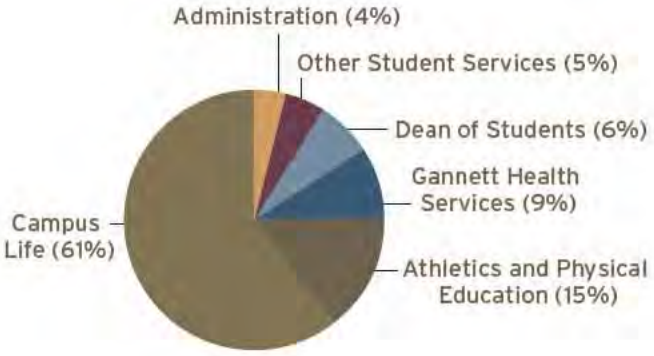
Income (in thousands)	
Gifts	$14,255
Housing and dining revenues	112,808
Investment income	5,351
Other sources	25,184
University allocation	33,378
Use of prior year gifts and reserves	10,592
Total resources available	**$201,568**

Income by Sources



Expenditures by Unit (in thousands)	
Administration	$8,443
Athletics and Physical Education	30,535
Campus Life	122,653
Dean of Students	13,192
Gannett Health Services	17,312
Other Student Services	9,433
Total expenditures	**$201,568**

Expenditures by Unit



Students outside Schoellkopf Memorial Hall show their Big Red Spirit for Homecoming's Freshmen on the Field event.

Division of Student and Academic Services

Susan H. Murphy '73, PhD '94, Vice President

Athletics and Physical Education
- Intercollegiate Athletics
- Intramurals
- Cornell Outdoor Education
- Physical Education
- Recreation
- Wellness Programs for faculty and staff
- Cornell Fitness Centers

Campus Life
- Community Center Operations
- Conference and Event Services
- Cornell Dining and Cornell Catering
- Cornell Housing

Cornell Career Services

Cornell Chimes

Cornell Commitment
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- Cornell Tradition Fellows
- Meinig Family Cornell National Scholars

Dean of Students
- Cornell United Religious Work
- Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living
- International Students and Scholars Office
- Center for Intercultural Dialogue
  - Asian/Asian American Center
  - Intercultural Programs
  - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center
- New Student Programs
- Carol Tatkon Center
- Residential Programs
- Student Activities
- Student and Community Support

Gannett Health Services
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Health Promotion
- General Medical Services
- Sports Medicine
- Occupational Medicine
- Physical Therapy
- Student Health Insurance
- Radiology and Laboratory Services
- Pharmacy

Public Service Center
- Community and K–12 Outreach Programs
- Faculty Engagement and Public Scholarship
- Student Leadership Development

Student Disability Services

University Registrar

Finance and Administration
- Business Service Center
- Communications
- Facilities
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Strategic Planning and Assessment

Contact Information
Debra Hurley
Director of External Relations
Cornell University
130 E. Seneca Street, Suite 400
Ithaca, NY 14850
Tel: 607 255-1696
Fax: 607 254-7166
dlh242@cornell.edu

sas.cornell.edu

Produced by University Communications at Cornell University.
Cornell University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer.
Written by Jose Beduya, Gary Frank, Katelyn Godoy, Emily Hopkins, Jeremy Hartigan, Sarah L. Smith, and Metta Winter.
Edited by Katelyn Godoy.
Designed by Laurie Ray.
Photography by Cornell University Photography, unless otherwise noted.
Printed on recycled paper.

10/12 1900 FLP 120275