

W. Donald Cooke

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W. Donald Cooke







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ITHACA JOURNAL 9  
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 1964

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## Cornell Gets New Grants

### Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON — The National Science Foundation has awarded two grants totaling \$320,800 to Cornell University at Ithaca for academic-year institutes for science and mathematics teachers.

Under one grant, for \$262,100, Cornell will set up an institute under Prof. W. Donald Cooke of the Chemistry Department for teachers of biology, chemistry, earth science, mathematics, physics and astronomy.

The other grant, \$50,700, will enable Cornell to provide an institute for radiation biology teachers under Dr. C. L. Comar of the physical biology department.

The foundation said the institutes will help teachers to improve their work by spending an entire academic year in studying disciplines.

Grant  
Awarded



# Graduate School Dean Appointed

W. Donald Cooke, professor of chemistry and an associate dean at Cornell, has been appointed dean of the Cornell University Graduate School, President James A. Perkins announced today.

He succeeds Damon Boynton, now serving as director of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences in Turrialba, Costa Rica.

A member of the Cornell faculty since 1951, Professor Cooke will continue to teach and perform research in the Department of Chemistry on a half-time basis in addition to his new duties as dean of the Graduate School.

He came to Cornell as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1954. He became a full professor of chemistry in 1959. Since 1962 he has served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, where he was responsible for policy planning connected with future activities of the College.



W. DONALD COOKE

## Graduate School Dean

from the  
Ithaca Journal,  
2 July 1964

Professor Cooke has served on a number of faculty committees, including the general committee of the Graduate School, administrative board of the Summer Session, administrative board of the Division of Unclassified Students, Library Board, and the Academic Records Committee.

A native of Philadelphia, Pa., Professor Cooke received the B.S. degree from St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia, the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. As a recipient of a National Science Postdoctoral Fellowship and a Eugene Higgins Fellowship, he studied for two years at Princeton University.

During World War II, he joined the U.S. Air Force as a private and was discharged in 1946 as a major.

An authority in the field of analytical chemistry, Professor Cooke has had more than 40 articles and papers published in scientific journals. He is also a member of the American Chemical Society, and has served on the Advisory Board of the National Bureau of Standards. He was a board member of the National Academy of Sciences of the Assn. of Research Councils.

Professor Cooke is married to the former June Marie Orr of New York City. They live at 215 Dearborn Pl. with their six children.



# Cornell Faculty Establishes Committee on Human Rights

The Cornell University faculty at a meeting Wednesday afternoon passed a resolution opposing discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex or national origin, and established a permanent University Committee on Human Rights with investigative functions.

The resolution empowers the new committee "to encourage members of the faculty, staff and student body of Cornell University to bring to the committee any problems relating to discrimination."

The committee will also seek information from persons and groups concerning alleged discrimination, and will offer advice and assistance in such cases. It may also refer complaints to "proper agencies" for further assistance.

Other functions involve educational programs within the Cornell community to further the cause of equal human rights and freedoms, and investigation and elimination of discriminatory practices in student groups.

The committee will include

five faculty and five student members, with the university's vice president for student affairs and dean of students as non-voting members.

It will report both to the Executive Board of Student Government and the University Faculty.

Also established yesterday was a presidential advisory committee on discrimination.

Cornell President James A. Perkins announced his committee would concentrate on prob-

lems of discrimination within the university's administration and faculty.

This committee will supplement work of the new University Committee, and could examine matters such as faculty hiring that could not be taken up by a group that has voting student members. It would not operate continuously, but would meet only as cases arise that demand its attention, Perkins said.

Franklin A. Long, vice president for research and advanced studies, will be chairman of the presidential committee.

Also named by Perkins to the committee are Deans David G. Moore and W. Donald Cooke; ~~Diedrich A. Willers~~, university personnel director; and Professors Mary Ford, Alfred E. Kahn, Robert S. Pasley, R. M. Smock, and John Summerskill.

Summerskill will also serve on the University Committee on Human Rights. He is also a member of the County Commission on Human Rights, established by the Tompkins County Board of Supervisors.

Member





W. D. COOKE

# Analytical Chemistry Division Chair, American Chemical Society

## Chemistry Unit Elects W. D. Cooke

W. Donald Cooke, dean of the graduate school of Cornell University, has been elected chairman of the American Chemical Society's Division of Analytical Chemistry for 1966.

Chairman-elect is Dr. John K. Taylor, National Bureau of Standards, Washington. Dr. Charles V. Banks, Iowa State College, is secretary-treasurer.

Born in Philadelphia, Cooke received the B.S. in 1940 from St. Joseph's College. He joined the U.S. Air Force as a private in 1941 and was discharged as a major in 1946. He earned the M.S. in 1948 and Ph.D. in 1949 from the University of Pennsylvania. A National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship in 1949 and a Eugene Higgins Fellowship in 1950 gave him two years of advanced study at Princeton.

Cooke joined the Cornell faculty as an assistant professor in 1951, became associate professor in 1954 and professor in 1959. He was named associate dean of the college of arts and sciences in 1962 and to his present position in 1964.

Cooke joined the American Chemical Society in 1949. He was chairman of the Society's Cornell Section in 1961 and a councilor of the Analytical Division and member of the advisory board of Analytical Chemistry, an ACS scientific monthly, from 1958 to 1961. He is on the board of directors of the National Academy of Sciences and the advisory board of the National Bureau of Standards.





# CORNELL CHRONICLE

The official weekly of record for Cornell University

Vol. 1 No. 12

Thursday, December 18, 1969

## Assembly Adopts Senate Plan; Ratification Procedures Start

The approval of a University Senate constitution ended a marathon meeting of Cornell University's Constituent Assembly Monday night. Tonight, procedures for ratification of the document will be set into motion by the Assembly's executive committee.

The new Senate offers the University ten faculty and four student representatives on the Board of Trustees, three of these to be on the Board's executive committee.

The Senate would "have sole legislative powers over campus codes of conduct, the campus judiciary system... and the academic calendar."

A statement on student academic freedom would be formulated by the body. Also, the Senate would have some powers

over: educational, innovations, faculty legislation, University budgetary matters, University matters that have important social or political implications, and the choice of a University president.

"General responsibility for non-academic matters of campus life," would be put in the hands of the Senate.

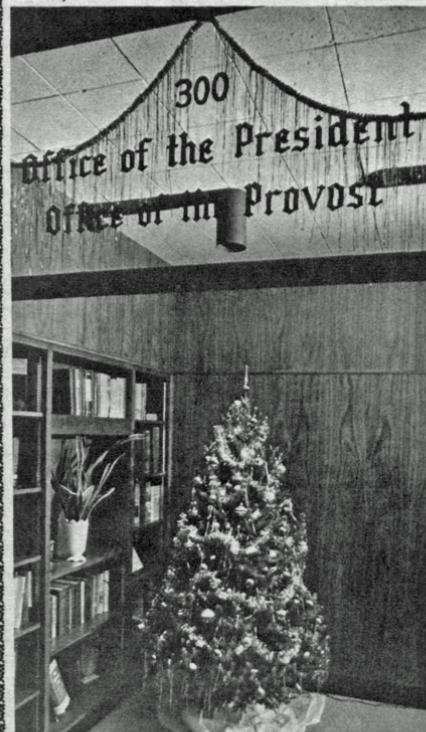
As specified by the Senate constitution, the work of obtaining formal ratification will be the job of an interim election committee, which will be appointed by the Constituent Assembly's executive committee today. The interim election committee will set up the means for ratification during the spring semester. Peter Auer, chairman of the Assembly's executive committee, said. Presently, he

said, there is no timetable that would hint when the ratification procedures will be completed.

According to the Senate constitution, "Ratification shall be by affirmative votes of the Constituent Assembly; a referendum of all enrolled students on campus, together with all persons employed by Cornell University; the University Faculty; and the Trustees."

The Senate constitution that was passed included some changes from the text that was printed in the Oct. 11 Cornell Chronicle. These changes were mainly to protect personal freedoms and the civil liberties of individuals, and the text as changed by the drafting committee was distributed to each delegate who attended the meeting.

Merry Christmas from Cornell Chronicle



Nearly 40 amendments to the document were presented to the delegates in printed form. Only a few were passed by the Assembly; about half of the amendments were considered before the final voting on the full Senate constitution took place at 11:30 p.m. Monday.

Under the direction of Assembly Speaker W. Donald Cooke, dean of the graduate school and vice president for research, the Assembly passed speedily through the amendments and the general discussion of the proposal.

This final meeting on the Senate question drew a large attendance of 245 delegates. Faculty representatives, which total 118 hit their peak in attendance for the semester with 96 representatives, according to figures, compiled from attendance lists in the Assembly office. Graduate student attendance at Monday's meeting was about average with 28 of 43 possible representatives present. Fifty-five of some 96

Continued on Page 2

### Chronicle Goes On Holiday

Cornell Chronicle will not be published Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day, nor Thursday, January 1, New Year's Day.

## Senate Adopts

Continued from Page 1  
undergraduate delegates attended.

In an overview of Assembly attendance throughout the semester—undergraduate attendance gradually dropped to about half of the allotted delegates. Graduates, faculty, special interest groups and foreign students also saw diminished rates of attendance from their potential totals; and freshmen, who were admitted to the assembly late, showed a fairly high rate of attendance.

Most conspicuous, in light of what brought the Assembly into being, was the absence of the 20 representatives of the black community. Although four black representatives attended part of one meeting, not one black delegate registered at any of the Assembly meetings.

Other constituencies including the college and school administrators, University administrators, alumni, trustees, non-professorial academic employees, librarians, non-academic employees, and University health services, presented the most steady and, percentage-wise, the highest attendance rates.

# Speaker of the Constituent Assembly



## CORNELL UNIVERSITY NEWS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ITHACA, N.Y. -- W. Donald Cooke, vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School at Cornell University, has announced his intention to resign as dean.

Cooke has asked Cornell President Dale R. Corson to initiate a search for a new dean in order to concentrate on his duties as Cornell vice president for research. He will also continue teaching in the Chemistry Department of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has served as Graduate School dean since 1964.

Commenting on his intention to resign, Cooke said, "After such a long time as Dean of the Graduate School, I believe it is time for a new person to take on this responsibility."

"It is with deep regret that I accept Don Cooke's resignation as Graduate dean," Corson said. "The Graduate School will miss his valuable experience and patient leadership. However, the University will continue to benefit from his many talents as vice president for research and as a member of the faculty."

Corson said he will shortly appoint a search committee to seek a new Graduate School dean.

-end-

Jan. 11/73-MBS

Intent to  
Resign as  
Dean of  
Graduate  
School



# W.D. Cooke to Resign As Grad School Dean

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Cooke has asked President Dale R. Corson to initiate a search for a new dean in order to concentrate on his duties as vice president for research. He will also continue teaching in the Chemistry Department of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has served as Graduate School dean since 1964.

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**W. Donald Cooke**

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## W.D. Cooke to Resign As Grad School Dean

W. Donald Cooke, vice president for research and dean of Cornell's Graduate School, announced in mid-January his intention to resign as dean. At the end of January, University President Dale R. Corson named an 11-member committee to search for a replacement for Cooke.

Cooke will concentrate on his duties as vice president for research. He will also continue teaching in the Chemistry Department of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has served as dean of the Graduate School since 1964.

Commenting on his intention to resign, Cooke said, "After such a long time as Dean of the Graduate School, I believe it is time for a new person to take on this responsibility."

"It is with deep regret that I accept Don Cooke's resignation as Graduate dean," Corson said. "The Graduate School will miss his valuable experience and patient leadership. However, the University will continue to benefit from his many talents as vice president for research and as a member of the faculty."

Corson, asked that the search committee make its recommendations to him as soon as possible but in any case no later than mid-May.

In his charge to the committee, which is headed by Acting Provost David C. Knapp, Corson said, "The Cornell Graduate School has a unique character which has contributed greatly to the quality of the University. The selection of a new dean to carry on this tradition during a period of travail for graduate education in this country is a particularly important task."

Serving on the committee are Alice Colby, associate professor of French; Lester F. Eastman, professor of electrical engineering; Douglas B. Fitchen, professor of physics; William Hansel, professor of animal science; Raymond C. Loehr, professor of agricultural engineering; Philip J. McCarthy, professor of economic and social statistics; Anne McIntyre, assistant professor, human development and family studies; Jason L. Seley, chairman, art; David B. Wilson, assistant professor, biochemistry and molecular biology, and Frank W. Young, professor of rural sociology.



## CORNELL UNIVERSITY

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FOR RELEASE FRIDAY A.M., JULY 20, 1973

ITHACA, N.Y. -- W. Donald Cooke, vice president for research at Cornell University since 1969, has been elected acting provost effective Sept. 1.

The action was taken by the Executive Committee of the University Board of Trustees at its meeting in New York City yesterday (July 19).

Cooke will assume the additional duties of acting provost following the resignation of Provost Robert A. Plane on Aug. 31. Cooke will serve in the dual capacity of vice president for research and acting provost until the appointment of a new provost. In addition, he will continue to teach in the Department of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Plane's decision to resign was announced in April, at which time he said he would resume his academic responsibilities as professor of chemistry after Sept. 1.

"Don Cooke's broad experience throughout the University, his patient leadership and his willingness to serve Cornell will be great assets to us all," University President Dale R. Corson said. "His leading role in the development of the University's long-range plan, 'Cornell in the Seventies,' gives him valuable insight into Cornell's needs and problems."

Cooke resigned as dean of Cornell's Graduate School earlier this year to concentrate on his duties as vice president for research. He had been dean of the Graduate School since 1964.

Cooke joined the Cornell faculty as an assistant professor of chemistry in 1951. He was appointed associate professor in 1954 and professor in 1959. He was named associate dean of the Arts College in 1962, a position he held until he was named dean of the Graduate School. He was speaker of the Cornell Constituent Assembly in 1969.

(more)

July 12/73-RWS

Board on Graduate Education.

A native of Philadelphia, Cooke received his bachelor of science degree at St. Joseph's College in 1940. He joined the Army Air Force as a private in 1941 and was discharged as a major in 1946. He earned his master's degree in 1948 and his doctorate in 1949 at the University of Pennsylvania.

Cooke had two years of advanced study at Princeton University under a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship in 1950 and a Eugene Higgins Fellowship in 1951.

Cooke and his wife, the former June M. Orr of New York City, live at 38 Deerhaven Rd. They have six children.

-end-

# Acting Provost



# CU's research vice president will retire

11/29/82  
IS

By DEBORAH SCHOCH  
*Journal Staff*

W. Donald Cooke, vice president for research at Cornell University for the past 13 years, will retire from that post at the end of the academic year, Cornell officials announced today.

Cooke was appointed vice president in 1969. Since then, research funding at the Ithaca campus has jumped from \$37.5 million to \$114.5 million, officials said.

The campus gained several new research facilities during Cooke's term in office, including the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, the Cornell Electron Storage Ring and the National Submicron Facility. He also played a major role in developing the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center at Arecibo, Puerto Rico, according to a Cornell news release.

"He has been a model of sensitivity, resourcefulness and effectiveness in the many assignments he has been called upon to undertake, always completing them with his characteristic thoroughness and thoughtfulness," Cornell President Frank H.T. Rhodes said.

Rhodes will name a search committee to find a successor for Cooke, who is one of Cornell's six vice presidents.

Cooke, 64, was born in Philadelphia and received his bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1940 from St. Joseph's College. He spent a year as a chemist, entered the U.S. Army Air Corps as a private and was sent to study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After serving three years in World War II, he was discharged in 1946 with the rank of major.

## Leaves post of Vice President for Research

Later Cooke attended the University of Pennsylvania, earning his master's degree in 1948 and his doctoral degree in 1949. He studied at Princeton University as a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow in 1949-50. He also received a Eugene Higgins Fellowship.

He joined the Cornell faculty in 1951 as an assistant professor of chemistry, becoming an associate professor in 1954 and a full professor in 1959.

Cooke served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1962 to 1964. He was Graduate School dean from 1964 to 1973.

During his 31 years at Cornell, Cooke has been involved in many projects, campus officials said. He has held overall responsibility for all environmental safety and health on the Ithaca campus, the codification and implementation of academic appointments policies, the development of a proposal for a biotechnology institute and supervision of the preparation the university's 10-year master plan.



# Cooke Plans to Retire This Year As Vice President for Research



W. DONALD COOKE  
Announces Retirement

—Sun Photo

By NICK ACKER

W. Donald Cooke, Cornell's vice president for research since 1969, will retire at the end of the current academic year, University officials announced yesterday.

Cooke has served on the Cornell faculty for over 30 years in various administrative capacities and as a professor of chemistry. He also teaches a course on university administration in the Graduate School of Business and Public Administration.

During Cooke's term as vice president for research, Cornell has opened several major research facilities, such as the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, the Cornell Electron Storage Ring, and the National Submicron Facility.

## 14-Year Term

Research funding for the Ithaca campus has risen from \$37.5 million to \$114.5 million during his 14-year term.

In an interview last night, Cooke said he has enjoyed serving as research vice president, but "couldn't

Continued on Page 7.

## Cooke Will Leave Vice Presidency After This Year

Continued from Page 1

single out any particular event" as his major accomplishment.

"I don't think the picture for future funding [of university research] is as glum as some people think it is," Cooke said, adding he thought Congress would come to realize the importance of supporting basic research at universities.

Cooke served as dean of the Graduate School from 1964 to 1973. Before that he was associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for two years.

Cooke said he is retiring because "14 years in a position is a long time." He said he is "uncertain at the moment" about his future plans.

## Chemistry Prof

Cooke joined the Cornell faculty in 1951 as an assistant professor of chemistry, and by 1959 he had become a full professor. He published 39 papers in analytical chemistry from 1949 to 1970.

President Frank H. T. Rhodes will name a committee to find Cooke's successor.



# Lecture to Lead Off Events Honoring W. D. Cooke

## Illinois Chancellor to Speak About Science and Governments

Donald N. Langenberg, chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago and past deputy director of the National Science Foundation, will speak on the topic "Science and Governments — the Ambivalent Relationship" at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 7, in Uris Auditorium.

The lecture, which is open to the general public at no charge, is among the activities honoring W. Donald Cooke on his retirement as vice president for research at Cornell. A reception will follow at 6:30 p.m. in Statler West Lounge and a dinner at 7:30 p.m. in the Statler Main Ballroom.

A chemist who joined the Cornell faculty in 1951, Cooke will retire from the position of vice president for research and advanced studies at the end of the current academic year. Robert Barker, director of the Cornell Division of Biological Sciences, has been nominated as his successor.

Langenberg is an experimental physicist specializing in solid state and low temperature physics, and is best known for his studies of the electrical properties of superconductors. Before becoming deputy director of the National Science Foundation, in July, 1980, he was a professor of physics and vice provost for graduate studies and research at the University of Pennsylvania.

The National Science Foundation is an independent federal agency with an annual budget of some \$1 billion. It provides nearly 30 percent of all federal support for basic research at academic institutions, and makes more than 12,000 awards annually from some 27,000 unsolicited proposals. As deputy director of NSF, Langenberg served as representative of the director before Congress and was responsible for NSF's budget, personnel management and general operations, including the grants review process.

Langenberg became chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago, the top executive post at that institution, in February.

The activities honoring Cooke are sponsored by the Cornell University Research Policies Committee. The committee chair-



W. DONALD COOKE

man, Department of Astronomy Chairman Yervant Terzian said: "Don Cooke's contributions to Cornell have been enormous. Any leading university in the country should excel in graduate education and in basic research, and Don has provided superb leadership in both, first as dean of the Graduate School and now as vice president for research."

Department of Chemistry Chairman Roald Hoffmann, observing that Cooke has continued teaching in that department as well as in the School of Business and Public Administration, said: "Don Cooke has served the Department of Chemistry in many capacities. He was a leading analytical chemist and he continues to teach a graduate course in that field, Chemistry 625, to this day. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday when I come in to work between 8 and 9 a.m. I see Don lecturing to an attentive group of students.

He does this of his free will, as a service to the department.

"But it is Don's quiet, concerned advice that his colleagues have valued most," Hoffmann continued. "He is knowledgeable and he really possesses wisdom, which he has shared with us."

During Cooke's tenure as vice president, research expenditures at Cornell University increased from \$47.4 million, in the academic year 1969-70, to \$144.3 million in the academic year 1981-82.

University Provost W. Keith Kennedy said:

"Dr. Cooke is a thoughtful administrator whose goal has been to assist faculty and graduate students with their scholarly and scientific pursuits. He has set high standards of performance for himself and has played a major role in the appointment and promotion of an outstanding faculty at Cornell. While Don will be reducing the

scope of his administrative responsibilities on July 1, we will continue to look to him for wise counseling as we strengthen our programs in research and advanced studies."

Among the major facilities added to Cornell's Ithaca campus during Cooke's years as vice president are the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, the National Research and Resource Facility for Submicron Structures and the Cornell Electron Storage Ring.

Professor of Physics Boyce D. McDaniel, director of the Laboratory of Nuclear Studies, which operates the electron storage ring, said: "We are very much indebted to Don for his help in solving the many administrative problems connected with the funding and administration of our large accelerator construction projects and operating contracts. I have especially appreciated his characteristic sympathetic and supportive interest in our efforts."



# Health Careers Evaluation, Chair

3

## Health Careers Evaluation Committee



*Professor Emeritus Don Cooke*

What is the largest committee on campus? **Professor Emeritus Don Cooke** thinks that the **Health Careers Evaluation Committee**, which he chairs, might well have that distinction with a membership of 91. But then he admits that, despite its name, it's not really a committee since it never meets

as a group and policy decisions are made by the Health Careers Program Advisory Board. The University Career Center administers the program, and its purpose is to interview and write letters of evaluation for Cornell undergraduates (325 this year) who are applying to health professional schools. He believes the designation "committee" may date back to previous modes of operation, since such a group has been around for a long time. As far back as 1942 there was an Advisory

Board for Premedical Students which served the same purpose as the present group, except that, today, the advisory role and the evaluation are completely separated with Jané Crawford, Associate Director of Health Careers, being the advisor. In the 1930's there was a Premed Committee, but Cooke does not know what role it played.

The fact that the advising and evaluation role of premedical students has been around for a long time is a partial answer to a frequently asked question as to why these students receive more direct attention than applicants to other professional schools. For many years medical schools have expected undergraduate institutions to help them in the selection of their students and, as a consequence, almost all colleges and universities have similar programs. The purpose of our program is not to decide which applications should be supported and which should not, but to make the best case for each student and let the medical schools make their selections. In other words, in our program one student does not compete against another. The answer as to whether the program makes a difference can be found in one stark statistic: for those applicants who enroll in the evaluation program, over 90% are accepted to some medical school. However, the acceptance rate for those who apply independently of the Committee is 50%, and there does not seem to be any obvious difference in the two populations.

The fact that 91 academic staff members volunteer to interview and

write letters of evaluation for our applicants indicates an interest and regard for students which runs counter to the sometimes expressed view that the faculty is not concerned with undergraduates. Cooke also believes that too much is made of the "pre-med syndrome" which implies that the applicants are overly aggressive, strained, and only interested in getting into medical school. While a few such individuals may exist, he has found that the vast majority of those applying to the medical professions are fine young men and women and an unusually talented group of individuals.

Cooke is always looking for academic volunteers, and hopes to expand the size of the group to 100 next Spring to accommodate an expected increase in the number of applicants. For some reason the number of Cornell applicants continues to increase in contrast to the national trends. In the past 5 years the number of Cornell applicants increased 40%, while nationally the number was down 22%. In the Fall he spends a lot of time on the telephone, since members are committed only for one year.

If you are an academia and you are interested in volunteering please call Professor Emeritus Don Cooke.

*Photo by Doug Hicks*

Networking (Cornell Chronicle), p3 29 Nov 1990



# Faculty Senate discusses professorial titles and medical college in Qatar

By Jacquie Powers

Members of the Cornell Faculty Senate discussed several key initiatives – including professorial titles, the university's planned new medical college in Qatar and female faculty salaries – at their regular monthly meeting April 11 in Hollis E. Cornell Auditorium of Goldwin Smith Hall.

Dean of the Faculty J. Robert Cooke explained that he had appointed an ad hoc task force to study the issue of professorial titles last November, in order to search for new options that would allow the university and the faculty more flexibility. He said that the uncapping of the federal mandatory retirement age, and the subsequent aging of the higher education faculty, has presented the university with a challenge: how to hire new, young faculty to maintain academic excellence and prepare for the future, while continuing to meet its financial obligations.

Cooke pointed out that the number of endowed faculty aged 60 and over has increased from 106 in 1982-83 to 203 in 1999-00, despite the introduction of a phased retirement program. And while the number of faculty aged 60 and over in the contract colleges was reduced from 119 to 92 in the same period, due to multiple attractive buyout programs, those colleges also have had to reduce dramatically the number of young faculty hired.

W. Donald Cooke, emeritus professor of chemistry and chair of the Subcommittee of Professorial Titles Committee, said the committee was "seeking ways to make part-time appointments more attractive to senior faculty, in order to release funds for new appointments." He said the committee is seeking input on a proposed new title of senior professor. This "would allow active, full professors, with 25 or so years of service, to continue serving as active faculty on a part-time basis, while retaining their professional identities and remaining as productive as their stamina, creativity and interest allow." He added that the money saved by their part-time status could be redirected into new appointments.

## Professorial Titles

In addition, Donald Cooke noted, emeritus professors sometimes have trouble getting research funding, and the senior professor title might alleviate that problem.

Kay Obendorf, professor of textiles and apparel, expressed concern that this option would considerably reduce the interest in the phased retirement program, which mandates total retirement after no more than five years.

Ronald Ehrenberg, director of the Cornell Higher Education Research Institute and the Irving M. Ives Professor of Industrial and Labor Relations, added a cautionary note. He said the bigger problem in a few years is going to be the huge wave of retirements coming, "and where are we going to get the young faculty to replace them?"

On the issue of the Weill Cornell Medical College of Qatar, Provost Biddy Martin explained that under the agreement with the Qatar Foundation for a new branch of the medical college in that Middle Eastern country, the university would have complete control over the program, thus ensuring that the academic quality meets Cornell standards and safeguarding the Cornell name.

One faculty senator asked what the incentive for Cornell was in this venture. David Robertshaw, professor of biomedical sciences and associate dean of the new branch of the medical school, said that increasing globalization was a motivating factor.

"This allows the medical school to have an international presence in that region of the world," Robertshaw said. "It's an extension of higher education on an international basis, part of a general movement in higher education in that direction."

Several senators, however, expressed concerns about the initiative and the lack of faculty input in the process.

"It's too bad it's too late to do anything about this, but perhaps the best we have is it's the medical school and not us," said Terrence Fine, director of the Center for Applied Mathematics and professor of electrical and computer engineering. "This is basically about having the money and buying a piece of Cornell. I feel quite bad about this."

*Continued on page 4*

Cornell  
Chronicle  
19 Apr 2001  
pp3-4



## **Faculty Senate** *continued from page 3*

Risa Lieberwitz, professor of collective bargaining, said she was concerned about academic freedom and the human rights and safety of Cornell students and faculty. She noted that Qatar has a history of human rights abuses, including a lack of women's rights and a lack of religious freedom. "We cannot provide or assume that there will be the same kind of academic experience and rights as Cornell students here have with these restrictions."

She added that with total funding coming from the Qatar Foundation, there is the potential for a conflict of interest in the running of the medical school.

James Mingle, university counsel, responded that under Cornell's agreement with the Qatar Foundation, "the university has full operational autonomy," with extensive legal and financial protection, including "five-year rolling budgets secured by a letter of credit issued by a London bank Cornell approves."

Mingle said that from the earliest discussions with Qatar, Cornell considered the issues of academic freedom, personal safety and non-discrimination to be critical, and they are all addressed in the agreement. Unfortunately, he added, the government of Qatar – like many around the world where

Cornell has foreign programs and affiliations – is not a democracy.

"We consulted with the U.S. State Department, and in light of increasing globalization they were supportive of this initiative in the interest of educational diplomacy."

Moreover, he pointed out, Qatar has considerably relaxed human rights restrictions in the past few years. "They recently introduced democratic elections, although the government is still a conservative regime. It's true that they are far to the right of us, but so are most other countries," he added.

Francille M. Firebaugh, director of special projects, Offices of the President and

Provost, briefed the senate on a faculty gender equity salary study under way. The study, a universitywide project, involves a regression analysis for each college. The deans will review the results, particularly the women faculty salaries that are 5 percent or more below their predicted salary level. The deans will use these results to identify those cases that depart substantially from the regression prediction and then make adjustments consistent with performance evaluations.

In addition, Firebaugh said, a second set of regression analyses related to gender equity will take place this summer.