CONNECTING
CORNELL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS EMERITI
229 Day Hall
Cornell University
Spring 2016 Edition

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We’d Like to Hear From You!
Please let us know if you have a great idea or if there is something you’d like to know or see in the newsletter, etc.
Send your comments and ideas to: Cindy Robinson, CAPE Office, cape@cornell.edu or call us: 255-6608

Retirement Reception, 2016
About Our Colleagues
December 2015 was “Food Month” for Richard A. Durst, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry in the Department of Food Science & Technology. On December 2nd, he presented the Keynote Lecture at the Conference on Sensors in Food and Agriculture in Cambridge, UK. His talk, entitled “Food Analysis from Farm to Fork”, provided an overview of the state of the art in food safety/security analysis and the needs for future sensor technology.

The following week, on the 7th and 8th, he chaired the Food Advisory Committee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on the topic of “Addressing Listeria monocytogenese in Ready-to-Eat Foods”. He was appointed chair of this committee by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs in 2013 and will serve until 2017. This committee works most closely with the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition which is responsible for protecting the public’s health by ensuring that the nation’s food supply is safe, sanitary, wholesome, and honestly labeled. He previously had served as a member of this committee from 2003 to 2006 when it was chaired by Daryl Lund, a former Dean of CALS.

David Henderson, Mathematics -- collaborative project with core curriculum development team of the Algebra Project, working with underserved students to “raise the floor” so that all students learn the mathematics they need to enter college by developing special experiential-based high school curricular materials, leading the efforts on the geometry aspects of the curriculum materials.

“About Our Colleagues” is a featured selection. We are interested in what members are doing. Feel free to send along any news, updates, comments, etc. that you would like to share with your colleagues. Please limit your update to a small paragraph or two and send it to the CAPE office or via email: cape@cornell.edu.

Recent Survey: - Thanks - Results - Progress!
Dear Emeritus Faculty Colleagues:

Last fall, the Executive Committee of CAPE (Cornell Association of Professors Emeriti) sent a survey to all of you, emeritus faculty with email access (~600), to get a sense of your continued involvement with the university. From the 198 responses, our overall conclusion is that emeritus faculty are making significant and lasting voluntary contributions to the university. Thank you to everyone who responded and to the many others who are actively part of the Cornell community.

The survey results include impressive examples of emeriti contributions. Many are very active in research and scholarship, producing numerous books, research papers and artistic output, mentoring graduate students, and directing Cornell research projects. Emeriti receive many research grants and awards, even from such prestigious institutions as the MacArthur Foundation, and serve on National Academy of Sciences Panels. A significant number of emeriti are teaching courses, and many teach in the Cornell Prison Education program and Cornell Abroad. Many advise and mentor students, both graduate and undergraduate; some are formally or informally involved in mentoring junior faculty. Emeriti are prolific in their contributions to department, college and university activities, including the Weiss Presidential Fellow Selection Committee, the AD White Professors Committee, the University Benefits Committee and others. Emeriti contribute as University Ombudsman and University Marshall. Emeritus faculty are also seen on departmental committees, at Freshman Move-in Day and as volunteers at the Plantations, PRI and the Johnson Art Museum to name a few. Finally, emeritus faculty are financial contributors to Cornell, some even endowing student scholarships. In cooperation with the Kroch Library, CAPE encouraged emeriti to contribute towards a $50K goal for the library and they exceeded all expectations. Overall, the emeriti give back to Cornell many times over and should be recognized appropriately with strong support.

Unfortunately, the survey also disclosed a variety of systemic obstacles that emeriti face, many related to databases and list serves which do not properly characterize emeritus faculty. Over the past several years the CAPE office and officers have also received emails from many of you outlining your difficulties. Given Cornell’s interest in increasing the number of senior faculty retiring in the near future, for both financial and renewal reasons, it is in the best interests of the University to recognize current emeriti and provide potential emeriti with incentives to retire; this conclusion is recognized by senior administration.
Survey – continued
We shared the results of the survey with senior administration, indicating the many contributions emeriti have made and also the obstacles that we face. We also underlined the importance of CAPE in playing a major part in resolving these issues since it is the representative and voice of emeritus faculty and a conduit for their concerns. The response from the administration has so far been positive. The Dean of Faculty office is extremely supportive, and we look forward to working soon with representatives of Human Resources and University Relations to make things work properly for emeriti, enabling us to receive the appropriate recognition for our contributions, receive important communications, and obtain the privileges to which we are entitled. We will continue to update you as we make progress toward these goals.

It was extremely heartening to see evidence of the emeritus faculty members who have the time and energy to make specific contributions to Cornell, but we hope that others of you who have moved along toward embracing retirement to its fullest still feel connected to Cornell and CAPE with the newsletter and the broadcasts that the CAPE Office distributes. We also hope to see many of you at the various CAPE activities, including the lectures and tours that we sponsor, perhaps including a social sometime this spring. CAPE is your organization and will continue to provide many opportunities for us over a wide range of emeriti needs; we invite your great ideas to best support your interests. Finally, with this helpful survey data in hand, we hope to represent CAPE and champion for change.

Best Wishes,
Ann

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Ann T. Lemley, Professor Emerita
President, CAPE
Cornell University

The 2016 Retirement Reception was held at AD White on Thursday, May 7th. “The annual event is hosted by the Office of the Dean of Faculty. Michael Fontaine, acting Dean of the Faculty an Cornell Provost Michael Kotlikoff welcomed the new retirees; Ann Lemley, president of the Cornell Association of Professors Emeriti (CAPE), previewed many ways retired faculty can stay involved with Cornell…..” The full article can be found here: http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2016/05/retiring-faculty-honored-invited-remain-active

Upcoming Events and Activities
September 22 A tour to Ian Merwin’s Black Diamond Apple and Cider Farm. In the heart of the Finger Lakes region of New York, our farm in Trumansburg is adjacent to the Black Diamond soon-to-be hiking biking trail. The area has a long rich history of apple growing. Despite our small size, we’re growing some of the most exciting new varieties and many treasured ‘heritage’ apple varieties.

Upcoming lectures for fall – details will be published in the fall newsletter.
This I Believe
This I Believe, Inc., was founded in 2004 as an independent, not-for-profit organization that engages youth and adults from all walks of life in writing, sharing, and discussing brief essays about the core values that guide their daily lives.

This I Believe is based on a 1950s radio program of the same name, hosted by acclaimed journalist Edward R. Murrow. Each day, Americans gathered by their radios to hear compelling essays from the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Robinson, Helen Keller, and Harry Truman as well as corporate leaders, cab drivers, scientists, and secretaries—anyone able to distill into a few minutes the guiding principles by which they lived. These essayists’ words brought comfort and inspiration to a country worried about the Cold War, McCarthyism, and racial division.

In reviving This I Believe, executive producer Dan Gediman said, “The goal is not to persuade Americans to agree on the same beliefs. Rather, the hope is to encourage people to begin the much more difficult task of developing respect for beliefs different from their own.”

Emerita Professor Elizabeth (Lisa) Earle has been interviewed. When she was sixteen, Elizabeth Deutsch did her first interview: http://thisibelieve.org/essay/16492/. This I believe caught up with Lisa recently and this is her second interview: http://thisibelieve.org/essay/20/.

There are other interesting interviews: http://thisibelieve.org/essays/featured/ featuring John McCain and Gloria Steinman among them. Here is a link to their webpage: http://thisibelieve.org/ Enjoy!