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 monocytogenes 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.

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Thanks for a Wonderful Time!
The June Happy Hour was a great success and a good time was had by all. Stay tuned for more events!

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
June Happy Hour
Many thanks to those who came –
we had a wonderful time! More to come!

Prevailing economic theory attributes the 2008 crash and the Great Recession that followed to low interest rates, relaxed borrowing standards, and the housing price bubble. After careful analyses of statistical evidence, however, Matthew Drennan discovered that income inequality was the decisive factor behind the crisis.

Pressured to keep up consumption in the face of flat or declining incomes, Americans leveraged their home equity to take on excessive debt. The collapse of the housing market left this debt unsupported, causing a domino effect throughout the economy. Drennan also found startling similarities in consumer behavior in the years leading to both the Great Depression and the Great Recession. Offering an economic explanation of a phenomenon described by prominent observers including Thomas Piketty, Jacob Hacker, Robert Kuttner, Paul Krugman, and Joseph Stiglitz, Drennan’s evenhanded analysis disproves dominant theories of consumption and draws much-needed attention to the persisting problem of income inequality.

This work was supported, in part by the Cornell Association of Professors Emeriti and the Podell Emeriti Awards for Research and Scholarship (PEARS) Program.

Special Presentation
Professor Emeritus Matthew Drennan, City & Regional Planning
Income Inequality – Why It Matters and Why Most Economists Didn’t Notice
Boyce Thompson Institute Auditorium
Thursday, October 13th * 10am-11am,
(come any time after 9:30 for refreshments)
(note time change)
September 22 (Thursday)
Ian Merwin, Horticulture, Black Diamond Apple and Cider Farm Tour

October 20 (Thursday)
Ken Hover, Civil and Environmental Engineering, “Structural and Human Conditions Immediately after the 2010 Earthquake in Haiti”

November 15 (Tuesday)
Katy Payne, The Elephant Listing Project, TBA

December 8 (Thursday)
Karl Niklas, Plant Biology, “Teaching Botany for 40 years, or How I Learned to Love Physics”

Now Accepting Applications for the 2017 Podell Emeriti Awards for Research and Scholarship Program

In anticipation of grant funds, the Cornell Association of Professors Emeriti (CAPE) is pleased to announce the Podell Emeriti Awards for Research and Scholarship Program for 2017. Cornell Alumnus, Albert Podell (’58) generously supports research and scholarship related to making the world a better place to live. Representative topics of study could include:

- Enhancing the World’s Food Supply
- Improving Education
- Energy Supply and Demand
- Alleviation of Poverty
- Keeping Communities Healthy
- Economic Well Being
- Law and Conflict Resolution
- Water and Land Resources

Due to the wide array of their professional interests, applications by Cornell emeriti are welcome from all fields of study at Cornell. Hence, the above topics are to be interpreted in the broadest sense, including their relation to the humanities and social sciences. Award funds can be used for, among other things, the cost of books, equipment, postage, supplies, and wages for assistants, essential travel, and technical support. If you would like a more extensive list of guidelines and ideas, please contact the CAPE Office.

Applications should include a concise, double-spaced description of the proposed study, its significance, a specific budget, a current, selective CV, relevant publications and extracurricular lectures. Applications should not exceed 4-5 pages in length.

CAPE has established a PEARs Selection Committee to evaluate the proposals and to make recommendations to the Dean of the Faculty, who will administer the funds through the grantee’s department. Applications must be submitted by November 4, 2016. Submit applications via U.S. mail to: CAPE, 229 Day Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 or e-mailed to cape@cornell.edu. If you have any questions, call the CAPE office at (607) 255-6608. The announcement of the PEARs awards will be made January 2017.
Parking Permit – Boyce Thompson Institute Auditorium
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