



SAVE THE DATE: *PCCW's Annual Meeting will be held March 3-5, 2011, in Ithaca. The theme will be Cornell's Global Presence, with an emphasis on the role of women.*

REPORT TO PCCW

PCCW Chair's Meeting with President David Skorton, Sept. 20, 2010



David Skorton and I had a very productive discussion Sept. 20. He appreciates PCCW. He agrees that September is an excellent time for the President's annual one-on-one meeting with the Chair of PCCW, and he will reserve a similar time for 2011. I am delighted to report that President Skorton and I share a strong commitment to improving retention and promotion of women faculty and specifically to increasing accountability for issues of diversity

among faculty department chairs and deans. Our conversation focused on tactics to achieve better retention and promotion of women (including minority women). For example, I suggested that routine meetings with the Provost, Deans and Department Chairs include review of select indicators of progress in advancing women faculty.

We disagreed on one of the tactics I proposed. President Skorton believes that appointment of a Vice Provost for faculty diversity (which I advocated) has been ineffective for Cornell and for our peer institutions. We agreed to continue to discuss tactics -- especially alternatives for improving accountability for faculty diversity. In a subsequent telephone conference call on Nov. 9, Provost Kent Fuchs and PCCW Vice Chair, Julie Crotty, joined our discussion. Both Provost Fuchs and President Skorton agreed that progress on faculty diversity should be included in routine meetings with deans, associate deans, and department chairs. Provost Fuchs also reported that he is working this academic year with Provost Fellow Zellman Warhaft (former Associate Dean in the College of Engineering) to evaluate how best to maintain faculty diversity going forward.

I am particularly pleased that President Skorton agreed that the Cornell ADVANCE Center should continue in some form after the completion of the NSF-ADVANCE grant in 2011. We did not discuss specifics of what form continuation might take, but he is very interested in evaluating the continuing structure of

original ADVANCE centers in similarly complex institutions i.e. University of Michigan. In our discussion November 9, Provost Fuchs noted that he plans to support the ADVANCE Center to continue operation under a no-cost extension of the NSF ADVANCE grant beyond the 2011 scheduled expiration.

As always, I welcome your suggestions. Please write to me at cplandis@gmail.com.

Carolyn Press Landis
PCCW Chair 2009-2011



SPOTLIGHT ON SHERYL TUCKER

Sheryl was a founding member and Vice Chair of PCCW and was recently elected to the Board of Trustees. Sheryl, who graduated from Cornell in 1978, majored in psychology but said she spent most of her campus time publishing Eclipse Magazine and Umoja Sasa newspaper. A graduate of Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Sheryl was executive editor of Time Inc., editor-in-chief of Black Enterprise and executive editor of Money. She has edited a number of books, including Prime Time, The African American Woman's Complete Guide to Midlife Health and Wellness.

Sheryl kindly agreed to answer questions about her Cornell activities and her journalism career.

Q: You were a founding member of PCCW and a Vice Chair. What was the most significant achievement in your work with PCCW? What was your most memorable experience?

A: I truly enjoyed working with the PCCW founding members. I was at a point in my career where I needed successful women role models to help me better understand how to navigate my career and challenges I was facing as a young executive. Working closely with such accomplished women as Lilyan Affinito and Patricia Carry Stewart offered me the opportunity to witness and experience what grace under fire really looks like. I learned from these women and others how to handle the business challenges, sensitive situations and difficult conversations I faced every day in my career.

I enjoyed developing the panel discussions PCCW held on campus and at the Cornell Club. I think our conversations with students and recent graduates about

how to make the most of the first year out of college were particularly enlightening, and the Ethics panel we held at the Law School was groundbreaking.

Q: You were recently elected to the Board of Trustees. What are your goals for your tenure on the board?

A: I want to thank all of the alumni who supported me in the April 2010 Alumni Trustee election. I am truly honored to serve on the Cornell University Board of Trustees. I attended my first board meeting this October and I am very excited about the strategic plan to re-imagine Cornell over the next decade. If you are not familiar with this extraordinary effort, log onto www.cornell.edu/reimagining to find out more. I am committed to working closely with members of the Trustee Board, President Skorton, and the Cornell community to help our university achieve the goals set out in this strategic plan. As a first-year trustee, I rotate through the various committees. In a few months, I will have a better understanding of how my skills and experience will best serve the university. In the meantime, I am enthusiastic about supporting the university's diversity efforts: helping multicultural students and women strive for excellence in their academic career, increasing the number of diverse faculty and staff members and helping Cornell become an even more inclusive institution of higher education. I also look forward to encouraging students of color and women seek out leadership roles on campus.

I would like to continue the work of PCCW — reconnecting alumnae who lost touch with the university. As a member of MOSAIC, part of my focus will be encouraging more Cornellians of color to visit the campus, join the rolls of active volunteers and donors to the university and participate in alumni events. I'm also working with the College of Arts & Sciences Mentoring Committee to help our graduates transition into the work world. Sitting on the Cornell Magazine Board for a second term is another way I am using my professional experience to help the university connect with alumni.

Q: What have you learned from your Cornell alum activities that you could share with PCCW members?

A: Cornell continues to amaze me with the breadth of activities, educational experiences, opportunities and lifelong friendships the university offers and fosters. It's rewarding to be around so many people who are deeply passionate about Cornell — about our students, the faculty and staff and our beautiful campus and traditions.

Q: You've had a very successful career in journalism. How did your education at Cornell help in your career?

A: Thank you. I was fortunate enough to launch a newspaper and magazine at Cornell. And even though I was psychology major, I practiced journalism every day. Of course, writing, critical thinking, analysis and learning to ask the tough questions were part of my coursework — and all of these are key elements of journalism. But it's interesting that one of my least favorite courses I was forced to take as a psychology major — statistics — turned out to be one of the most important things I learned at Cornell. Understanding how to interpret statistics was very useful to me as a business journalist bombarded with tons of research. I've also conducted quite a bit of original research on affluence, readership studies, luxury spending, technology usage, etc.

Q: To what do you attribute your success both at Cornell and in journalism?

A: There are many opportunities to take on leadership roles at Cornell. Over the four years I spent on campus, I learned how to be an effective and persuasive leader, a responsible team member and how to work with my peers and the administration. Also, my professors pushed me to think deeply and push myself beyond the obvious solutions and answers.

Q: What advice would you give new PCCW members who are just getting started in volunteer activities for Cornell?

A: Don't hold back. The more you give, the more you get. Cornell alums are even more interesting than the students we went to school with.



IN MEMORIAM – Margaret Stack Turner

Margaret Stack Turner, HumEc. '61 passed away peacefully on Oct. 16 after a 4-year battle against multiple myeloma.

Margie was Chair of PCCW from 2005-2007. In her professional life she was a consultant to many not-for-profit organizations.

After joining PCCW in 1997, Margie joined the Development Committee contributing her expertise and leadership as a fundraiser. During her tenure as PCCW chair, Margie began the dialogue within the Cornell community about changes that were needed for PCCW to add value to Cornell. Taking the recommendations from a task force led by Randy Allen, Margie led the transition

of PCCW's goals and leadership to better fit the needs of Cornell's Administration in Alumni outreach, engagement and advocacy for women. During her tenure, the Affinito-Stewart Grant Endowment Fund surpassed its \$1 million goal. Margie's Cornell affiliation included dedicated service on the University Council, the Human Ecology Alumni Association and Class of '61 Reunions.

Friends and colleagues will miss Margie. Her determination to refocus PCCW in 2005 prepared the way for PCCW to celebrate its 20th Anniversary in 2010. Remembrances of Margie are shared.

"Margie was the ultimate diplomat and an inspiring leader during a time of significant change for PCCW. As Chair of PCCW from 2005 to 2007, she set a very high standard for future PCCW Chairs. "

_ Carolyn Press Landis, PCCW Chair 2009-2011

"Margie was a total pleasure to work with because of her full commitment to the goals of both PCCW and Cornell. She was always upbeat and collaborative, and gave me complete confidence that PCCW would provide exactly what Cornell women needed, whether students, faculty or staff. We will miss her presence on campus, but treasure her example. "

_ Hunter R. Rawlings III , President Emeritus, Cornell University

"Margie was a major force in the 2007 review and update of PCCW's role in meeting the University's priorities. Under Margie's leadership, PCCW responded to President Skorton with positive and thoughtful recommendations. Three years later at PCCW's 20th Anniversary, Margie was not able to join us. However, she did express pleasure in seeing the results of her leadership efforts reflected in many ways. A few examples she mentioned were: 1) Expansion of student scholarship and mentoring programs, 2) Expansion of faculty grants and young faculty recruitment and 3) Identification of the next generation of Cornell leaders for PCCW. Thank You, Margie!"

_ Lilyan Affinito, PCCW Founder

"Margie was a loyal and important member of PCCW over the years. Her work in reviewing the purpose and operations of PCCW was truly invaluable in keeping us on the straight and narrow. It provided us with feedback to plan ahead. In addition she was a truly lovely person. I will miss her as will many others. "

_ Pat Carry Stewart, PCCW Founder

“Margie was the person who found me and approached me to be on the PCCW; I didn't even know her prior to that and she turned out to be such a special person in my life ever since.”

—Hon. Barbara Howe, Erie County Surrogate Judge

“She will be remembered for her dedication to Cornell, PCCW, her friends and her family. Most of all I'll remember her smile, sparkling eyes and her positive outlook on any situation that challenged her.”

— Gloria Lang, PCCW Archivist

Margie Turner was one of those remarkable people you meet and never forget. She was caring and supportive, yet willing to make difficult decisions and lead. She loved Cornell and PCCW. Under her leadership and soft guidance we moved through the difficult transition of aligning with the university and moving to a membership model with term limits. She did it with grace and astute thought so that everyone came away feeling good and supporting the transition. If you needed advice or wisdom Margie was there. She loved life and her family, friends and fellow alumni. I will miss seeing and talking with her.”

—Randy Allen, Past PCCW Chair, Associate Dean for International and Corporate Relations, Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management, Cornell University

Margie is survived by her husband, Fred, daughter Katie, son Mark and 4 grandchildren.

Sympathy correspondence may be sent to:

Mr. Frederick Turner
34 Sunset Lane
Orchard Park, NY 14127

At the family's request, gifts in Margie's memory may be directed to: PCCW Leadership Scholarship Endowment Fund in Memory of Margaret Turner [Give online](#) or you may send your check payable to Cornell University, noting, *In Memory of Margaret Turner* for the PCCW Leadership Scholarship Fund #0006042 to: President's Council of Cornell Women, Cornell University, P.O. Box 223623, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-2623.

Questions, please contact: Rob de la Fuente, Director of the Office of the Councils. Phone: 607-254-7104 E-mail: rtd9@cornell.edu

Margie Turner Remembered

In life we are really lucky if we get one true mentor. Margie Turner was that person for me.

Although we were 20 years apart in age, we shared many commonalities. We both were from Buffalo. We both shared a love of Cornell. We both enjoyed development work and the creativity of good fund-raising. We had both been sorority members at Cornell (She was a Pi Phi, I was a Kappa.) We both were change agents. Each time I would return to Buffalo to visit my parents, Margie and I used to meet for lunch or coffee at Borders or Tim Horton's – all the while hatching some creative scheme.

Margie always supported me and cheered me on in my business endeavors. Both of us were entrepreneurs at heart. I remember Margie telling me how she became the first female member of the all-male Saturn Club of Buffalo.

“Membership came with being the Vice President of the (Children's Hospital) Foundation,” she recalled with a wry smile. “And I got that job. No woman had ever been the VP before. So I took the membership.”

Together, we planned many things. We brought in a speaker to PCCW on estate planning, something unheard of prior to that. We spoke on a panel about women's giving habits. We loved the goals that women could accomplish when they saw the power of their own philanthropy.

As part of our bond, we roomed together at the Statler during every PCCW meeting. That's where we planned to work our way up in the organization. Margie eventually became Chair and I became Development Chair.



We attended the PCCW meeting at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs together. There I met her wonderful daughter and daughter-in-law. Together, we posed for pictures at the Garden of the Gods. (Photo : Mary Ellen Plubell Miller, Jaclyn Spear and Margie Turner)

One thing we did not plan for however was the pain. I saw Margie come back to the room at our last spring PCCW meeting together and realized the horrific back pain she was enduring. She was convinced she had slipped a disc, and when our daily meetings were over, her game face came off and she retreated to the room with her heating pad. It would be several months until she was correctly diagnosed.

Later I would visit her at her suburban Buffalo home. That's where I saw one of the most independent women I had ever met confined to a wheel chair. The last time I saw Margie was in the spring. She perked up when she saw me then, just as she did when we chatted on the phone a few days before her passing. That final conversation was almost like old times except I knew Hospice was there.

Margie forged a path for those of us women who followed her. I am honored that she was my mentor.

Mary Ellen Plubell Miller '82 was in the 1990 founding class of PCCW and is now an emerita member.

WEBINAR WITH PRESIDENT SKORTON

Through the wonders of technology, on November 9, 2010, President Skorton met with PCCW members. As many as 42 members participated in the webinar in which President Skorton was broadcast live over members' computer screens, and members were able to ask questions either through their telephones or a chat function online. The discussion focused on the diversity initiatives underway at Cornell (including a 2-year extension of Cornell funding for the ADVANCE Center under a no-cost extension of the NSF grant). President Skorton noted that while the university has made great strides, he feels it is still behind where it needs to be in terms of gender diversity. He said that achieving diversity requires commitment at the top, as well as making it a priority in selecting for the hiring pool and making the community a place that would attract a diverse workforce, such as child care and dual-career hiring.

President Skorton also discussed the cost-cutting efforts at the university. The philosophy was to try to preserve the quality of education while cutting costs. The nonacademic workforce has been trimmed by 8 percent, and some of the branch libraries have been closed. As part of the effort to "focus" the University, some of the departments which are not part of Cornell's core competencies will be eliminated. The decisions have been difficult, but President Obama recently praised Cornell for making the tough decisions to reduce the cost of a quality education.

Other topics included interaction with the local public schools of Tompkins County, the use of online educational tools to enhance the educational experience and reach of Cornell. President Skorton gave a shout out to Irene Rosenfeld (who received three degrees from Cornell) for being named the second most important woman in the recent Forbes survey.

President Skorton also noted that the recent election and current economic climate would likely mean that governmental funding for the Humanities and the Arts would likely continue to drop. He said that he has been using his bully pulpit to emphasize the importance of the humanities, and a recent speech he had given was picked up in the online newspaper, Inside Higher Education <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2010/11/01/humanities>. Carolyn Landis

asked him to identify his legislative priorities so PCCW members could contact their congressmen to lend their support. The President thanked her and said he would provide them.

The Webinar is expected to be the first of many.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting

Our 2011 Annual Meeting will be held on campus Thursday - Saturday, March 3-5th, and will have as its theme, Cornell's Global Presence. We will learn about the wide range of Cornell's global programs, details about the new Medical School in Qatar, and what it takes to be one of the top 15 global universities. In addition, we will hear reports from our scholarship and grant recipients, campus updates from administrators, the vision and direction for the future from President David Skorton, and will have two mentoring events. Of course, we will be stimulated by interaction with the many successful women in PCCW. We are excited about this year's meeting and look forward to seeing you all there!

Development Committee

In fiscal year 2009-2010, we raised **\$304,837 for the PCCW Leadership Scholarship Fund – the highest one-year total in the history of PCCW!!** This year, we continue to raise money for this fund so that we can get closer to our multi-year goal of \$1,000,000.

As this calendar year comes to a close and you are thinking about your annual gift to Cornell, please think about directing some part of your gift to the **PCCW Leadership Scholarship Fund - # 0006042**. For those of you who were at the Friday morning breakfast at our 20th Anniversary Celebration, you heard directly from the current recipients what a difference the money makes to each of them and how grateful they are to PCCW. Thank you for all of your support!

Membership Committee

With the membership nomination process completed, the membership selection subcommittee is getting prepared for the selection process. The Committee is working with Cornell to have membership offers extended in January, so that the new members can join for the March Annual Meeting. If anyone is interested in assisting as a buddy to new members, please contact Barbie Stern via email at bmstern@fuse.com. We could use all of your support to heartily welcome new members to PCCW.

Transitions Committee

In 2008, PCCW's Steering Committee adopted a Bylaws amendment which changed all terms of new PCCW members to a one four-year nonrenewable term. The amendment also set term expirations for all PCCW members except the original class of 1990, whose terms will not expire. The Transitions Committee was established to assure that the new PCCW alums (57 in 2010 and 68 in 2011) understood their change of status from active to Sustaining Member and the many ways they could still participate in PCCW. In addition, the Transitions Committee collected extensive information about other volunteer leadership roles at Cornell. This information is available to individual PCCW members through a Transitions Committee member and, by the end of 2010, will be posted for review on the PCCW website.

AWARD WINNER



Rachel Bean, assistant professor of astronomy and a 2007 PCCW Affinito Stewart Grant winner, has garnered another prestigious honor – the 2010 Presidential Early Career Award for Science and Engineering for her work in cosmology and theoretical astrophysics. It's the highest honor given by the government to outstanding scientists and engineers at the beginning of their careers.

Read more in the Cornell Chronicle:

<http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/Nov10/BeanPecase.html>

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Susan Chen reports that there were two successful events in the San Francisco area over the summer. Forty-seven attended the July 16 Women in Leadership luncheon in San Francisco featuring Eva Sage-Gavin, Nayla Rizk and Natalie Egleston. Feedback on the speakers was overwhelmingly positive as all three were extremely open and generous with their insights and thoughts on positioning oneself for leadership throughout one's career.

<http://www.cen.cornell.edu/index.cfm/events.details?eventID=508®ionID=20&srchType=future>

There were 26 attendees at the Aug. 6 luncheon in Palo Alto featuring Phyllis Weiss Haserot. The topic was Collapse the Gap - Solutions to Workplace Generational Challenges. Susan says there was good crosssection of alumni

attending and everyone wished we had another hour or two for additional Q&A given the timeliness and relevance of the topic.

<http://cen.cornell.edu/index.cfm/events.details?eventID=511®ionID=20&srcType=future>

Many thanks to **Mary Beth Delaney Hahn** for organizing the 3rd annual PCCW-NJ dinner. Five experienced members welcomed two new members at dinner November 10 in an elegant restaurant in Summit, NJ. In New Jersey, members are spread out: Summit is "centrally located", but several members still had to drive more than an hour to attend. Conversation and conviviality was the order of the day, and we all thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our newer members Tanya Curry-McMichael and Daphne Mobley. We're following up with networking referrals and PCCW committee enrollments.



Irene Rosenfeld, CEO and chairman of Kraft Foods, was named the second most powerful woman in the world by Forbes magazine in its 100 Most Powerful Women in the World list. She ranked second after first lady Michelle Obama and ahead of Oprah Winfrey and Hillary Clinton. Also on the list was Cornell alumna and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, ranked No. 31.

Read more: <http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/Oct10/ForbesPowerWomen.html>
The Forbes article is available at: <http://www.forbes.com/wealth/power-women>



On July 21, 2010, **Susan Milmoe, Wendy Richman, Liz Everett** and **Lilyan Affinito**, PCCW members spanning four decades of Cornell classes, were together as a team at the Scarsdale (N.Y.) Golf Club Member Guest tournament. We try to come together a few times each summer to enjoy a game of golf, each other's company, and to network--it is a lot of fun! And it is worth mentioning that the PCCW Big Red Team came in first place for Low Net, and Susan Milmoe was closest to the pin on the Par 3 competition--go Big Red!



Nell Cady-Kruse writes that she has a new job. She is moving to Singapore to work as Chief Risk Officer, Wholesale Bank, for Standard Chartered Bank (a global role). She resigned her position as Chief Risk Officer, Asia Pacific for Credit Suisse in Hong Kong.

Newsletter Content

Please send your news and updates to Alison Weir at weir_alison@yahoo.com and Sally Jacobsen at sallyjacobsen@optonline.net by Jan. 2, 2011, so that we can include your item in our next Newsletter.

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