



Cornell University

Faculty Senate
Dean of Faculty, Joseph Burns

University Assembly
Chair, Jim Blair

Employee Assembly
Chair, Greg Mezey

Student Assembly
President, Sarah Balik

Graduate & Professional Student Assembly
Acting President, Catherine Wong

Shared Governance Joint Declaration in Honor and Celebration of President David J. Skorton

Sponsored by: The Faculty Senate, The University Assembly, The Employee Assembly, The Student Assembly, and The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Whereas, Dr. David J. Skorton was born in Milwaukee, and earned his bachelor's and M.D. degrees at Northwestern University, and completed his medical residency and fellowship in cardiology at UCLA, and after a prominent academic career at the University of Iowa, was selected to be the nineteenth president of that institution, and

Whereas, in September 2006, Dr. David J. Skorton became the 12th President of Cornell University, where he also maintains two academic appointments; and

Whereas, since his inauguration, President Skorton has been a friend, champion and ally to shared governance at Cornell, advocating for voice and representation of the entire campus community through the Faculty Senate, the Graduate & Professional Student Assembly, the Student Assembly, the University Assembly, and the Employee Assembly; and

Whereas President Skorton has attended nearly one hundred meetings of the combined branches of shared governance, and reviewed over seven hundred pieces of legislation, and

Whereas President Skorton, in spite of his administrative role, never lost sight of the mission of the university, never lost his focus on the welfare of students, the quality of instruction, his roots as a faculty member and his ardent support for the staff community, and

Whereas President Skorton has fairly represented and respected students, faculty and staff, and championed mutually supportive and respectful dialogue, and

Whereas on July 1, 2015 President Skorton will become the 13th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, the world's largest museum and research complex, and

Whereas President Skorton is a visionary and skilled leader, whose time in academia especially here at Cornell, has benefited the hearts and minds of many

Be it therefore resolved that the Faculty Senate, the University Assembly, the Employee Assembly, the Student Assembly and the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (collectively known as “shared governance”), thank and commend President David J. Skorton for his years of service to Cornell University and to shared governance, and

Be it further resolved, the shared governance bodies at Cornell University congratulate President Skorton on his appointment to the Smithsonian Institution where the world will benefit from his wisdom, experience, leadership and good humor, and the profound influence he has had on society as a physician, professor, and administrator; and

Be it finally resolved that this Joint Declaration be presented to David J. Skorton at his Farewell Celebration on May 1, 2015, with a copy to the Executive Board of the Cornell University Board of Trustees.

Adopted,

By Vote of the Faculty Senate, April xx, 2015

Joseph A. Burns
Dean of Faculty

Bruce V. Lewenstein
Speaker of the Senate, 2014-2015

By Vote of the University Assembly, April xx, 2015

James N. Blair
Chair, 2014-2015 University Assembly

By Vote of the Employee Assembly, April xx, 2015

Gregory N. Mezey
Chair, 2014-2015 Employee Assembly

By Vote of the Student Assembly, April xx, 2015

Sarah E. Balik
President, 2014-2015 Student Assembly

By Vote of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, April xx, 2015

Kai Weng (Catherine) Wong
Acting President, 2014-2015 Graduate and Professional Student Assembly