

**CORNELL COLLEGE**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**DATE:** February 22, 2018

**TO:** Interested Members of the Class of 2018

**FROM:** Gilda Boyer, Chair of the Board of Trustees

**RE:** Invitation to Trusteeship

Since 1971, the Board of Trustees of Cornell College has welcomed a member of each graduating class as a Trustee of the College. During the past few years, the following Cornellians have participated on the Cornell Board as Young Trustees: Kyle Davy '11, Taylor Koch '12, Kalissa Bauman '13, Maricruz Gutierrez-Villa '14, Angelica Hall '15, Kayla Morton '16, and last year Emma Kaboli '17 began her three-year term. We hope the following information will be useful to you as you consider the responsibilities of trusteeship.

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of Cornell College. The Board employs the President and formulates policy governing the entire operation of the College—its educational programs, its financial affairs, the physical plant, and the quality of student life.

The Board is composed of up to 39 members plus the President of the College, *ex officio*, and the President of the Alumni Board, also *ex officio*. Cornell asks Trustees to contribute their time, talent, and treasure to the College. What will that contribution mean to the member of your class who becomes a Young Trustee?

**TIME:** The Trustee from the Class of 2018 will serve a three-year, non-renewable term. The senior recommended shall be considered and voted on by the Trustees at the Spring Board meeting and shall become a Trustee upon completing all requirements for graduation. The Board of Trustees meets twice on campus and once off-campus in a retreat format each year. Meetings are typically scheduled on the fourth Saturday in October, the first Saturday in February, and the first Saturday in May. Meetings begin on Thursday and continue through Friday. The main plenary session is Saturday morning and usually adjourns by 12:30 p.m. Trustees are asked to attend all regular and special meetings and are required to attend at least 50 percent of all scheduled meetings during the three-year term.

When the Trustee has finished the term of service, we expect him or her to stay in touch with Cornell while exploring ways to make additional contributions to the College's strength and excellence.

**TALENT:** Trustees are not elected to represent special constituencies. The member of the class of 2018 who becomes a Trustee is not a representative of the class to the Board. Trustees are

nominated and selected to serve because of their professional experience, their personal integrity, and their ability to think creatively about ways to enhance Cornell's reputation and its competitiveness in the educational marketplace. A recent graduate of Cornell may not have the professional experience, the personal contacts, and the financial resources that other Trustees often have, but the graduate can bring to the job the essential qualities of good character, sound judgment, and strong commitment to Cornell College.

Trustees bring their opinions and unique perspectives to the meetings. We value the diversity of their viewpoints, and we encourage the free and frank exchange of ideas. The ultimate concern of a Trustee, however, must be Cornell College—its mission, its excellence, and the ways and means to ensure its successful future. The Trustee from the Class of 2018 will have the opportunity to participate in the governance of Cornell College at its highest level. The Trustee will share this experience as an equal partner with the other members of the Board. The Trustee will be expected to analyze data, review proposals, participate in conversations about the issues presented at the meetings, and vote when the questions are called.

**TREASURE:** Each Trustee is asked to invest financially in Cornell's future. That investment is a tangible and important expression of a Trustee's commitment to the College. We will ask the Young Trustee of the Class of 2018 to make that commitment through regular contributions to Cornell's Annual Fund.

The Trustees know that a new graduate may leave Cornell with financial obligations. The Board requests, therefore, that the new Young Trustee participate in the Annual Fund at a level he or she can reach. That participation sets an important example for younger alumni to follow.

We invite you to consider applying.

If you have any questions or concerns as you consider the responsibilities of trusteeship, please let us know.