



## Staff Graduates

Meet Cornell staff who have earned degrees through our Employee Degree Program benefit.



### 2019 Graduates

[Read article in Cornell Chronicle](#)

Receiving undergraduate degrees from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences:

- **Mary Beth Martini-Lyons**, project manager at Cornell University Library, Bachelor of Science in communication;
- **Brad McFall**, temporary service technician in the Department of Natural Resources, Bachelor of Science in computational biology.

Receiving advanced degrees from the Cornell Graduate School:

- **Shawna Alling**, who works in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Office of Student Services, Master of Industrial and Labor Relations;
- **Libby Eiholzer**, extension support specialist on the Livestock and Field Crops Team at Cornell Cooperative Extension at the Northwest New York Dairy, Master of Professional Studies;
- **Matthew Einhorn**, technician in the Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences, Master of Engineering;
- **Rachel Evanowski**, technician in the Department of Food Science, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Master of Science;
- **James Friedlander**, visiting lecturer in naval science, Cornell Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps, master's degree through the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs;
- **Tanya Grove**, senior management consultant at Human Resources' Organizational Development and Talent Management office, Executive Master in Human Resource Management;
- **Levi Harmon**, environmental health and safety and risk management manager, Executive Master of Business Administration;
- **Jamie Kalousdian**, who works in Marketing Communications in the SC Johnson College of Business, Master of Management in Hospitality;

- **Michele Lefebvre**, director of nutrition management at Cornell Dining, Master of Management in Hospitality;
- **Vinh Nguyen**, deputy director and associate professor of military science, Cornell Army Reserve Officers Training Corps, Master of Professional Studies;
- **Kate Nicholson**, human resources assistant for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Master of Industrial and Labor Relations;
- **Kimberly Phoenix**, lecturer for Fiber Science and Apparel Design, Master of Arts (Fall 2019);
- **Christine Potter**, executive director of global operations for the Office of the Vice Provost for International Affairs, Executive Master of Business Administration;
- **Matthew Reiter**, architectural and structural section leader for facilities engineering, Master of Engineering;
- **Mark Schneider**, residence hall director for housing and residence life, Master of Arts in linguistics;
- **Marty Sullivan**, DevOps cloud engineer for Cornell Information Technology, Master of Professional Sciences in information science;
- **Aaron Windsor**, thin film engineer in the Cornell Nanoscale Science and Technology Facility, Master of Science in biomedical engineering;
- **Maria Wolff**, senior consultant in talent management for Organizational Development and Talent Management, Executive Master in Human Resource Management;
- **Aaron Zadalis**, visiting lecturer in Aerospace Studies, Master of Business Administration.

Receiving Cornell Ph.D.s:

- **Rebecca Harman**, research support specialist in the Baker Institute for Animal Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology;
- **Pam Strausser**, senior consultant for academic human resources, Ph.D. in industrial and labor relations.

Receiving a degree from another college or university:

- **Tiffany Buckley**, executive staff assistant for the vice provost for engagement and land-grant affairs and for the vice provost for academic innovation, Master of Business Administration in project management, Southern New Hampshire University;
- **Theoria Cason**, training and education coordinator in the Office of the Title IX Coordinator, Ph.D. in education, University of Pittsburgh;
- **Cheryl Ann Cox**, front office manager for the Statler Hotel, Master of Arts in deaconess studies, Concordia Theological Seminary;
- **Elizabeth Estabrook**, associate director of the Office of Sponsored Research, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Master of Science in research administration, Johns Hopkins University;
- **Monica Gopaul**, community educator, Cornell Cooperative Extension in New York City, associate degree, Queensboro Community College;
- **Erica Heim**, senior program manager, School of Hotel Administration, Master of Science, State University of New York, Empire State College;
- **Kelli Hulslander**, project coordinator for College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Capital Project and Facilities Services, associate degree in construction and environmental technology, Tompkins Cortland Community College;
- **Nathan Laisure**, associate professor of military science, Master of Arts in applied psychology, Liberty University;
- **Dan Mueller**, grant and contract officer, Office of Sponsored Programs, Master of Science in management, Emmanuel College;
- **Beth Underwood**, accounts representative in the School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions, associate degree in accounting, Tompkins Cortland Community College.

[accordion]

## 2018 Graduates

### David Barber

MPS, Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations

### Mandy Bennison

MS, Cornell University Johnson College of Business, School of Hotel Administration

### Darcy A. Branchini

MPS, Cornell University Graduate School

**Anie Clark**

BS, Cornell University Johnson College of Business, School of Hotel Administration

**Catherine Davis**

BS, LeMoyne College

**Sarah R. Dean**

BS, State University of New York, Empire State College

**Sandy Dhimitri**

MS, Villanova University

**Erik Eshelman**

MS, Cornell University College of Engineering

**Rachel Fives**

MS, Cornell University College of Human Ecology

**Belinda Floyd**

MBA, Southern New Hampshire University

**Katherine Solis Fonte**

MS, New York University

**Ruth W. Howell**

BS, Cornell University Johnson College of Business, The Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management

**Elizabeth M. Martyn**

MS, Cornell University Johnson College of Business, School of Hotel Administration

**Melissa L. Mahannah**

BS, Cornell University Johnson College of Business, The Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management

**Corey Merrell**

MS, University of Denver

**Mary J. Newhart**

MBA, State University of New York at Oswego

**Julie A. Phelps**

MBA, Syracuse University, Whitman School of Management

**Blayne Stone**

MA, Cornell University College of Human Ecology

## **Jacinta Anne Stark**

AS, Southern New Hampshire University

## **Antonio Testa**

MS, Southern New Hampshire University

## **Sue Kern Wilkins**

AAS, Tompkins Cortland Community College

## **Michelle L. Zirbel**

BS, Cornell University Johnson College of Business, School of Hotel Administration

## **2017 Graduates**

### **Michael Annunziata**

**Cornell University, Masters in Business Administration, Johnson Graduate School of Management.**

He has worked for nearly three years at Cornell as a Senior Investment Analyst in the Cornell Investment Office. The highlight of his Johnson experience was winning first prize in the Cornell Venture Challenge with his partner in the food science department. He tells us that his girlfriend was his inspiration to keep going. She is a third year Vet student who always works hard at her studies. Studying hard is something they were able to share over the past few years.

### **Nancy Bell**

**Cornell University, Masters in Human Resources and Organizational Behavior, College of Industrial Labor Relations.**

Nancy works in the Dyson School as the Undergraduate Minor Coordinator and has worked at Cornell for six years. She appreciates her husband for his support at home as well as her supervisor and co-workers who were very understanding of the flexibility needed to accomplish this goal. Nancy was inspired by her son and her mother and is grateful for the opportunity she has had at Cornell to further her education. Her dream is that others from her home in Honduras will have the same opportunities one day. She plans to celebrate with her family, but is mostly looking forward to that walk to receive her diploma.

### **Jamie Bellamore**

**Cornell University, Masters of Management in Hospitality Administration, Hotel School.**

Jamie has worked at Cornell for the past 4 years, and is currently the Assistant Restaurant Manager at Macs and the Terrace Restaurant at the Statler Hotel. She chose this particular area of study to further her knowledge in the hospitality field. The support of her children, co-workers and friends was what helped her through the hard times. Jamies fondest memory is the moment she found out that she was accepted to the hotel school program. Her celebration after graduation will include family, friends and great food!

### **Jess Cisco**

**Cornell University, Masters of Business Administration, SC Johnson College of Business, Johnson School of Management.**

Jess is a Senior Human Resources Consultant and has worked at Cornell for ten years. His wife, Jennifer, who is also working on her degree, has been especially supportive and understanding. Kathy Burkgren and Debbie Philip were also encouraging and supportive. During Jess' studies he met people who he now calls friends as far away as Peru and as near as his classmates Chris Rogers and William Searle, who are also being honored for their accomplishments today.

## **Joan Curtiss**

### **Cornell University, Master of Professional Studies in Human Resources Management.**

Joan has worked at Cornell for 3 years, and she is currently the project manager in Infrastructure Properties and Planning. She chose this area of study because she has always been interested in organizational development and the role of employee engagement in an organization's success. She looks forward to applying what she has learned to any organization. She was able to balance her classes and work with the help of her supportive supervisor and coworkers, and stayed motivated by applying her knowledge to her job. To celebrate her accomplishment, she plans on having dinner with her husband Rich, and finally reading a book for pleasure.

## **Marijke de Jongh**

### **Cornell University, Masters of Public Affairs with a concentration in Social Policy, College of Human Ecology.**

Marijke is a member of the Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration. She works as a visiting lecturer and student advisor at Cornell's Naval ROTC. One of her favorite classes was Professor Jamila Michener's course on Poverty and Social Policy. This course was eye opening and really helped solidify her goals for the future. Marijke will be heading off to be the Assistant Air Operations Officer on the USS Gerald Ford in October 2017.

## **Wendi S. Hawkins**

### **Cornell University, Master's of Professional Studies in Human Resources.**

She has worked at Cornell for 12 years and is currently the Associate Director of Human Resources in the SC Johnson College of Business. Wendi managed to balance her classes and work with her wonderful husband and parents who were supportive throughout the process. She is also grateful for the support of Tim Durnford and Rick Kuhar, her supervisors who encouraged her along with her JCB HR team. After completing her program in July, Wendi looks forward to taking her husband on a well-deserved vacation.

## **Mark Howe**

### **Cornell University, Masters of Engineering Management, College of Engineering.**

Mark has worked at Cornell for the 15 years, and is the Manager of Utilities Distribution and Energy Management. His family and his supervisor, Lanny Joyce were extremely supportive. He says he balanced his busy life with the support of his family and with a little less sleep. Here's hoping you get a little more rest after graduation.

## **Matthew Kozlowski**

### **Cornell University, MPS in Real Estate with a concentration in Development and Sustainability, SC Johnson College of Business.**

He has worked at Cornell for 11 years, and is currently the Green Building Program Manager of Facilities Engineering. Matthew chose this area of study because of his continuing fascination with how structures relate to the natural world, and how people use spaces. He managed to balance his classes and work through six years of late nights, short weekends, and an understanding and supportive wife.

## **Stephen Mandi**

### **Cornell University, B.S. in Computer Science with a Dyson Business Minor, college of Engineering.**

He has worked at Cornell for 19 years, and is currently a Software Engineer in Infrastructure, Properties, and Planning. He managed to balance his work and classes by doing homework in car rides, staying up late after the kids were asleep, and combining course projects into his job. Stephen received support from many, including his wife Susan, and his flexible colleagues and supervisors. When asked what kept him going, he said that the opportunity was the biggest inspiration. He felt inspired by having an opportunity to receive high quality education from such a great institution, which will allow him to give back to society. He plans to celebrate by visiting Italy in June with his wife Susan, his daughters Angelica and Adrienne, and his son Graham and son-in-law Rhys.

## **Joan Doyle Paddock**

**Cornell University, PhD in Nutritional Sciences with a concentration in Community Nutrition.**

Joan has worked at Cornell for 18 years, and she is currently the Senior Extension Associate in the Division of Nutritional Sciences. She felt supported by her family, supervisors, and co-workers and looks forward to graduation. She attributes her inspiration to keep going by viewing the opportunity to study as a gift, as lifelong learning keeps us young.

## **Christopher M. Rogers**

**Cornell University, M.B.A, SC Johnson College of Business**

He is currently a Financial Analyst in the Division of Budget and Planning, and has worked at Cornell for 5 years. He pursued this area of study to enhance his skills and add value in his roles supporting the business. Moreover, he looks forward to using new class concepts to further build his department's stakeholders' success. The one of a kind support from his wife, supervisor, coworkers, and MBA teammates are what inspired Christopher. He particularly remembers traveling to Europe for a global business project in which he helped solve a real business problem for a luxury hotel curator while visiting three different countries over the course of a week.

## **William Searle**

**Cornell University, M.B.A, SC Johnson College of Business**

William has worked at Cornell for almost 9 years, and he is currently working in the office of Institutional Research and Planning. He plans to celebrate his accomplishment by taking parental leave when his second child arrives next month!

## **Jin Zhang**

**Cornell University, Masters of Professional Studies in Information Science.**

Jin is currently a technician in plant biology. She has worked for Cornell for 9 and a half years!

## **Bernard Amponsah**

**Thomas Edison State University, Masters in Hospitality Management.**

He has worked at Cornell for nearly 10 years, as an Electrician in the Endowed Electric Shop. With this degree, Bernard takes a big step towards his lifelong passion for the hospitality industry. Online classes allowed Bernard to balance his evening and weekend time between studies and family. His desire to model the importance of education for his children kept him going. The support of his family made this dream possible. After commencement in September, he plans to take his family to Las Vegas and on a cruise to Cuba.

## **Becky Callan**

**SUNY Oswego, Masters in Business Administration.**

She has worked at Cornell for 10 years, and she is currently a Data Analyst and Operations Coordinator in the Animal Health Diagnostic Center. She chose this area of study to develop her career at Cornell by gaining valuable business and managerial skills. Becky says she completed her coursework in the evenings and on weekends, eliminating her social life. However, she says it was definitely worth it! She was inspired to keep going through the support of her family, friends, co-workers, and boss, and through her belief in honoring her commitment to obtaining her MBA. Becky plans to celebrate with a trip to the beach!

## **Celeste Carmichael**

**Quinnipiac University, Masters in Instructional Design of Online Learning.**

She has worked at Cornell for 17 years, and is currently the Program Development and Accountability Specialist for Cornell Cooperative Extension. She chose this area of study as she has been hosting webinars and courses for Cornell Cooperative Extension for the last 5 years and wanted to learn more about theories and practices. Her supervisor inspired her to get involved with the program. Moreover, she had great support from her husband, friends, and her online environment. She



particularly remembers recording a video in which her colleagues talked about their most memorable learning experiences. She received many memorable stories and hopes that her continuing creativity will invite others to learn and create alongside her.

### **Elizabeth Handler**

#### **Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Masters in Safety Services.**

Beth has worked at Cornell for five years in Environmental Health and Safety as a Health and Safety Specialist. She worked nights and weekends to complete her degree with the support of her family and co-workers. She especially would like to mention Christine Stallman, Daneen Phillips and Willie Evens for their support. Beth enjoyed her intensive courses on campus as she was able to meet others in the same program. Her parents joined her in celebrating her graduation last December.

### **Lilian O. Isacks**

#### **Norwich University, MSISA with a concentration in Vulnerability Management.**

Lillian has worked at Cornell for 26 years, and she is currently the CIT Infrastructure Security Administrator and Systems Administrator. She attributes her success to the support of her co-workers and husband, who always encouraged her to keep going. She particularly remembers breaking her kneecap and spraining her neck before having to complete her degree, including a final Lab project. Even though she was in pain and was allergic to her pain medication, she still managed to finish strong with an A on the lab. She looks forward to celebrating her accomplishment with champagne!

### **Jinhee Roper**

#### **Columbia College, M.B.A. with an Accounting Emphasis.**

Jinhee has worked at Cornell for the past 11 years, and is currently an Accounts Representative in Infrastructure, Properties, and Planning Finance and IT. She chose this particular area of study because she enjoys quantitative analysis, and she managed to balance her classes and work by dedicating nights and weekends to school work to maintain a 4.0 GPA. Her husband supported her the entire time, and she would like to thank the professors who wrote awesome recommendations for her: Peter Doerschuk, David Putnam, and Chris Shafer at BME. She looks forward to celebrating by having a thick juicy steak with her husband and her 12-year-old Westie named Freddie.

## **2016 Graduates**

### **Diya Abed**

#### **Cornell University, Masters in Linguistics, College of Arts and Sciences.**

He has worked for 4 years at Cornell, and currently works for Infrastructures, Property and Planning, Building Care. When he first started taking courses, he felt overloaded, but with determination and faith he was able to make it through. He was able to balance his school work by taking one class a semester and found support from family and coworkers.

### **Tyler Anderson**

#### **Cornell University, Masters of Engineering in Biological and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering.**

Tyler has worked at Cornell for 3 years and is currently working between Riley Robb and the Ken Post Lab building as a Research Support Specialist. Tyler chose this particular area of study due to his interest and concern in the current and long term energy usage in the US and the issue of global redistribution of water necessary due to rising temperature. Tyler felt support from his exceptional wife, his advisor, Dr. Timmons, and his dog, Dani, who waited patiently for him to play with her which created the necessity to budget active time into his schedule while working towards his degree.

### **Adam Davis**

#### **Cornell University, Master of Public Administration, Public and Non-Profit Management, College of Human Ecology.**

Adam has worked at Cornell for 15 years, and he is currently an Extension Support Specialist at The Bronfenbrenner Center

for Translational Research. After completing a grueling project for his CIPA Capstone class in which he found a grant to assist in the possibility of re-chartering the City of Ithaca, he later heard that the city was taking the class recommendations and moving forward with the grant he suggested. When he received his BS, he took a picture in his cap and gown under a red oak tree while holding his son Eli on his hip. To celebrate his masters, he plans on recreating the picture. However, his son will be standing next to him as he is now 2 inches taller than Adam. After graduation he is looking forward to supporting his wife in pursuing her goal of an MSW and his son in choosing a college.

### **Sean Hayes**

#### **Cornell University, Masters of Business Administration from The Johnson School.**

He has worked at Cornell for almost 8 years and is currently an IT Project Leader for Student and Campus Life. Sean and his wife were new parents at the time he began his degree and through-out the past two years his family has been very supportive. He says he could not have done it without them. He appreciates that the degree program at the Johnson was set up for working individuals and took their schedules into consideration.

### **Curtis Josey**

#### **Cornell University, Masters of Engineering in Computer Science.**

Curtis has worked at Cornell for 9 and a half years. He is currently working as a Senior Data Analyst in the University Audit Office. He chose this particular area of study to boost his career, set a good example for his children, and to explore his interest in new and emerging topics related to Computer Science and how they could be applied within Administration. He was inspired by the support and understanding from colleagues in his current department as well as his prior Department, the Cornell Cooperative Extension Administration. He was also inspired after building relationships with faculty and students alike.

### **Fredrika Loew**

#### **Cornell University, Masters in Archaeology from the College of Arts and Sciences.**

Fredrika has worked at Cornell for 4 years. She works for the division of Rare and Manuscript Collections. After completing her undergrad degree in the same subject her love for archaeology and encouragement from her peers inspired her to continue for her masters. Throughout this process she has felt support especially from her co-workers and supervisors.

### **Nicole O'Connell-Avery**

#### **Cornell University, B.S. in Animal Science from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.**

She is currently employed at the University Hospital for Animals as a Veterinary Technician and has worked at Cornell for 20 years. Her work in the ICU unit at the hospital provided her the opportunity to work nights and go to classes during the day. She appreciated the scheduling flexibility allowed by her supervisor, Andrea Battaglia. One memorable moment was being allowed to bring her daughter to her Sheep Biology Class with Dr. Thonney where she was thrilled to see lambs being born. Nicole's inspiration was her beliefs in life-long learning. She gained much satisfaction in knowing that the skills she gained will be used in her work and personal life.

### **Thomas O'Toole**

#### **Cornell University, PhD. in Government from the College of Arts and Sciences.**

Thomas has worked at Cornell for 12 years, and he is currently the Executive Director of Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA). He graduated in February of this year.

### **Laurel Kiorpes Parker**

#### **Cornell University, Masters of Professional Studies, School of Industrial Labor Relations.**

Laurel has worked at Cornell for 23 years, and she is currently working as an Equal Employment Opportunity Consultant in Workforce Policy and Labor Relations. She managed to balance classes, work, and raising a family as a single mom by taking one thing at a time. She found her classes to be interesting and engaging, so it wasn't really work at all! She was



inspired by her family, especially her son who finished his doctorate in May. She had to catch up!

### **Debbie Paul**

**Cornell University, B.S. in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations.**

Deborah has worked at Cornell for eleven years, and she is currently working in the office of financial aid. She particularly remembers completing a group project for Organized Behavior and choosing to study Financial Aid. She was a part of the only group in the section to receive 100% on the report. She plans on having a family party to celebrate this accomplishment. She chose this field of study because it complemented her AAS in accounting, and she is interested in labor and organizational behavior.

### **Aleksandra Perelman**

**Cornell University, Masters in Internal Development, College of Arts and Sciences.**

Aleksandra is the Business Manager for the CALS Office of Academic Programs and has worked at Cornell for 5 years. She chose International Development to build upon her passion for learning, especially regarding human rights, gender, and development. She is grateful for the opportunity to continue her education provided by Cornell. In celebration of this achievement Aleksandra hopes to pop a cork on a well-deserved beach vacation.

### **Lauren Ryder**

**Cornell University, Masters in Regional Planning, College of Architecture, Art and Planning.**

Lauren is a Reunion Campaign Officer for the Cornell Annual Fund. She has worked at Cornell for 11 years. Her family, including 5 year old twin boys and a 2 year old daughter inspired her to keep going. Her advisors, Mildred Warner and Pierre Clavel were very supportive of her studies and encouraged her to find the time to fit this into her busy schedule. One highlight that Lauren recalls is putting together an economic plan and presenting it to government leaders of Kazakhstan!

### **Joe Williams**

**Cornell University, Masters of Professional Studies in Information Science.**

Joe has worked at Cornell for 5 and a half years. He is currently a Web Designer in the ILR's Yang-Tan Institute. He managed to balance classes and work by making sure that he had everything written down that needed to be done, and following that list. His wife was a huge support for him, along with his supervisor and coworkers. One of his coworkers even helped him with his homework when he needed assistance. He particularly remembers taking his first class in Use Experience Design when for the first time in his academic life, he felt like he belonged and this was what he was always meant to study.

### **Carrie Baldwin-SoRelle**

**Syracuse University, Masters Degree in Library and Information Science.**

Carrie has worked at Cornell for 5 and a half years, and she is currently working as a Major Gift Associate in Alumni Affairs and Development. She chose this particular area of study because she believes that making sure people can find the information they need and use it in the way they want is very important, and she loves that libraries and archives are dedicated to accomplishing this for everyone in their communities, regardless of who is asking. She found support in her supervisors who wrote her letters of recommendation, helped her structure her schedule to allow for an internship, and encouraged her to incorporate new skills into her work.

### **Wendy Treat**

**Tompkins Cortland Community College, Associates in Applied Science, Business Administration.**

She has worked at Cornell for 28 years, and she is currently an Administrative Support Coordinator for the Center for Engaged Learning and Research. During her final semester of study, she had to take 18 credits in order to graduate. She recalls that trying to manage her studies along with working full time and being a single mom was a bit of a balancing act! She was inspired by her mother who passed away in September of 2011 and also found inspiration through her children.

Her daughter graduated from TC3 in May of 2010 and went on to pursue her Bachelor's degree at SUNY Albany (graduating summa cum laude with a degree in Linguistics) and her son is in high school. She wanted to show them that education is a life-long adventure!

### **Susan Whitaker**

#### **SUNY Empire State, B.S. in Business and Marketing Studies.**

Susan works as an office manager for Cornell Dining Administration. And has worked for Cornell for over 8 years. She says that having a great support system was instrumental in her efforts towards graduation. Susan will celebrate by taking her family to dinner. Her immediate future plans include time to read, knit and have slumber parties with the grandchildren.

### **Tara Woodard**

#### **Tompkins Cortland Community College, Associates in Applied Science, Hotel and Restaurant Management.**

Tara has worked at Cornell for almost 20 years. She is currently an office manager in Engineering. She chose this particular area of study because she loves hospitality and people. She plans to be Front of the House manager of her husband's future restaurant. She managed to balance classes and work by taking time out for family dinners, utilizing early mornings before work, lunch hours and late nights. She is inspired by her husband and children. She wanted to show them that no matter age or what life hands you, you are in control of your destiny.

## **2015 Graduates**

### **Bernard Amponsah**

#### **B.S. in Business Administration, Elmira College**

Bernard currently works as an electrician in Facilities Services management and has worked at Cornell for 8 years. His children inspired him to attain his degree, and he hopes they will emulate his example. He plans on taking a vacation to Cuba to celebrate this accomplishment. He chose his field of study to further his insight into financial accounting as it relates to business law, management and its impact on an organization.

### **Pamela Andersen**

#### **Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration, Tompkins Cortland Community College**

Pam has worked at Cornell for 21 years and is currently a Finance Specialist in Infrastructure, Properties, and Planning. She has taken advantage of online classes for the flexibility they offer as she balanced her busy home and work schedules. Her sons were 9 and 6 when she began this journey and now they're 18 and 15. Her supervisors and coworkers have been supportive by providing guidance on assignments and even proofreading papers. She was recently recognized as *Graduate of Note* by her program chair.

### **Jennie Babcock**

#### **Master of Science in Human Resources, University of Scranton**

Jennie spent the last 4 years in Cornell's Human Resources Department, and hopes this degree will help further her career and allow her to better serve the campus community. Her husband and family inspired her to get this degree and she is excited to finish this accomplishment before starting a family of her own. Jennie's about 8 months pregnant! Her husband and coworkers were extremely supportive of her hard work, and respected the time she needed to study.

### **Anthony Bellamy**

#### **Master of Public Administration, Marist College**

Tony has worked at Cornell for 11 years and is currently a sergeant with the Cornell University Police. He received support from his family, co-workers and supervisors while obtaining his degree.

### **Jennifer Benson**

## **Master of Public Administration, Cornell University College of Human Ecology**

Jennifer is currently the Associate Director of Engagement and Participation for Alumni Affairs and Development within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. During busy times she drew support from family, friends and coworkers, who even started calling her Hermione from Harry Potter because she would always doubt herself and then end up doing well. The relationships she built with her classmates were memorable and enhanced her graduate school experience. She set a goal to complete her Masters by age 30, and is extremely proud to have just turned 30 and walk in the Cornell Commencement Ceremony this spring!

## **Angela Downing**

### **Associate of Science, Tomkins Cortland Community College**

## **Edward Evans**

### **Master of Science in Biological and Environmental Engineering,**

#### **Cornell University Graduate School of Engineering**

Ed has worked at the university for 9 years. He currently works as a Research Support Specialist and Lab Manager in the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering. He has been fortunate to have the support of his family, supervisors, and coworkers during the pursuit of his degree. One of the most memorable moments during his years of study was on his first day of classes. He said, "I will never forget the look on the freshman's faces when I showed up—they thought I was the instructor!" He derives much of his inspiration from his supervisor, Larry Walker, as well as his home and work families.

## **Katelyn Godoy**

### **Master of Information Design and Technology, SUNY Polytechnic Institute**

Katelyn has worked at Cornell for 4 years. She is currently a writer in Cornell's Marketing Department within University Relations. She chose to pursue her Master's degree to gain experience in graphic arts and content creation using digital technologies—an ever-evolving and useful practice. Her husband, Terry, and her extended family have been supportive, but her largest inspiration has been her one-year-old son, Bentley. During a time when it was tempting to quit school, she found him an inspiration to continue her work—for the sake of his future, through the betterment of her own. She has now finished her master's degree with a 4.0 GPA while working full-time, doing freelance assignments, and having a baby this July.

## **David Hartino**

### **Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering, Cornell University College of Engineering**

David has worked at Cornell for five years and is currently a Teaching Support Specialist in the Sibley School of Mechanical Engineering. Everyone cheered him on! He received an incredible amount of support from everyone including his family, supervisor and co-workers. His final project presentation for a microprocessor development course was due on a Wednesday night. He got up on the Saturday before and didn't sleep until after the presentation! Sounds like it was worth it: he got a great grade in the class.

## **Kyle Kubick**

### **Master of Business Administration, Cornell-Queen's Executive MBA**

Kyle is the Director of Finance and Administration for the University Relations Department at Cornell. He has worked at Cornell for more than 7 years. With the support of his wife, Marie, he was able to balance class assignments, schedules, work, and above all, his family. Aside from family, Kyle also gives thanks to his supervisor, who was extremely supportive, along with all of his colleagues within University Communications and University Relations. He will always remember sharing ideas with people representing a broad range of backgrounds, both international and locally in Ithaca, which influenced his perspectives on business practices.

## **Joy Liu**

## **MPS, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

### **Peter Marchetto**

#### **PhD in Biological and Environmental Engineering,**

#### **Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

Pete has worked at Cornell for 9 years and is currently an Engineering Physicist in the Bioacoustics Research Program at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. He picked classes that have direct application to the work he is doing and made certain that his research at work would count towards his degree. Very smart! He credits Harold Cheyne, his former supervisor, as a great inspiration, along with Chris Clark, the former director of the Bioacoustics Research Program. He plans to take some of his vast stores of accumulated vacation days to celebrate!

### **Rhoda Maurer**

#### **Master of Science in a Changing World, University of Massachusetts, Boston**

Rhoda has worked at Cornell for three years. She is currently the Director of Horticulture for the Cornell Plantations.

### **Dan Olmstead**

#### **Master of Science, Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences**

### **Denise Schulze**

#### **B.A. in Classics and Classical Civilizations,**

#### **Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences**

Denise has been at Cornell for 19 years and recently resigned her position as a Cornell Police Patrol Officer to teach Criminal Justice at BOCES. A class in Greek Mythology inspired her to study Classics and Classical Civilizations. She managed to balance her classes and career by working hard and not getting a lot of sleep.

### **LeoraSnowberger**

#### **B.A. in Business Information Systems, Ashford University**

Leora has worked for Cornell for over 30 years and currently works as an Account Representative in the Payroll Department. She chose to study Business Information Systems because it fits with her current position and is a great next step for her future. She has been supported by everyone around her, including her family, supervisors, and co-workers. She gives them all a warm thank you.

### **Jessica Withers**

#### **B.A. in History, SUNY Empire State College**

Jessica has worked at Cornell for 8 years and currently works as a Communications and Development Assistant in the Library. She began her degree in the 90's and is proud to have spent this year finishing it! Now she takes advantage of her free time, reading for pleasure instead of reading textbooks and writing papers. She is now taking a look at grad school.

## **2014 Graduates**

### **From Cornell:**

Ewa Borejsza-Wysocka, PhD, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

James Brannan, MBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management

Kathy Carpenter, BS, Cornell, Industrial and Labor Relations  
Mary Catt, MPS/NYC, Cornell, Industrial and Labor Relations  
Evan Earle, MS, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Patrick MacRae, MS, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Meredith Metzler, MENG, Cornell, College of Engineering  
Scott Molnar, MBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management  
Heather Mulks, BS, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Rohit Rajoria, MS, Cornell, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Chrissie Wais, MBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management  
Jeremy Williams, MPS, Cornell, College of Engineering

**From other colleges:**

Davine Bey, Executive MBA, Rochester Institute of Technology  
Judy Briggs, MS, SUNY Empire State College  
Lorrie Chase, AS, Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Erin Eldermire, MLIS, Syracuse University  
Shelly Hall, AS, Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Jai Khalsa, MLIS, University of Wisconsin  
Bonnie Sellers, MCM, University of Southern California  
Jessica Venezia, MS, Ithaca College

**2013 Graduates**

**From Cornell:**

Curtis A. Baker, M.Eng, Cornell, College of Engineering  
Ashley Binter, EMBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management  
Kate E. Breyer, DVM, MS, Cornell, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Michael Farrell, PhD, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Yoanna Ferrara, MPA, Cornell Graduate School  
Laurie Fuller, MILR, Cornell, School of Industrial and Labor Relations  
Kristin Guertin, PhD, Cornell, Human Ecology  
Peter Halliday, M.Eng, Cornell, College of Engineering  
Joseph Kato, MS, Cornell, College of Engineering  
Jennifer Macera, BS, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Vladimir Micic, MRP, Cornell, Art, Architecture & Planning

Neoma Mullens, MILR, Cornell, School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Kaleigh Muller, MPS, Cornell Graduate School

Cynthia Pakkala, BS, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Connie Park, MILR, Cornell, School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Denise F. Paul, MPS, Cornell, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Scott Ross, MILR, Cornell, School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Lavanya G. Sayam, MBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management

Steven Schuster, EMBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management

Megan Whitman, EMBA, Cornell, Johnson Graduate School of Management

### **From other colleges:**

Crystal Clark, AS, Tompkins Cortland Community College

Rich Curtiss, AS, Empire State College

Lori Dempsey, AS, Empire State College

Erla P. Heyns, MSW, Syracuse University

Thomas E. Jordan, M.Eng, University of Maryland

Deborah Lewis, MSW, SUNY Binghamton

Karen MacCheyne, AS, Tompkins Cortland Community College

Marie Roller, BS, Empire State College

Leora Snowberger, AS, Tompkins Cortland Community College

Karen Trask, MS, Kaplan University

Joyce A. Ward, AS, University of Phoenix

Victoria Watts, BS, Empire State College

### **2012 Graduates**

#### **From Cornell:**

Jamie L. Abbott, MILR, College of Industrial & Labor Relations

Stephen Anderson, BS, College of Arts and Sciences

Michael Baker, MEng, College of Engineering

Daniela Balmus, MEng, College of Engineering

Jeffrey Barlow, BS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Alex Chang, Executive MBA, SC Johnson School of Management



Jess Cisco, BS, School of Hotel Administration

Kasi A. Dean, BA, College of Arts and Sciences

Evan Earle, MS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Tara Ellen-Weaver Bubble, MPS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Geoffrey Grocock, PhD, College of Veterinary Medicine

Melanie Hayn, MS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Ann M. LaFave, MPS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Keane J. Leitch, MPS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Valerie Malzer, MPA, Institute for Public Affairs

Kimberly Phoenix, BS, College of Human Ecology

Christine Potter, MPS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

LtCol Jerome P. Rizzo, USMC CQ MBA, SC Johnson School of Management

Norah Smith, MS, College of Veterinary Medicine

Karen Penders St. Clair, MPS, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Neely Tang, CQ MBA, SC Johnson School of Management

Keith G. Tidball, PhD, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Peter Tiensi Van Do, MA, College of Arts and Sciences

### **From other colleges:**

Penny DeLong Burke, Certificate, Tompkins Cortland Community College

Sarah A. Busse , MA, SUNY Stony Brook

Christine Chouinard, AS, SUNY Empire State College

Bonnie Comella, EdD, University of Pennsylvania

Lori L. Kanellis, AS, Tompkins Cortland Community College

Erin Ann Kelly, MS, Elmira College

Gloria Loehle, BS, SUNY Empire State College

Julie Manuel, BS, SUNY Empire State College

Karen Raponi, AS, SUNY Empire State College

Stacy J. Reynolds, BS, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Mrs. Ellen Sweet, MS, Rochester Institute of Technology

### **2011 Graduates**

#### **From Cornell:**

Catherine Alvord, B.S., School of Industrial and Labor Relations  
Lauren Benfante, M.I.L.R., School of Industrial and Labor Relations  
Elizabeth Bihn, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Devin Bougie, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
K. Alice Bulkeley, M.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Mancang Dong, Ph.D., Johnson Graduate School of Management  
Craig Frey, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
Aaron Godert, M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management  
Rebecca Harman, M.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Shin-woo Kim, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
Martin Lessmeister, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
Nicole Martin, M.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Roberta Militello, M.A., College of Architecture, Art, and Planning  
Annemarie Morse, M.P.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Oya Rieger, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Nicholas Szabo Jr., M.Eng., College of Engineering

**From other colleges:**

Lucinda Allen, M.S., Rochester Institute of Technology  
Laurie Bradshaw, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Brian Cornell, MA, Norwich University  
Molly deRoos, M.S., Elmira College  
Stephanie Ellis, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Jason Fisher, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Tina Henry, B.S., SUNY Empire State College  
Bob Kilts, A.A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Dina Kristof, B.S., SUNY Empire State College  
Darren McGee, A.A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Marie Roller, A.S., Corning Community College  
Velvet Saunders, B.S., SUNY Empire State College  
Mindy Stevenson, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

**2010 Graduates**

### **From Cornell:**

Aba Blankson, C.Q. M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management

Melanie Ciotoli, MMH, School of Hotel Administration

Sunny Donenfeld, M.I.L.R., School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Claire Forest, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Gabriela Gurovich, M.Eng., College of Engineering

Lillian Henry, B.S., College of Human Ecology

Carl Lagoze, Ph.D., Johnson Graduate School of Management

Holly Lange, M.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Himani Mewar, M.I.L.R., School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Frank Popowitch, M.P.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Stephani Robson, Ph.D., School of Hotel Administration

Karl Smolenski, M.Eng., College of Engineering

Ami Stuart, B.S., School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Larry Van DeValk, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Matt Zarracina, M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management

### **From other colleges:**

Amy Benedict-Augustine, Ed.D., University of Pennsylvania

Rosemarie Braman, B.S., SUNY Empire State College

Judy Briggs, B.A., SUNY Empire State College

Clayton Bronson, B.S., SUNY Empire State College

Frank Cantone, M.P.H., Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Tiffany Howe, M.S.L.I.S., Syracuse University

Lori Miller, A.A.S., Herkimer County Community College

Lydia Pettis, M.S., SUNY Buffalo State College

Michael Schlossberg, M.S.S.E., Drexel University

Sara Jolene Spoonhower, B.S., SUNY Empire State College

Donna Wakeman, A.A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

### **2009 Graduates**

#### **From Cornell:**

Bryan Dailey, E.M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management

Ed Dodge, M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management  
Faping Duan, M.P.S., Faculty of Computer and Information Services  
Kai Su Greene, Ph.D., College of Veterinary Medicine  
Wioletta Holownia, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
Stephanie Janeczko, M.S., College of Veterinary Medicine  
Karl Johnson, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Tammy Johnson, M.S., College of Human Ecology  
Michal Kuklis, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
Magdeline Laba, Ph.D., College of Engineering  
Kang Liu, M.P.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Marcia Meixler, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Stephen Parshley, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
Abena Sackey, M.Eng., College of Engineering  
William Siemer, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Byron Suber, M.A., College of Architecture, Art, and Planning  
Mark Vorreuter, M.A., College of Architecture, Art, and Planning  
Daniel Woodie, M.S., College of Engineering

**From other colleges:**

Brian Cornell, B.A., SUNY Cobleskill  
Anie DelaRosa, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Sue Elliot, B.S., Elmira College  
Rachel Fabi, A.S., SUNY Empire State College  
Darren Jackson, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Jessica Lang, M.B.A., Ithaca College  
JoAnn Shepherd, M.S., Elmira College

**2008 Graduates**

**From Cornell:**

Charlotte Acharya, M.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Jay Boulanger, Ph.D., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Tammy Gardner, B.S., School of Industrial and Labor Relations  
Deborah Grusenmeyer, M.P.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

David Howe, M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management

Lisa K'Bedford, M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management

Marilyn Landon, B.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Ellen Mastrogiovanni, B.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Mary Newhart, M.S., School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Sanjeev Shukla, M.B.A., Johnson Graduate School of Management

Mike Skinner, B.S., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Thomas VanHaaren, B.A., College of Arts and Sciences

**From other colleges:**

Monica Lee Armstrong, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

Chris Bohlk, M.S., Syracuse University

Sheree Borba, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

Joey Diana Gates, MA, SUNY Empire State College

Karen Grover, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

Charlotte Moore, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

Sara Spoonhower, A.S., SUNY Empire State College

Michelle Westfall, A.S., Tompkins Cortland Community College

Leslie Williams, M.B.A., LeTourneau University

[/accordion]

---