November 2, 2005

To: University Faculty Senators

From: Cynthia R. Farina, Associate Dean of the University Faculty
       Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee

Re: Slate of Candidates for Committee to Review Faculty Governance

As directed by resolution of the Senate adopted at its October 4, 2005 meeting, the Nominations & Elections Committee hereby proposes a slate of members for the Committee to Review Faculty Governance.

BACKGROUND
As a result of two email solicitations sent to the entire university faculty, N&E received 146 tenured/tenure-track faculty (TTF)(active or emeritus) nominations and 6 non-TTF nominations. Because of duplicate nominations, these represented 121 TTF and 4 non-TTF nominees. Some submitters nominated multiple people; some of the nominees were self-nominations. Every school or college (and some programs) had at least one nominee, although the proportion of nominees varied widely by unit.

NON-TENURED/TENURE-TRACK FACULTY
On my recommendation and after discussion, N&E concluded that the Resolution – and particularly Paragraph 3 charging the Committee with ultimately “[m]ak[ing] recommendations to the Faculty Senate for changes to broaden and strengthen the influence of the university faculty on administrative decision-making at Cornell”– implied an intent that the Committee be composed of members of the university faculty. Therefore, N&E did not consider including any non-tenured/tenure track faculty in the slate of seven.

N&E is prepared promptly to suggest one or more NTT nominees if the Senate wishes to expand the size of the committee.

THE SLATE
During its deliberations, N&E learned of several possible committee members who were unwilling to serve because of leaves, academic or personal commitments, or other reasons; these people were not considered further. Several others were initially selected to be on the slate and declined when asked. Still, N&E believes that the following slate of faculty is very well suited to accomplish the objectives of the Resolution to Review Faculty Governance, while simultaneously reflecting various dimensions of the diversity of the university faculty as well as possible given the committee’s small size.

Therefore, it respectfully recommends appointment of the following seven faculty to the Committee to Review Faculty Governance:

N'Dri Assie-Lumumba[a] Africana Studies & Research Ctr., Education
Barry Carpenter Chemistry & Chemical Biology, Arts & Sciences
Eric Cheyfitz English, Arts & Sciences
Cornelia Farnum Biomedical Science, Veterinary Medicine
Kenneth Birman Computer Science, Engineering
David R. Lee[b] Applied Economics & Mgmt., Agriculture & Life Sciences
Risa Lieberwitz Coll. Barg., Law & Hist., Industrial & Labor Relations
Prof. Assie Lumumba will resign from the Nominations & Elections Committee, to which she was just appointed at the October Senate meeting, if she is appointed to this committee.

N&E received a request from the CALS Faculty Senate Executive Committee to consider selecting a member of the CALS Faculty Senate, who could then connect the work of the University Senate Committee with a currently ongoing study of faculty governance by the CALS Senate. Prof. Lee is a CALS Faculty Senator.