

# Stewardship Report

## You have our gratitude

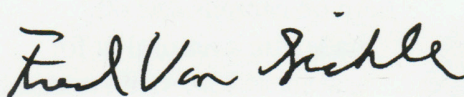
Cornell is strengthened each year by the enormous support it receives from annual operations and endowment gifts provided by alumni, parents, and friends. It is my privilege, on behalf of Cornell, to express my deep gratitude for your investments here.

The university received \$512 million in new gifts and commitments from a record 79,000 donors in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. A special highlight was the record \$44.4 million in gifts to the Cornell Annual Funds.

Cornell's overall return on invested endowment for the fiscal year was 10.6 percent. Individual endowment funds provide essential, timeless, and permanent support for extraordinary Cornell faculty and students. The stories in this stewardship report illustrate only a handful of the thousands of endowment funds working every year to help the university fulfill its mission.

If you have any questions about the details in this report, please contact my Donor Relations colleague, Jani Ross, at 607-254-6142 or [JMH265@cornell.edu](mailto:JMH265@cornell.edu).

We are grateful for your generosity.

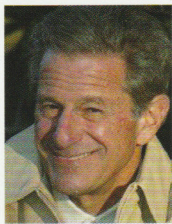


Cornell University

# Faculty chair in integrated health and technology at Cornell Tech

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A jet pilot, entrepreneur, venture capitalist, and philanthropist, Roger Burnell '66 describes himself simply as a “student of life.” He dives headlong into new adventures—from training his family’s golden retriever for competitions to exploring precision medicine, his latest intellectual passion.



Burnell

In 2017, Burnell brought his zest for life and learning to a new level: Through a \$5 million gift commitment,

he and his wife endowed the Roger and Joelle Burnell Chair in Integrated Health and Technology at Cornell Tech.

The gift crystallized a few of Burnell’s aspirations: After creating a scholarship at Columbia University in 2001 in honor of his father, who was an alumnus, Burnell had been considering a similarly transformative gift to his own alma mater. In the past couple of years, he had also become an angel investor for biotechnology start-ups, and he sought to make a complementary investment in academia, which he believes is a vital, symbiotic partner to industry.

Based in Los Altos, California, but raised in Scarsdale, New York, Burnell also feels a “spiritual and genetic” connection to New York, and he was eager to help advance the region’s own burgeoning version of Silicon Valley, where he sees Cornell Tech as the central driving force.

Why not do  
something for  
Cornell that really  
matters, that  
makes a difference  
in the world?

—Roger Burnell

“The gift was a coming together of my dreams, and I found myself on a mission,” Burnell said. “Why not do something for Cornell that really matters, that makes a difference in the world?”

The Burnell Chair will play a crucial role in teaching and research at Cornell while spurring breakthroughs to benefit communities far and wide, according to Deborah

Estrin, the founder of the Health Tech hub in the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute, and the associate dean and Robert V. Tishman '37 Professor at Cornell Tech.

“The health-care world is looking for technology to spark innovation in the industry, and to make health care more effective, accessible, and affordable for all. At Cornell Tech, the Jacobs Institute’s Health Tech program was launched just a few years



Jason Koski/University Photography

Two views of Cornell Tech campus.

ago, and we are already making strides with groundbreaking faculty research, student start-ups, and industry collaborations,” she said. “The new chair will help us attract world-class scholars, committed to visionary, tech-driven improvements in health care and wellness.”

Dan Huttenlocher, the vice provost and the Jack and Rilla Neafsey Dean of Cornell Tech, added: “Using digital technology to help improve health and wellness is central to Cornell Tech’s academic and research mission, and a key element of our drive to develop pioneering leaders and technologies for the digital age. We’re thrilled to announce the new Roger and Joelle Burnell Chair in Integrated Health and Technology, helping us to drive innovation in the area of bioscience with collaborative research and teaching.”

Burnell is confident that the chair will galvanize generations of trailblazers. The Burnell Chair will “inspire questioning, learning, and wisdom,” he said, setting Cornellians on a lifelong path of curiosity, surprise, and discovery. ■



Iwan Baan

**The Roger and Joelle Burnell Endowed Chair  
in Integrative Medicine & Technology:  
“Body, Brain, and Being - The Pursuit of Ultimate Wellness”**

***Merging Health and Technology at New York City’s Cornell Tech***

The Roger and Joelle Burnell Chair in Integrated Health and Technology at Cornell Tech will be appointed, under the authority of the Vice Provost and Dean, to either a senior faculty member or a junior tenured faculty member at Cornell Tech. It is the donors’ direction that the holder of the Chair will be an individual whose teaching, research, and outreach interests cover the integrated areas of biotechnical medicine and human physiology, together with current and emerging technologies that advance our understanding of human health through applied biometrics, computerized diagnostics, and technically advanced healthcare delivery (from genomics to epigenetics to micro-sensitive diagnostics, prognosis, and highly effective cure and care delivery, all converging into the field of PPM – Precision Personal Medicine (“Body”); expanded mental facility, functionality and acuity (“Brain”); all thereby leading to overall wellness, ontological and spiritual self-realization, and fulfilled longevity (“Well-being”); thus carving out a leading role in the emergent field of applied integrative medicine, while helping to realize its vast potential by producing concrete results through applied research and academic excellence. It is the donors’ further intention that the chair-holder will sponsor and participate in departmental, university, academic/scientific research and cross-institutional collaborations, contributing to demonstrably productive national and international outreach, implementation, and definitive progress in this field - for all of us, and for all of mankind.

The ultimate goal of this undertaking is not timid: it is to germinate and maintain a passionate commitment that lays sound underpinnings, and which paves the way for the identification, realization and manifestation of visionary and cost-effective improvements to both the human condition and its potential, while expanding the horizon of integrated body, brain and being, all converging toward a highly visionary asymptote of ultimate wellness and human fulfillment. \*

Ideally, it is the donors’ vision that the holder of the Chair also hold a courtesy affiliation or appointment at Weill Cornell Medicine and/or at Biosciences and Biomedical Engineering at Cornell in Ithaca, in conjunction with the Jacobs Institute and the Technion, in order to enable and inspire maximum collaboration and synergistic cross-fertilization.

During the period before the Chair is fully endowed, The Fund may be used to support a career development associate professorship, such position being awarded for a term of up to six years to a tenured faculty member at the rank of associate professor who shows great promise in research and academics in the designated field of Integrated Health and Technology.

Once fully endowed, it is planned and expected that The Chair will become awarded to a fully-tenured, senior professor; which position shall be continuously occupied, allowing for any pause that occurs during the normal selection of appropriate candidates.

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*\* Note: The taxonomy of education in the modern university, due to the divergence of discovery and specialization, has tended to dis-integrate – into sub-components – the human form and experience. It is an inherent principle and objective of this academic pursuit to now re-integrate into its entirety the Human Being – its experience and its organic wholeness. Without discarding the unavoidable nature of language to both distinguish and isolate simultaneously, we are in quest here of understanding, treating and realizing the consummate wellness and potential of the entire human organism – its full and healthy, integrated state of Well-Being.*

# CORNELL Tech Images - A



## Remastering the Urban Campus

With acres of landscape the Cornell Tech campus allows for space to think, but at the same time it is intimately integrated—in both mission and design—with the city.



## Joining Creativity and Excellence

The Bloomberg Center will be Cornell Tech's first academic building, providing flexible academic spaces and pioneering new standards in building performance and sustainability.



