

TITLE: Cornell's Urban Sustainability Initiatives

HOST: Marianne Krasny, Helene Dillard and Marvin Pritts

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ABSTRACT: The goal of the ACSF lunch is to outline steps that Cornell could take to define an urban sustainability initiative in collaboration with ACSF. In particular, we will focus on multiple mechanisms for facilitating urban research, teaching, and outreach that are complementary to, but cover areas not included in, the NYC Tech Campus. While recognizing the unique value of the Tech Campus, we feel that Cornell urban programs are more comprehensive than what it now encompasses. At the same time, given global demographics and those of our student body, it is important for Cornell to more broadly address urban sustainability issues. Our initiative dovetails with concerns Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension have about addressing diversity among students, program audiences and participants, and staff. We feel there is a lot of capacity in this area across Cornell that could be more focused for larger impact.

After briefly laying out the rationale and introducing ongoing urban initiatives, we will facilitate a discussion of potential means to enhance urban sustainability broadly at Cornell, including but not limited to cluster hires; channeling NYC donors who have been contacting Cornell and CCE about urban sustainability issues (e.g., food production through green roofs) to programs that would be attractive to them; and support through other funding streams.

The lunch is being facilitated by Marianne Krasny (Natural Resources), Helene Dillard (CCE), and Marvin Pritts (Horticulture).