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More than academics: resources abound!

Here at Cornell University, your students will find support from many communities, including: the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program (AllISP), the Latino/a Studies Program (LSP), and the Africana Studies and Research Center (ASRC). These programs offer rigorous and robust minors to all students at Cornell (they can major in ASRC). In addition to academics, the programs have physical space for students to study, network, eat, and rest. They also have dedicated staff members to work closely with students.

AllISP has a special commitment to students’ health and well-being. Their services are available to any Cornell student who identifies as Native American and to students who have interest in learning more about Indigenous communities. Their office is fully equipped with a lounge designed specifically for undergraduates. Students can print their papers, peruse their extensive library, and AllISP always has snacks in their kitchen. Visit: http://allisp.cornell.edu/

LSP houses several programs, their Latino/a Student Success Office (LSSO) will be a great place for your students to socialize with fellow undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. The LSSO was created to promote community among our ever growing Latino/a community and is dedicated to the Latino/a experience at Cornell. Students are invited to the popular Friday Lunches, which is a time for members of the Latino/a community to come together and share a meal and laughs. Visit: http://latino.cornell.edu/

ASRC has a special history here at Cornell University. Prior to 1969 there were no Africana studies programs in the U.S. To facilitate student interests in diversification, Cornell founded the ASRC, becoming the first Africana studies program in the U.S. Let your students know they can declare a major or minor in Africana studies. More than that, students can find a home among the many great scholars within this field. Students are invited to the John Henrik Clarke Africana Library, where they will find special collections, such as Cornell’s Hip Hop Collection. Visit: http://aficana.cornell.edu/

We encourage you and your students to spend some time looking at their websites. These programs offer so much more than we are able to share in this newsletter.

Offices help ease student transition and success

The Pre-freshman Summer Program (PSP), Pre-Professional Programs (P3), research opportunities, and academic support services, are just a few of the opportunities for students through the Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives (OADI) at Cornell University. Located in the Computing and Communications Center (CCC) at 235 Garden Avenue, OADI focuses on support services for low-income students, students who are the first in their families to pursue a bachelor’s degree, undocumented students, and underrepresented students.

A highlight of just a few of the services available through OADI include: JV, cNair Scholars Program, EOP/HEOP, Tutoring, and a Laptop Loan program. The office has dedicated staff to assist students with academic and transition questions, as well as provide career and internship information and assistance. Students also have access to databases for on-campus tutors, outside scholarship information, and graduate school assistance. Activities sponsored by OADI include Social Justice Roundtable, The Method Series, Tuesday Lunch Engagement Series, and numerous guest speakers throughout the year.

Pairing nicely with the services offered through OADI is the Center for Intercultural Dialogue, fondly referred to by students and staff as “6-2-6” due to the center’s location at 626 Thurston Avenue, which opened in September of 2011. 6-2-6 fosters an inclusive campus environment where students can grow both culturally and socially and serves as the meeting location for various clubs and organizations of underrepresented student populations like ALANA, Alpha Phi Alpha, and HAVEN (just to name a few).

Students can take advantage of the various resources at 6-2-6 which includes student lounges on all four floors. Within the lounges students can find solace in the warm embrace of bean bag chairs, peruse the library, play video games, and even grab a quick snack from the food pantry. 6-2-6 serves as both the official and unofficial meetup location for organizations and friends alike, creating a welcoming and relaxing escape from the academic rigor of college life. Weekly events include roundtable discussions, career talks with alumni, and social hours. Staff are also available to assist with general Cornell advising.

In addition to the social comforts 6-2-6 provides designated quiet study areas and an accessible computer room which offers free printing, faxing, and scanning. 6-2-6 serves as a bustling center for creativity and interconnectedness.
Juniors: make the most of your visit to CU

Cornell University is located in central New York, the Finger Lakes region, in the city of Ithaca, and spreads over 2,000 acres. When students are not on campus, the city population is around 30,000, which nearly doubles when classes are in session. It is easy to be overwhelmed by the many opportunities visitors have once they arrive to campus. Planning their visit early will allow students time to take advantage of what Cornell has to offer.

Planning a trip to campus should start with looking at our visit web site: admissions.cornell.edu, where they will be able to “build” their campus visit itinerary. Students will need to register for the information session and campus tour; they can also choose to sit in on a class. Information sessions start Saturday, February 18; most of the sessions are on Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

There is so much more to do on campus than they will see on the itinerary builder! Cornell has a state-of-the-art Dairy Bar which features delicious ice cream that is made by students who are part of the Department of Food Science. Cornell Dairy is part of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The Dairy Bar also serves lunch, Cornell milk, maple syrup, and has many souvenirs. More information about Cornell Dairy and the Department of Food Science can be found here: foodscience.cals.cornell.edu/cornell-dairy.

On the other side of campus, visitors can check out the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, established in 1973. The museum holds over 35,000 works of art, including African, Asian, Modern, and Contemporary Art. Students can see samples of the various pieces by visiting the eMuseum online: emuseum.cornell.edu.

On central campus, visitors are invited to walk up the 161 steps of Cornell’s iconic Clock Tower at Uris Library to witness a chimes concert. The Cornell bells have been ringing all over campus since 1891 and can be heard throughout campus at various times of the day.

There are always events happening around campus; such as seminars, musical events, guest lectures, and socials. Many are listed on the site: events.cornell.edu/. Again, encourage students to take the time to explore the Cornell web site before planning their trip to campus. We would love to welcome them and their families and showcase our amazing campus, students, and services.

Cornell Health expands building and services

Recently the Cornell health services building, Gannett Health, received a $55 million grant to expand the center by over 60,000 square feet.

Staff explained the many challenges Gannett had been facing: overflowing waiting rooms, shared offices for clinicians, a busy single elevator, small spaces for nurses, and an outdated lobby and pharmacy. Each year the center logs more than 100,000 visits.

The new name of the center has also been changed and will be called Cornell Health. The new name is meant to encompass all aspects of student well-being.

The center will continue to house counseling and psychological services, an expanded pharmacy, and up to date medical examination rooms.

The new center will also have an enhanced visitor area so that visitors can see a welcoming, peaceful space that delivers high quality care for our campus community. This integrated care approach is what Interim Executive Director, Kent Bullis, says is one of the main goals of the project.

Students are excited at the new and updated options the expanded center will bring.

“Right now, space is tight in Gannett. It will be nice to have more space and welcoming environment; it was a long time coming!” says Sofia Vila, ’20 Cornell Health is scheduled to open in fall 2017.

President Rawlings shows off passing skills to Men’s Football.

“There is so much more to do on campus than they will see on the itinerary builder!”

New Cornell President, Martha Pollack comes from Michigan, begins August 2017.
NYS programs assist low-income students

Are any of your students a New York State resident? Will they be the first in their family to be a college student? Are your students coming from a low income background?

If so, the Student Opportunity Program at Cornell may be a great fit for those students.

Our Education Opportunity Program (EOP) and Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) in the Student Opportunity Program serves as one of the resources for underserved and underresourced students. At Cornell, we have seven colleges and schools; which include both private (endowed) and state funded (contract) colleges and schools which allows us to serve both EOP and HEOP students.

Contract colleges that serve EOP students:
- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- College of Human Ecology
- School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Endowed colleges that serve HEOP students:
- College of Architecture, Art, and Planning
- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Engineering
- College of Business

Lead by a team of amazing, dedicated, and hardworking counselors, HEOP/EOP facilitates the transition from high school to college for students from all over New York State coming from traditionally underrepresented and lower economic backgrounds. To students like Kevin Ortiz ’17, “HEOP is the only reason why [he is] at this great institution. Not only did it help [him] get accepted but the financial aid HEOP provides through their program and Cornell is the only way [he] could afford the education [he] is receiving.” Other students share this same sentiment about affordability; however, they, along with Kevin, have come to realize there is so much more! HEOP/EOP students begin their time with us before everyone else! During the summer before their first fall semester, students participate in the Pre-freshman Summer Program (PSP). This six week program is a starting block to your students’ transition from high school to college. In their first year, HEOP/EOP students will not have to work on campus - their job is to be a student first! Students will always have access to free tutoring and work with our counselors on all matters - from financial aid to their personal well-being. Above all, students build a family away from home. Students like Mayosala Soyemi ’17, have noted that, “the connections and friendships that have made since attending Cornell have changed my life vastly and I know that the connections I will continue to make will impact my life forever.”

For your students who are interested in applying through EOP/HEOP, please keep the listed criteria below in mind to confirm their eligibility for the programs (highered.nysed.gov/kiap/colldev/HEOP/):

Be a first time college student
Be a New York state (NYS) resident or permanent resident residing in NYS
Be a high school graduate or recipient of a state approved high school equivalency diploma
Meet the economic guidelines determined by the State of New York
Display the potential and ability to succeed, but may not normally be admitted to our school under regular admissions standard

There is no separate application, we will review all NYS residents for the program.

To learn more, please email, stateprograms@cornell.edu or call 607.255.6384.
CBO Spotlight: Cornell Student

Isaiah Murray—Class of 2019—National Hispanic Institute—San Antonio, TX

My name is Isaiah Murray and I would not be attending Cornell University today if I had not participated in the National Hispanic Institute's Collegiate World Series Program the summer before my senior year in high school. The program put everything about the college application process into context and it was shocking. There at the program, we had recruiters from top universities scoping out potential candidates for their schools. We interviewed with them and wrote mock college essays to analyze whether we had represented ourselves in the best way possible. Overall the statistic that blew my mind was that there are over 30,000 high schools across the United States, all with valedictorians, who are all applying to college. When you think about the top ten percent of high school populations the pool of competition for limited spots at top universities expands drastically. This deters a lot of students from even trying to apply to these schools. Still do it and do it to the fullest of your capabilities. A chance not taken is an opportunity missed. I applied to 23 schools. It can be done. I knew that the work I put into my college applications would determine the next four years of my life - maybe more. Give yourself that opportunity. You do have a chance.