

**A RESOLUTION TO HONOR CHARLES VAN LOAN FOR HIS SERVICE
AS DEAN OF THE FACULTY**

The Board of Trustees of Cornell University, at a meeting duly held on the 28th day of May, in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, adopted the following resolution honoring **Charles Van Loan**.

Whereas, the Dean of the Faculty serves as the advocate and liaison for the more than 1,700 members of the University Faculty, to the President, Trustees and the Administration, as well as to the broader university community; and

Whereas, the Dean of the Faculty, through a model of shared governance, ensures that the faculty is fully informed about campus issues and the concerns of each university constituency; and

Whereas, the Dean of the Faculty strives to guide the activities of, and make sure that the collective wisdom of the University Faculty is expressed through the Faculty Senate and its network of committees and subcommittees; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan has been an esteemed faculty member at Cornell since 1975, receiving tenure in 1980 and becoming a full professor in 1987; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan retired from the University and was named Joseph C. Ford Professor of Engineering Emeritus in the Department of Computer Science, College of Engineering on July 1, 2016; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan was elected by the University Voting Faculty to serve as the Dean of the Faculty in the spring of 2016, serving ably for a term of four years, plus a one-year extension at the request and invitation of the Provost; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan has admirably served the University Faculty by deftly translating complex issues into well-informed, structured, and easy-to-understand communications and facilitating discussion and decision-making, and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan notably has not shied away from tough, persistent issues, resolving many of them through his commitment to listening to others, striving for consensus, and always with unfailing good humor; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan is appreciated for his unique style – firm but nonconfrontational; humble, honest and direct; always listening to constituents but not backing down from unfounded criticism and, in the process, building a lasting trust; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan's particular attributes, approach and effectiveness were ideally suited for the multiple and trying challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020 that suspended classes, limited face-to-face communications, and ultimately moved all instruction online within a matter of weeks; and

Whereas, faced with the stress and uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic and Cornell's evolving response to it, Charles Van Loan effectively became the face of the university for many faculty members, holding daily Zoom office hours in the early weeks of the pandemic where he offered reassurance, communication and support, which evolved into regular weekly and then biweekly office hours, garnering him ongoing gratitude and respect from his colleagues; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan, through five years of leadership, collegiality and consistency, has never wavered from his collaborative approach to making difficult decisions – taking advantage of local expertise, open debate, transparency, engagement, and dedication to meaningful change; and

Whereas, Charles Van Loan's service as Dean of the Faculty will conclude on June 30, 2021.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees expresses its abiding and everlasting appreciation to Charles Van Loan for his distinguished service to Cornell University, and wishes him and his wife, Marian, a healthy and fulfilling retirement.

UFC Resolutions to Honor Charlie Van Loan's Service as Dean of Faculty

1. Resolution CVL-1, RC-F
2. Resolution CVL-2, B-S!
3. Resolution CVL-3, Q modified

Resolution CVL-1, RC-F

Whereas, Charlie Van Loan speaks in a dialect of incomprehensible abbreviations and has mastered how to optimally visualize and represent changes in a calendar,

Be it resolved that Charlie Van Loan develop 'RC-F' a retirement calendar with entries for whiskey drinking on the second AND third Wednesday of every month from 3:30 – 5:00pm in the afternoon in celebration of not being at the Faculty Senate meeting.

Resolution CVL-2, B-S!

Whereas Charlie Van Loan believes in radical transparency, shared governance, civility, justice, and equity but not so much in rules, regulations and orders,

Whereas Charlie Van Loan wakes up at 2:00am dreaming of completing a full revision of “Robert’s Rules,”

Be it resolved that Charlie Van Loan develop “Bob’s Suggestions” that when completed will be submitted to the Cornell Faculty Senate for its use.

Resolution CVL-3, Q modified

Whereas Charlie Van Loan held weekly meet and greets over soup at the Statler, and created hallways for chat in the absence of buildings,

Whereas Charlie Van Loan is convinced that ‘chit-chat’ on contentious issues that rile Cornell faculty up allows him to get ideas that would ‘move the needle’ on those same contentious issues,

Be it resolved that the Cornell faculty wish Charlie Van Loan all the best in finding new hallways and fresh challenges, and many opportunities for chit-chat and conversation as he rides into a new phase of his life.