



Cornell University
Graduate School

Winter Greetings 2020

[Piano music plays.]

Cornell University Graduate School logo fades into view.

Snow falls on a tree on Cornell's campus. The leaves move as wind blows.

Onscreen text: 2020 began as a normal year in Ithaca, NY.

Snow accumulates on top of an icy railing as it continues to fall.

Onscreen text: We took "normal" for granted.

A student types on a laptop inside an academic building.

Onscreen text: In 2020, we became physically isolated from classmates, mentors, friends, and family.

Snow blows across the front of an academic building with many windows.

Onscreen text: Some of us lost loved ones; others returned home but could not come back.

McGraw Tower and Uris Library stand in the background, snow blowing across the slope as a student walks by.

Onscreen text: The campus closed, interrupting teaching, research, and scholarship.

A Zoom screen is shown with a presentation on the left displaying City of Ithaca Elected Officials and the student presenter on the right.

Onscreen text: We cared deeply about violence against Black people, social justice, and equity...

A Zoom screen is shown with a presentation on the left displaying Current Tompkins County Police Policies and the student presenter on the right.

Onscreen text: ...with some of us educating, protesting, or often both.

Snow falls in front of an academic building.

Onscreen text: In 2020, we learned to cherish our human and pet connections.

A cat stands in front of two computer monitors on top of an open book, batting a pen off an open notebook.

Onscreen text: We discovered new levels of adaptability as we worked remotely...

Students wearing face masks traverse Ho Plaza at the start of the Fall 2020 semester.

Onscreen text: ...and welcomed students back to a de-densified campus.

Barbara Knuth, dean of the Graduate School from 2010-2020, stands on the Ag Quad, smiling.

Onscreen text: We said thank you to Dean Barbara Knuth...

Kathryn Boor, current Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Education, stands in front of the Graduate and Professional Student Center, smiling.

Onscreen text: ...and welcomed our new Dean and Vice Provost, Kathryn Boor.

Touchdown the bear wears a face mask and Cornell Big Red t-shirt, giving the camera a thumbs up. McGraw Tower stands tall in the background over his shoulder.

Onscreen text: Cornell's research facilities pivoted to learn more about the virus...

A medical professional administers a COVID-19 test via pharyngeal swab to a returning student.

Onscreen text: ...and keep our community safe with regular testing and Daily Checks.

A student wearing a face mask attaches materials to a model arm with his laptop open in the background where a Zoom call is underway.

Onscreen text: For some students, research continued with modifications; others pivoted to new areas.

Elena Michel defends her dissertation, "Dynamics and functions of chloroplast lipoprotein particles," over Zoom.

Onscreen text: Students defended their dissertations with families and friends watching.

A woman jogs past Beebe Lake in fall.

Onscreen text: In 2020, we gained a new appreciation for being outside.

Static pictures of the 2020 inductees into the Cornell Bouchet Society are shown.

Onscreen text: Students joined honor societies, won awards ,...

An infographic displays attendance increase in workshops after events went remote with a total 259% increase in participation.

Onscreen text: ...and attended workshops in record numbers.

A table displays students, their respective fields, and a note about how their research was featured by news sources.

Onscreen text: Student research appeared in the media over 380 times despite a worldwide pandemic.

Students walk past a sign encouraging voter registration on the Arts Quad.

Onscreen text: In 2020, we voted.

Snow falls in front of McGraw Tower, coating trees, as a student walks past.

Onscreen text: In 2020, we found a different sense of belonging at Cornell.

A suspended decorative paper snowflake cutout spins on its string as snow blows around it.

Onscreen text: You inspire us with your resilience and adaptability.

Snowflake graphics rotate.

Onscreen text: Best wishes for a warm and restorative winter break.

A static heart graphic displays.

Onscreen text: The Graduate School Staff

The Cornell University logo appears.