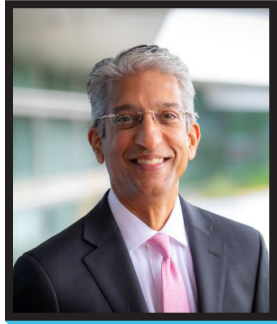


Paul Hayre

Cornell degree: BS '91 (Cornell Engineering)

Endorsed by the Committee on Alumni Trustee Nominations



Higher education is under fire, and so is Cornell. The Board of Trustees needs to reflect on what it means to be a Cornellian today, and how we can reconstruct our campus ethos. To start, three topics come to mind: admissions diversity after the recent SCOTUS decision; campus safety, wellbeing and speech; and increasing financial aid.

Describe the reasons you are interested in serving on the board. What strengths and attributes would you bring to this role?

Driven by gratitude, I have played a small role in shaping Cornell for more than 35 years. On campus, I helped restructure student government and brought transparency to student activity fees. As a volunteer, I helped build initiatives and drew in new Cornellians at the Cornell Club of Boston, the Annual Fund, Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network, and the Engineering Council. Recently, I launched and lead an academic center that spins out big impact tech ventures by marshalling myriad stakeholders—students, faculty, investors, industry, etc. Many challenges face Cornell, and I plan to bring my brand of collaboration-in-action with board-level agency to shape Cornell policy.

In your opinion, what does Carl Becker's concept of "freedom and responsibility" mean for today's Cornell community?

Public dialogue often devolves into superficial tropes without thought of consequences or even next course-of-action. We are gifted with world-class instruction, experience, and community, so "to those whom much is given, much is expected." With a daughter in the U.S. Navy, I know well there is a steep cost to freedom, and it is not free. Carl Becker implored us to intertwine ideas with ethical and rigorous consequential evaluation. Only then do we take to the bully pulpit, and only then can there be a path by which words can be transformed into positive impact. Becker would have that be the Cornell way.

Interim President Michael I. Kotlikoff recently said that this is an important time to "educate citizens to think for themselves, and live together; and to value truth, openness and equality as cornerstones of democracy." In your opinion, what does this mean at Cornell?

Cornell advocates for, creates, and disseminates knowledge. Openness and equality are essential ingredients to learning, i.e. we must have open minds and openly invite many ideas as we seek truth. It is hard to value truth when you can no longer recognize it, or if there are many different "truths." Cornellians should leave campus powered by open-mindedness, but emboldened to critically digest a cacophony of "truths." It is my hope that they can extract and expand their own knowledge to collaborate, live, and create positive outcomes with those of both similar and dissimilar minds.

Professional experience:

- EZaccessMD, board member, 2022–present (Cornell founder)
- Harvard Grid, founding executive director, 2022–present
- Sano Diagnostics, co-founder and president, 2013–present
- Monarch Health, co-founder and CEO, 2021–2024
- Brixton Biosciences, VP of strategy and markets, 2021–2023

Alumni service:

- Cornell University Council, life member, 2024–present; member, 2018–2022, 2012–2016, 2006–2010
- Engineering College Advisory Council, vice chair, 2023–present; member, 2019–present
- Cornell Annual Fund, Tower Club, Boston Committee, 2011–present
- Class of 1991, vice president, 2006–present; nominating chair, 2011–2016; president, 2001–2006; co-president, 1996–2001, class council, 1991–1996
- Quill and Dagger Alumni Association, 1991–present
- Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network, member, 1991–2023
- Coaching and Mentoring for Professional and Student Success (ENGRG 1052) course alumni advisor/mentor, 2019–2020
- Cornell Alumni Advisory Board, member, 2017–2020
- Cornell Engineering Alumni Association, director at large, 2014–2020; VP programming, 2017–2019; VP communications, 2015–2017
- College of Engineering Career Services, career advisor, 2019
- College of Engineering Externship Program, sponsor, 2016–2018, 2013, 2011, 2009
- Cornell Club of Boston, immediate past president, 2010–2012; president, 2008–2010; VP, 2004–2008; board member, 2001–2004; founder and chair, CCOB Cornell Professional Network, 2001–2009
- Cornell Engineering Student and Academic Services advisor, 2006–2010
- Boston Regional Phonathon host, 2007–2008

Community/public service/philanthropic priorities:

- Harvard Business School (HBS) Alumni Advisory Board, VP emeritus
- HBS Rock Center, New Ventures judge; Rock Accelerator adviser; Rock Summer Fellows mentor
- Harvard D³ Startup Foundry selection committee/advisor
- Harvard Lemann Program for Creativity and Entrepreneurship, coach/advisor
- Harvard Chan School of Public Health HealthLab Accelerator (H2A) Venture Board
- Harvard Innovation Labs/LifeLabs, mentor, speaker, advisor
- HBS Healthcare Initiative alumni/student mentor and dinner forum host
- MassChallenge mentor, judge; 2013–2014 startup incumbent; Gold Prize recipient
- Northeastern University Xperiential Network executive mentor and corporate sponsor
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute Venture Forum Advisory Board and Five-Minute Pitch Contest judge

Other education:

- MBA, Harvard Business School, 1999

Student involvements/activities:

- Student Assembly, freshman-at-large; College of Engineering rep; president
- Quill and Dagger
- Acacia Fraternity; philanthropy chair, pledge coordinator, chaplain
- President's Task Force on Campus Climate, President Rhodes' appointed member (committee founded PCCW)
- Indian Students Association, Executive Board; Inaugural ISA Regional Conference chair
- Cornell Tradition Fellowship
- Committee on Special Education Projects (COSEP), student advisor

Additional information:

While lunching at Trillium, I met Jeannette Perez-Rossello '91 and asked her to a Cornell Tradition dance. We're now married over 30 years, and Alex '24, MHA '26, is one of our three children. I launched and lead Harvard Grid, an entrepreneurship center that partners with scientists and engineers to launch ideas from labs to markets. The decade prior was spent building medical devices. Cornell was a defining experience, and I enjoy bringing the alumni voice to many roles and reuniting with fellow alumni over our shared experience. Through it all, I approach everything as an inveterate "tinkerer," a mindset I learned from my days as a student on the Hill.