

Session date: February 4, 2026

Themes of Discussion: the conversation centers around recollections of student life, including:

1. Daily Life at Cornell

- Focus on “ordinary” experiences rather than major events.
- Includes living situations, dining, academic routines, and social habits.
- Emphasis on capturing the *feel* of student life rather than just facts.

2. Social Environment

- Strong sense of community within dorms, clubs, and friend groups.
- Importance of informal interactions and shared experiences.
- Stories often highlight how relationships and social norms have changed over time.

3. Campus Culture (Late 1960s–Early 1970s)

- References to the broader cultural and political climate of the era.
- Mentions of activism, changing social values, and generational identity.
- Reflections on how Cornell fit into national trends during that period.

4. Student Activities & Organizations

- Participation in groups such as:
 - Music/band
 - Residential communities
 - Campus organizations
- These groups served as key anchors for identity and memory.

Reflections & Insights

- Many participants note how memory is selective and collaborative—hearing others’ stories helps trigger their own.
- Recognition that individual experiences varied widely, but common threads still emerge.
- Awareness that documenting these memories now is important before they are lost.