

# Skorton Center for Health Initiatives

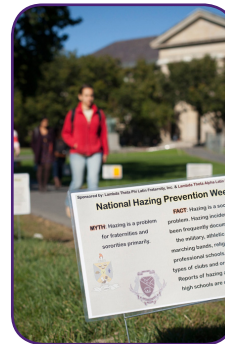


## KEY FACTS

1. In 2015, Cornell's Board of Trustees honored outgoing president, **David J. Skorton, MD**, by establishing the Skorton Center for Health Initiatives within the university's health service.
2. During his tenure, Skorton elevated student health as a core element of learning and provided **national leadership** on health-related issues. His articulation of Cornell as a **"caring community"** provided the basis for a campus culture in which every member has a role to play in fostering an environment supportive of health and well-being.

**Mission:** The Skorton Center for Health Initiatives will realize Skorton's visible and visionary commitment to supporting student and campus health through innovation in:

- institutional leadership
- education
- public engagement
- research



## INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Skorton Center provides leadership for university-wide, **public health approaches** that promote student, staff, and faculty health and well-being and prevent harm to **individuals and the community**.

In concert with campus partners, the Skorton Center provides **strategic direction** for health-related coalitions and committees.



## EDUCATION

The Skorton Center develops and implements **evidence-based educational programs, media campaigns, and cultural change strategies** to promote the health of individuals and the campus community.

Staff members train **future health professionals** through its Public Health Fellowships and student field placements.

*Current educational initiatives include:*

- **prosocial bystander training** to help students take action when they observe situations that may pose harm
- **media strategies** to foster behavior change
- **culture change strategies** to improve campus health, including the work of Cornell Social Consultants
- **online alcohol education** for incoming students
- **training** through workshops and continuing education



## RESEARCH

The Skorton Center is establishing partnerships across campus to create a program of **research and evaluation** to support evidence-based institutional strategies and **strengthen Cornell's national reputation as a leader** in college health.

*Current Skorton Center projects examine:*

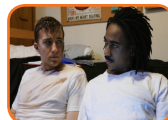
- student **mental health** and suicide
- prevention of **sexual violence**
- strategies to prevent **hazing** in student groups/organizations
- effectiveness of Cornell's **Good Samaritan Protocol** and the safety of **Slope Day**



## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The Skorton Center will continue President Skorton's commitment to share our knowledge and experience beyond the campus through:

- **local public events** and national presentations about best practices
- **consultations** with local and national leaders on health-related issues
- **leadership meetings** of health professionals and researchers within the higher education community



*The Skorton Center's new video, "Intervene," provides an evidence-based approach to bystander intervention and is being shared at no cost with other college campuses: [health.cornell.edu/intervene](http://health.cornell.edu/intervene).*



## OPPORTUNITY FOR GIVING

*Individuals interested in supporting the program development and evaluation efforts of the Skorton Center are encouraged to consider donating to the **Susan H. Murphy Student Health Research Fund**.*



## CONTACT

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