The winner of the Cornerstone for Campus or Community Service Award—Dan Roth, Energy & Sustainability. Nominated by Wendy Franzese

Dan Roth is the first person in FS who has openly made the link between sustainability and diversity. He strives to tie the two through the mission and goals of the sustainability efforts on campus and beyond. In his leadership role in the Campus Sustainability Office, he has aligned the priorities of environmental sustainability with those of social justice and doing the right thing for people.

Dan’s ability to link diversity of people to sustainability has been instrumental in the success of the 10 focus groups working on campus to make the President’s Sustainable Campus Committee effective in its charge. Recently, upon his recommendation, the Multicultural Resource Center has been leading a Talking Circle program in Facilities Services on racism.

It takes people to drive change, whether it be climate change or culture change. Wendy has heard Dan say that if we fully and genuinely respect people and the diversity of what each of us brings to work and the world, sustainability would just happen.

Without education, research and planning, positive change isn’t possible. People are those who have to make the changes necessary to better our environment and make our planet a better place. Part of this change includes social equity. Dan has linked the people of Cornell – students, staff, faculty – to make the connections necessary to promote change.

Diversity in FS, Cornell, and everywhere else is necessary to achieve these goals. Creating a culture of inclusion locally results in global success. Dan sees it and is teaching others of the imperative through his daily work.

He models the FS values, especially in his respect for people, our campus and our planet. Let’s join him.

Congratulations and thank you Dan!