The winner of the Cornerstone for Campus or Community Service Award goes to Sarah Zemanick, a champion of sustainability both internal and external to Cornell.

During the last year, unexpected legislation was proposed in New York State which would have undermined the rights of citizens and businesses across the state to develop renewable energy.

In response Sarah, mobilized CORE - a statewide coalition to ensure the preservation of renewable energy credit standards. Her work successfully protected carbon reduction efforts for Cornell as well as private developers, non-profits and fellow educational institutions statewide, and protects the Southern Tier’s plan to reduce carbon and strengthen local economies.

Sarah continues to pave the way for additional solar energy gains by working with local governments, community members, and private industry to install community solar projects.

She attends countless in public events, meetings, and one-on-one conversations with individuals, industry, non-profits, and government entities highlighting renewable energy... always looking to “find a way” to a “win-win” solution.

Sarah consistently links IPP’s facilities energy and sustainability projects to the university teaching mission by connecting IPP staff with researchers and students in ways that pay dividends far beyond campus borders.

She is highly regarded by student leaders, distinguished faculty, and civic leaders in Tompkins County and Albany. Echoing those high regards, Sarah was nominated for this award by the following members of Energy and Sustainability, Facilities Engineering, and University Relations: Sarah Brylinsky, Careen Arsenault, Lisa Hogarty, Kimberly Anderson, Bert Bland, Matthew Kozlowski, Steve Beyers, Lanny Joyce, and Susan