



2020 BOARD ELECTIONS

*The following are STANDING FOR ELECTION for 2016-17. Short biographies for these candidates and a proxy statement follow. Please complete the enclosed Proxy Statement and return **before the January 6, 2020 Annual Meeting** to glen.parker@acrny.org.*

The following are the Nominating Committee's candidates for **election** for 2020. This is the slate of potential Directors up for election:

Craig Coldstream, Treasurer
Rebecca Leibowitz, Director at Large
Sethu Nair, Director at Large
Susan Salazar, Director at Large

The following are the candidates for **re-election**:

Beth Fisher-Yoshida, Director at Large
Catherine Hannibal, Director at Large

The following Board Members continue their terms (they are not up for reelection this year):

Melissa Appleton, Director at Large
Niki Borofsky, Director at Large
Todd Drucker, Immediate Past President
Genesis Fisher, President-Elect
Glen Parker, President
Rekha Rangachari, Director at Large
Salman Ravala, Director at Large

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

Craig Coldstream, Standing for election as Treasurer

Craig is an accomplished business leader with 20+ years consulting experience across multiple industries. Collaborative executive leader of people, process, systems and risk with a core DNA in finance, operations and performance improvement. Exceptional interpersonal skills, highly adaptable with diverse capability complimented by a natural passion for innovation, execution, challenge, problem solving and learning. International experience and comfortable in start-up or +\$500M business environments. He has an MBA and Bachelor of Business Studies (Accountancy) from Massey University (NZ) including an electrical technical diploma from a previous career in process engineering.

Originally from New Zealand, Craig moved to the US after marrying his wife who originates from Boston. Craig is keen to expand his network in New York and has extensive insight for improving conflict resolution in the workplace. He has particular interest in leadership coaching to improve engagement, motivation and performance especially, across the Millennial generation who will lead us through the next decades. Craig is looking forward to being an active Board Member of ACR-GNY. His diverse skill set and energy will help develop and drive governance, treasury and organization wide initiatives.

Beth Fisher-Yoshida, Standing for reelection as Director at Large

Dr. Fisher-Yoshida is Co-Executive Director of the Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict and Complexity (AC4) and Director of the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) program, both housed in the Earth Institute at Columbia University. In her role at YPS she has been working to develop systemic approaches to building more effective communities through youth leadership in Medellín, Colombia, using a Social Lab approach.

Dr. Fisher-Yoshida partners with clients to develop customized interventions aimed at improving organizational performance. She is able to blend the best of both worlds: the knowledge from academia with effective practices to apply successfully to real life situations. Her firm, Fisher Yoshida International, focuses on leading organizations through change by improving communication and creating shared goals and practices to align with the organization's mission and vision. She works globally with clients and speaks conversational Japanese having lived and worked in Japan for 13 years.

Dr. Fisher-Yoshida is the author of numerous articles, chapters, edited books, and authored a book on transnational leadership. She has a new book to be released soon on women and negotiation. Her main areas of focus are Coordinated Management of Meaning (CMM), negotiation, intercultural communication, conflict resolution and transformative learning.

As Vice Chair of the Faculty of Professional Studies, Dr. Fisher-Yoshida collaborates with the Chair of Faculty and Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs to coordinate and manage the School's academic governance committees—specifically, the Academic Excellence Committee, Admissions Committee, Chair's Committee, Resource Allocation Committee, and Reputation, Relationship, and Development Committee.

Dr. Fisher-Yoshida is also a Certified Clinical Sociologist (CCS).

Catherine Hannibal, Standing for reelection as Director at Large

Catherine Grace Hannibal of Grace Family Mediation has been mediating for over a decade, including with Mediation Works, Inc. (since 2010). She concentrates on Divorce Mediation (including "high conflict"), Prenuptial and Postnuptial Agreement Mediation, Mediation to Stay Married, Divorce Mediation that is Child-Centered, and Elder Decisions Mediation. In addition to mediating, Catherine is a consulting and Collaborative attorney for non-litigated Divorce and for Prenuptial and Postnuptial matters.

Catherine mentors and teaches with the CUNY School of Law Mediation Clinic as an Adjunct Professor and the New York Peace Institute, and has presented for many law schools and organizations, including Cardozo School of Law, Brooklyn Law School, the New York State Council on Divorce Mediation (NYSCDM), the closed Interdisciplinary Forum for Mental Health and Family Law, Lawyers for Children, the Family and Divorce Mediation Council of Greater New York (FDMC), the local chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC), the Association for Conflict Resolution-Greater New York Chapter (ACR-GNY) and FamilyKind, where she teaches their court-connected Parenting Education classes in Westchester County.

Catherine is an Accredited Member of the NYSCDM and is just concluding her term as President of FDMC. Catherine also serves on the Board of ACR-GNY where she focuses on improving training and professional standards for mediators. She is a graduate of Cardozo School of Law where she was trained by competitive admission in the "Top Ten" nationally ranked Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution's Mediation and Divorce Mediation clinics. She received her MA and BA (with Honors) from Stanford University.

Rebecca Leibowitz, Standing for election as Director at Large

Rebecca Liebowitz, is a recent graduate of Cardozo School of Law. She graduated with her Juris Doctor and Masters of Law in Dispute Resolution and Advocacy. While at Cardozo, she was a Public Service Scholar, Teaching Assistant and involved at the admission office as an Ambassador. She is currently an associate attorney at the Liebowitz Law Firm, PLLC, specializing in copyright law. Rebecca has been extensively trained as a mediator, both in divorce mediation at Cardozo's Divorce Mediation Clinic, and basic community mediation. She is also a children's book author of two books, Maddy Goes To Camp and a bilingual book, Phoebe the Confident Second Grader. Rebecca is very passionate about the ADR and Mediation fields, and always enjoys attending events and conferences to catch up with old peers, and meet new ones.

Sethu Nair, Standing for election as Director at Large

Sethu Laxmi Nair is a Mediator, Facilitator, Coach and Trainer in the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Restorative Practices fields.

Through her work, Sethu improves interpersonal and social dynamics by enhancing leadership capacity and conflict competence among leaders and groups. Currently, she serves As a Senior Conflict Resolution Specialist at the Center for Creative Conflict Resolution within New York City government. A member of Hidden Water, Sethu facilitates restorative circles to heal the impact of child sexual abuse in the family system. She also offers a foundational Restorative Practices training called: “Responding Restoratively” through the Center for Justice at Columbia. Through her private practice, Sethu consults with organizations offering a unique blend of leadership coaching and restorative conflict management.

Sethu has also worked with various human rights organizations in New York and India. Sethu is graduate of SUNY Purchase and the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

Susan Salazar, Standing for election Director at Large

Susan Salazar is a partner of Raff & Becker, LLP. She has practiced in the field of labor and employment law since 1999. Ms. Salazar is an active member of the New York mediation community mediating wage and hour, employment discrimination, breach of contract and other

cases for the federal court in the Southern District of New York. She has also served as a mediator for the New York Peace Institute in New York City Civil Court.

Susan was formerly an adjunct professor at CUNY Law School, and coached students in both Brooklyn Law School's and CUNY Law School's mediation clinics. From 2015 to 2018, she served on the United States District Court Southern District of New York Mediator Advisory Committee.

Susan has represented both employers and employees in discrimination, harassment, worker misclassification, sexual harassment, wage & hour, disability, breach of contract, arbitrations, mediations, unemployment insurance and other employment related matters before federal and state courts as well as before state and federal administrative agencies. She has also drafted numerous employment policy manuals, conducted legal audits, and counseled employers in investigating complaints of discrimination and harassment. Additionally, she conducts training programs for management and employees in preventing and/or ending discrimination and harassment in the workplace.

Susan is a member of the New York and New Jersey Bars and an active member of the Dispute Resolution Section of the New York State Bar Association and the ADR Committee of the NYC Bar. She graduated from Rutgers University in 1991, where she was a member of Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society. She received her law degree from New York Law School in 1997.

INSTRUCTIONS

If you expect that you will **not** be able to attend the Annual Meeting, please fill in this form (“Proxy Statement”) and send a PDF (or copy and paste the text) to glen.parker@acrgny.org **before** the January 6, 2020 ACR-GNY Annual Meeting.

If you expect to attend the Annual Meeting, you will vote by ballot during the meeting.

If you have any questions, please call, text or email Glen Parker glen.parker@acrgny.org or (917) 238-7088

ACR-GNY ANNUAL MEETING 2020 ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PROXY STATEMENT

To elect the entire slate listed on page 1 above, mark an X here: _____

Otherwise, indicate below Yes or No for individual candidates:

Candidates for Election

- Yes/No **Craig Coldstream**, Treasurer
Yes/No **Rebecca Leibowitz**, Director at Large
Yes/No **Sethu Nair**, Director at Large
Yes/No **Susan Salazar**, Director at Large

Candidates for Re-Election

- Yes/No **Beth Fisher-Yoshida**, Director at Large
Yes/No **Catherine Hannibal**, Director at Large

I, _____ (Member Name), being a current member of ACRGNY, submit my vote as indicated above. I also appoint ACR-GNY Director at Large Glen Parker to vote on my behalf should I not be present to vote in person at the Annual Meeting on January 6, 2020 or at any adjournment thereof. I understand that I may vote in person and this form will be revoked upon my attendance at the Annual Meeting.