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Nadine Aubry is University Distinguished Professor and Dean of the College of Engineering at Northeastern University, and is known for her contributions to fluid mechanics. She is a member of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) and a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, the American Physical Society, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. She currently serves as President of the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Section Secretary of the NAE mechanical engineering section, Chair of the NAE’s Frontiers of Engineering Education Committee, and member of the International Council for Science as well as various NAE committees. She is the recipient of the 2017 G.I. Taylor Medal of the Society of Engineering Science. Prior to joining Northeastern, Aubry was Head of Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. She grew up in France and holds a Diplôme d’Ingenieur from Institut National Polytechnique Institute Grenoble, a Diplome d’Etudes Approfondies from Université Grenoble Alpes, and a Ph.D. from the Sibley School at Cornell.

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Dr. James “Jim” Becker is a Corporate Senior Vice President of Skanska USA Building where he is currently responsible for rebuilding their training program. Prior to this assignment he provided leadership for the company’s Virtual Design and Construction operation. Previously, Jim was a Vice President of Skanska AB, the parent of Skanska USA Building, where he was responsible for special projects that addressed knowledge sharing between Skanska’s thirteen global business units. During all of these various assignments at Skanska, Jim has stayed active as an Account Manager with some of Skanska’s key clients in higher education. He previously served as the president and CEO of Beacon Skanska (now Skanska’s New England office) and its predecessor Beacon Construction Company where several projects under his leadership were awarded the prestigious AGC Build America Award, including Sage Hall at Cornell. He was a faculty member at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and also currently serves on the Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Committees at both Cornell, where he is Chair, and the University of California, Berkeley.

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Lance R. Collins is the Joseph Silbert Dean of Engineering. He served as the S. C. Thomas Sze Director of the Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from 2005 to 2010. He joined Cornell in 2002, following 11 years on the Chemical Engineering faculty at Pennsylvania State University. Collins was part of the Cornell leadership team that won the bid to partner with New York City to build a new campus focused on innovation and commercialization in the tech sector on Roosevelt Island. His research combines simulation and theory to investigate a broad range of turbulent flow processes, including the motion of aerosol particles in turbulence, mixing and chemical reactions in turbulent flames, turbulent breakup of drops and drag reduction due to polymer additives. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society, chairs the U.S. National Committee on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, and serves on the Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences, the latter two committees operating under auspices of the U.S. National Academies.

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Mike Even is chairman of Man Numeric (“Numeric”), which he joined in 2006 and served as President and CEO until 2016. Prior to joining Numeric, Even worked for Citigroup for nine years building a global asset management organization. After Citi merged with Travelers, he became global CIO of the Private Bank and eventually, global CIO for Citigroup Asset Management, overseeing investment teams running nearly $500B in client assets. Prior to joining Citigroup, Even spent 13 years at Independence Investment Associates in Boston. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics, a Bachelor of Science degree in operations research from Cornell University and a master’s degree in business from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mike is a CFA charterholder and currently serves on the investment committees of the Massachusetts Pension Reserves Management Board and the Trustees of the Reservation.
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Sarah is currently (mostly) retired. She devotes her volunteer time to her local chapter of Citizen’s Climate Lobby, to a local non-profit that provides stable housing to the homeless, and to Cornell endeavors. In her professional career, she served in various management roles at AT&T and Afmedica, a medical device startup company. She is an emeritus director of the Cornell Engineering Alumni Association and is a passionate supporter of the Cornell Big Red Bands. Sarah is married to David Fischell ’75. They have two daughters, Erin ’10 and Jennifer ’13, and one grandchild.

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Rana Glasgal has nearly 20 years of experience in higher education administration. She is currently the Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Research and Decision Support at Northeastern University, facilitating institutional decision making by providing integrated analysis and research. Prior to holding this position, Rana spent over 18 years at Stanford University, most recently as Assistant Vice President for Workforce Analytics, designing and promoting the use of analytics for decision making in academic human resources. Before Stanford, she was a consultant with Decision Focus Incorporated. Rana just concluded her term as an alumni-elected trustee on the Cornell Board of Trustees and is a life member of the Cornell University Council. She is currently a member of the CAAAN Advisory Committee and a former Chair of that group. She is a member of CAAAN and a former General Chair for the Northern California region. She has served as a director of the Cornell Alumni Federation and as a member of the Ways and Means Committee. Rana holds her B.S. and M.Eng. from Cornell in Operations Research.

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Michele A. Kaliski brings three decades of practical experience investing in students, innovation, and public service. After graduating from Cornell, Kaliski studied as a General Motors Fellow at MIT. Her master’s thesis outlined an innovative strategy for empowering employees in improving factory operations, a basis for her work as a manufacturing engineer at GM’s Harrison Radiator and a competitive analysis engineer at A.C. Rochester. After starting a family, Kaliski turned her career attention to public service, organizing and fundraising for student programs in the arts and athletics. In the past decade, she’s shifted focus to the college level, pursuing investment opportunities at MIT’s Division of Student Life. At Cornell, Kaliski has worked with the ECE Department to establish and organize its Innovation Award Competition. Now entering its fourth year, the competition has funded a number of remarkable student teams, the members of which are well underway in their own impactful careers.
Andy Kessler is the author of several books on technology and markets, including *Wall Street Meat* and *How We Got Here*. Cornell and University of Illinois Electrical Engineering degrees led to designing chips at Bell Labs. Kessler was an Institutional Investor All Star analyst for PaineWebber and Morgan Stanley and was a founder of the hedge fund Velocity Capital. He writes for the *Wall Street Journal* op-ed page, *The New York Times*, *Forbes*, *The Weekly Standard*, and *New York Magazine* and has appeared on CNBC, Yahoo Finance Tech Ticker, CNN, and Fox.

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Jonathan Ludwig is currently a Vice President in Barclays’ Distressed and Special Situations Trading group, a part of the Fixed Income Credit Trading business. Ludwig is responsible for analyzing distressed, stressed, or recovering credits and other special situations across sectors and across the entire capital structure. He was previously an investment banker at Evercore and Bank of America Merrill Lynch, advising on restructuring and capital raising transactions. Example transactions include the merger of Verso Paper and NewPage Holdings and related exchange offers, Sara Lee’s corporate reorganization and the spin-off of D.E. Master Blenders 1753, and CorEnergy’s conversion to an infrastructure REIT. Before that, Ludwig also traded a variety of securitized products on Citi’s Mortgage Trading desk. He has a B.S. (cum laude) from Cornell University, where he majored in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, and an M.B.A. (with Honors) from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Ivan Lustig is the managing partner of Dover Madison Capital Management, a private equity firm focused on mid-market North American companies. Lustig has more than 30 years of experience as an investment banker specializing in mergers and acquisitions and financings having worked on over $200 billion of transactions. He was most recently a senior managing director at Duff & Phelps and was, prior to that, head of M&A in the Americas for The Royal Bank of Scotland, and head of M&A in North America for predecessor firm ABN AMRO. Lustig graduated from Cornell University as a Knight Scholar. Lustig is an advisory board member of Cornell’s Financial Engineering Graduate Program and a board member of ARIF, a private foundation. Lustig is also co-chairman of the Museum of the Moving Image.

Jim McCormick is CEO and founder of FMCG. During Jim’s 30+ years of consulting to financial institutions, he has assembled expertise ranging from strategy to marketing to acquisitions. Along the way, he has authored over 40 white papers on banking. McCormick has given testimony to the U.S. Senate Banking Committee and has appeared over 200 times as a speaker before various industry groups. He has appeared on several television venues and been quoted in publications including The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Institutional Investor, The Economist, Forbes, and Fortune. Jim contributes to education as a Board member of Mercy College, the Engineering College Council at Cornell University, and previously as a national board member of Teach for America. He also serves on the Board of several venture companies.

Dr. Morel recently retired as Chief Executive Officer of West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc., where he served in that position since April 2002 and Chairman of the Board since March 2003. He joined West in 1992 as Director of Research and Development and was promoted to Vice President R&D in 1993. In this role, Dr. Morel spearheaded West’s efforts to develop novel and proprietary drug delivery technologies. In 1998 he was promoted to Group President, heading sales, marketing and operations of West’s medical device and pharmaceutical components business globally. In 1999, Dr. Morel became President of the new Drug Delivery Division and in April 2001, President and Chief Operating Officer. His aerospace work in the 1980s resulted in his selection as a finalist for assignment as a NASA Mission Specialist in the Astronaut Office in 1989. Dr. Morel holds a B.S. degree in Engineering from Lafayette College, an M.S. in Materials Science and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Veterinary Medicine from Cornell University.
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Kyle Mork is the Chief Executive Officer of Energy Corporation of America and a Director of the company. He began his career with Halliburton Energy Services as a completions engineer before moving to ECA as a drilling engineer in the Houston, Texas office. Since that time he has held various positions throughout the organization focused on operations and management. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University, an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, and has taken masters courses at the University of Southern California in Petroleum Engineering. Mork is Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences and also serves on the non-profit ECA Foundation Board of Directors, the USC Mork Family Department Advisory Board, the Cornell Engineering College Council, and the Cornell Football Association Board. Mork is also active in the Young Presidents’ Organization. He and his wife Kirsten live in Charleston, West Virginia with their three children.

John P. Neafsey is president of JN Associates, an investment consulting firm. Neafsey serves as chairman of Alliance Resources. He previously served as president and CEO of Greenwich Capital Markets and, prior to joining Greenwich, was an executive vice president of Sun Company. He also was chief financial officer and a member of the Sun board and subsidiary companies. He was twice selected by Institutional Investor as the outstanding oil industry CFO. He is a trustee emeritus and a presidential councilor of Cornell University. Neafsey was first elected a trustee in 1984, served for 16 years, and chaired several committees. He is on the Johnson School Advisory Council and is an overseer at Weill Cornell Medical College, serving on the budget and finance committee. He is a director and president of The Cornell Club of New York City.

Richard Ong is the founder, Chairman and CEO of the RRJ Group. RRJ is a leading private equity firm in Asia with approximately $6 billion under management. Prior to 2008, Ong had a 15-year career with Goldman Sachs. Based in Beijing, he was Co-Head of the Asian Ex-Japan Investment Banking Division. Ong became a Managing Director of Goldman Sachs in 1996 and a Partner in 2000. He was also a member of the Goldman Sachs Asian Management Committee. Prior to his transfer to Beijing, Ong was the Co-President of Goldman Sachs Singapore. He has also had experience working in Hong Kong, and prior to joining Goldman Sachs, worked five years in New York City for Chase Manhattan Bank and Prudential-Bache Capital Funding. Richard graduated from Cornell University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science and the University of Chicago in 1989 with a Masters of Business Administration.
James Ricotta has more than 25 years of experience in the information technology field as CEO, board member, and Fortune 500 division GM. He is president and CEO at SightPath Capital. Previously, he was CEO and president at DataPower Technology, Azuki Systems, and SightPath, Inc. He has also been a vice president and business unit general manager at IBM and Cisco Systems. His functional experience includes engineering, product management, marketing, sales, and general management. He has built management teams, brought products to market, acquired marquee customers, and enjoys a long track record of growth within his positions. He has successfully built and sold companies in emerging markets to Cisco and IBM for $800 million and $100 million respectively. He holds an MBA from Harvard and received an Emmy Award in 1992 for his work on Avid Technology’s digital video editing system.

Susie Kim Riley is a serial entrepreneur. With multiple successful exits behind her, her latest venture is Aquto, where as the Founder and CEO, she is changing the way consumers connect via mobile by enabling users to use apps, view videos and other content without impacting their data plans. Aquto’s mission is to democratize mobile connectivity worldwide by making it more accessible and affordable through data sponsorships. Prior to Aquto, Riley was the CMO of Tekelec (acquired by Oracle) where she was responsible for strategy and technology direction. Riley came to Tekelec through the acquisition of Camiant, where as the Founder and CTO, she pioneered the field of policy control – the technology used to manage all cellular data connections on smartphones. Riley has held senior leadership positions at a number of other successful startup companies including Broadband Access Systems, Maker Communications and Proteon. She holds a bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University, and has authored 50 issued patents.

Dan Simpkins is an experienced entrepreneur who founded and led two successful startup companies: SALIX Technologies and Hillcrest Labs. After 16 years, Hillcrest was acquired by InterDigital, a leading wireless technology company. Simpkins remains CEO of Hillcrest and as InterDigital Executive Vice President for Advanced Sensor Technologies. As CEO of Hillcrest, Simpkins guided the company to introduce groundbreaking user experiences for television and developed exceptional expertise in sensors. Before founding Hillcrest, he led telecommunications pioneer SALIX Technologies for over a decade, managing the company from inception to its becoming a leader in VoIP. Simpkins is both a business and technical leader: he teaches, writes about and speaks about entrepreneurship, and he holds 23 U.S. patents. He is a member of the board and Executive Committee of the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, a member of the Board of Trustees of his synagogue, Kol Shalom, a member of the administrative board of the Cornell University Council, a member of the Cornell University Engineering College Council, and a member of the board of private company, Public Relay.

Robert F. Smith is the Founder, Chairman and CEO of Vista Equity Partners. Vista, founded in 2000, is a U.S.-based investment firm with more than $28 billion in cumulative capital commitments, and oversees a portfolio of over 35 software companies that employ over 45,000 employees worldwide. In 2016, Vista was named the world’s #1 performing private equity firm, according to the HEC-Dow Jones annual ranking. Prior to Vista, Smith was Co-Head of Enterprise Systems and Storage for Goldman Sachs and he also worked at Kraft General Foods, where he earned four patents. Smith earned his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University, where the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering now bears his name. He also earned an MBA with honors from Columbia Business School. He serves as the Chairman of Carnegie Hall, Founding Director and President of the Fund II Foundation, Chairman of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, Member of the Board of Overseers of Columbia Business School, and as a Member of the Cornell Engineering College Council, among others.
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John A. Swanson is the founder of ANSYS, served as president for more than 20 years, and was its chief technologist until his retirement in 1999. Swanson is internationally recognized as an authority and innovator in the development and application of finite-element methods to engineering. He founded Swanson Analysis Systems (now ANSYS) in 1970 to develop, support, and market the ANSYS program, a finite-element software code widely used in the computer-aided engineering industry. Prior to that, Swanson was employed at Westinghouse Astronuclear Laboratory. In 2009, he was elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He was awarded the John Fritz Medal in 2004. He is a Board of Trustees Member Emeritus of the University of Pittsburgh, and served 12 years on the Board of Trustees of Washington and Jefferson College. He is currently active in Renewable Energy, with a focus on PV Solar Power. He does public lectures at Universities and community gatherings, as well as consulting on residential and commercial PV design.

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Joseph Thanhauzer is the chairman and founder of Byrnam Wood, LLC, a boutique real estate investment, consulting and brokerage firm based in New York City. The firm represents clients that lease, buy, or have buildings developed for their own occupancy, in New York and globally. Their specialty has been the conception and negotiation of large commercial lease transactions. Prior to the formation of Byrnam Wood, he was a partner in the development of hotel and office properties in Philadelphia, PA.; Greenwich, CT.; Baltimore, MD.; Buffalo, NY and elsewhere in the U.S. His earliest employment after earning an MBA at Columbia University Graduate School of Business included several years working for the Uris brothers (Uris Buildings Corp.) and at Tishman Realty (now Tishman Speyer Properties). He serves on the Cornell University Council and over the past five years has worked with fellow Cornellian John Foote on the design, creation and funding of a statue of Touchdown (the Bear, Cornell’s unofficial mascot) to be unveiled at the corner of Campus and Garden at Homecoming 2015.
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Molly Tschang founded Abella Consulting to help senior executives lead as one cohesive unit, committed to each other’s success as much as their own. She guides management to get the most from themselves and their people to achieve superior results: improved profitability, stronger executive performance and empowered workforce. Molly’s 25+ years as an operating executive include senior roles at Cisco, U.S. Filter, Deloitte and IBM. In integrating 80+ acquisitions from start-ups to global corporate divisions, she has coached executives to sustain excellence during significant transitions. As management and consultant, Tschang has navigated diverse contexts and people dynamics, from high growth M&A as Vice President at U.S. Filter to global NGO as Executive Director at NetHope, where she secured a $41 million Microsoft grant. Tschang is ORSC-certified (Organization & Relationship Systems Coaching), and holds a B.S. in chemical engineering from Cornell University and an MBA from UCLA.

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Andrew W. Verhalen joined Matrix Partners in 1992. Since then he has led Matrix’s involvement in dozens of successful technology companies, including Phone.com (PHCM), which went public in 1999; SiTera, which sold to Vitesse; and Alteon Websystems (ATON), which listed its shares on Nasdaq before being acquired by Nortel Networks. Before joining Matrix, Andy helped start Grand Junction Networks, an Ethernet switch business that is now a major division at Cisco. Previously he worked for 3Com, where he built a new division focused on network adapters and hubs. Prior to that, Andy managed marketing for Intel’s flagship microprocessor, the 8086. Today he is working with several young companies: Ambarella (AMBA) provides HD video and image processing solutions; Cyphort secures enterprises against advanced cyber-attacks; Panzura provides enterprise cloud storage controllers; Sila Nanotechnologies is developing advanced battery materials; and SpiderCloud Wireless makes enterprise mobile broadband systems. Andrew received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering, M.Eng. in Electrical Engineering and M.B.A. all from Cornell.

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Lisa Walker is the Founder and Managing Director of Leadership Capital Advisors, a boutique executive search firm specializing in the industrial and technology markets. Previously, Walker was a Senior Partner with Korn/Ferry and Heidrick & Struggles. Earlier, she was with BP Amoco, Air BP, as Chief Marketing Officer for the international jet-fuel business. She also held positions in Marketing and Strategy for Amoco. Ms. Walker served as a management consultant with Bain & Company and A.T. Kearney, and began her career as an engineer at Honeywell Corporation. Walker earned her MBA in Finance from the University of Chicago (’91), and her B.S. in ChemE from Cornell University (’86). She has been honored by The White House as “a Champion of Change.” She serves on the Advisory Board of the Clean Energy Trust, and three University of Chicago Boards: Kovler Diabetes Center, Laboratory School and Women’s Board.

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Wheeler joined Momenta as CEO in September of 2006. He led the company through the launch of its first complex drug products, including the first generic versions of LOVENOX® and once-daily COPAXONE®. He has overseen the company’s growth into the diversified business it is today. In 2011, he was an E&Y Entrepreneur of the Year Regional Award winner. In May 2012, the Boston Globe named Momenta the number one company in their annual Globe 100 survey of top performing companies. Prior to joining Momenta, Wheeler was President of Chiron BioPharmaceuticals and a senior member of The Boston Consulting Group’s health care practice. He began his career at Merck’s MSDRL research unit. Wheeler is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Amicus Therapeutics as well as the Generic Pharmaceutical Association where he previously served as Chairman from 2014 to February 2016. He also previously served as the Chairman of the Board of Avanir Pharmaceuticals where he helped oversee the transition of the company from a research-based platform to a fully integrated CNS pharmaceutical company until 2015 when it was acquired by Otsuka Pharmaceuticals for $3.5 billion.
Eric Young co-founded Canaan Partners, an early stage venture capital investment firm, in 1987. Since then, Canaan has raised $4.2 billion in capital, making startup investments in over 430 newly formed companies that span the information technology and healthcare industries. Young led Canaan’s investments in IT-based companies such as Copper Mountain Networks, Ebates, Empirion, International Network Services, Kalpana, Lancope, ONI Systems, SandForce, Spectrian and Visigenic Software. Before starting Canaan, Young was a SVP at GE Venture Capital, and held positions in other GE operating businesses. An active proponent of developing skills in young entrepreneurs, Young serves as an Advisor to several Cornell-affiliated groups, including Entrepreneurship at Cornell, Cornell Silicon Valley, Red Bear Angels, Thayer Ventures, CoVenture and BR Venture Fund. He earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Cornell University and an MBA from Northwestern University.

Todd C. Zion, Ph.D., is the Co-founder, President and CEO of Akston Biosciences Corporation, which is developing an injectable therapy for antigen-specific prevention of Type 1 Diabetes. Prior to starting Akston Biosciences, Zion founded SmartCells, Inc. to develop SmartInsulin, the first glucose-regulated, injectable formulation for treating diabetes. As SmartCells’ President and CEO, Zion was instrumental in raising $10 million in equity financing and $10 million in grants to support research and clinical development. Merck and Co. acquired SmartCells for over $500 million in cash and clinical milestone payments. Prior to enrolling at MIT, he worked as a polymer development engineer at Eastman Kodak. Zion graduated from Cornell University summa cum laude with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. He is currently an Associate Director at MIT’s Venture Mentoring Service and also serves on a number of advisory boards including those of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Joslin Diabetes Center, and the Cornell Engineering College Council. He is also active in his community serving as the head of Devereux School and President of Dollars for Scholars.
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