“Yale Career Panels: A Candid View of a Career in Politics - The Election Process”

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

This event is the thirty-fourth in a series covering different professions. The concept is to have a panel of people with different experiences provide candid views of various careers that Yale students and alumni pursue, particularly, those careers with myths. Our panelists represent different perspectives on participating in one of our country’s most important political processes, the election of our government representatives. However, we would like to remind everyone that there are many firms and entries that support the election process, including, for instance, local and federal campaign finance oversight boards, non-profit voter education/registration organizations and polling firms which all provide important functions and opportunities for individuals to be involved in the political process.

The panel discussion will be conducted in New York City and will be broadcast via an interactive streaming video system. Yale students and alumni are welcome to come to the New York City location or watch and ask questions via the interactive streaming video system. In New York, there will be an opportunity to speak with the panelists and to network for 30 to 45 minutes after the panel.

**Time:** Wednesday, November 6. Panel Discussion: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm EST; Networking 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

**Locations and Webinar:**

**New York Location:** Conference Room at Young & Partners, 535 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor, New York, New York

**Webinar:** Streaming video

**Registration:** [https://yalecareerpanels-11-06-19.eventbrite.com](https://yalecareerpanels-11-06-19.eventbrite.com)

Please register for just one venue (New York or the Webinar)

**Topics:**

- Where is the profession heading (good and bad)?
- How do you get into the profession and what is the typical career path?
- What are the myths versus the realities?
- What are the characteristics of people who tend to do well and are happy in the profession?
- What types of people tend not to do well or end up unhappy and why?
- If you don’t stay in the profession until retirement, what are the exit routes to other professions?

**Panelists:**

Alicia Bannon, Managing Director of the Democracy Program, Brennan Center for Justice
Will Feltus IV, Senior Vice-President, National Media Research Planning and Placement LLC
Arnon Mishkin, Fox News

Moderator and Organizer:
Patricia N. Takemoto (Yale BA)

Biographies:

Alicia Bannon

Alicia Bannon is the managing director of the Brennan Center’s Democracy Program. She leads the Center’s Fair Courts Project, where she directs research, advocacy, and litigation to promote a fair judicial system. Bannon has authored several nationally recognized reports and articles on judicial selection, access to justice, judicial diversity, and government dysfunction, and her writing has been featured in the *New York Times*, *Atlantic*, and *Time*, among other outlets.

Bannon was previously an adjunct professor at NYU School of Law, where she taught the Brennan Center Public Policy Advocacy Clinic, and at Seton Hall Law School, where she taught a course in professional responsibility and legal ethics. Prior to joining the Brennan Center, Bannon was a John J. Gibbons Fellow in public interest and constitutional law at Gibbons P.C. in Newark, New Jersey, where she engaged in a wide range of public interest litigation within New Jersey and nationally. Bannon was also previously a Liman Fellow and counsel in the Brennan Center’s Justice Program.

Bannon received her JD from Yale Law School. She clerked for Hon. Sonia Sotomayor in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Hon. Kimba M. Wood in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. She graduated from Harvard College summa cum laude with a degree in social studies. Prior to law school, she worked in Kenya and Uganda, managing impact evaluations of education and health interventions, and at the Center for Global Development in Washington, DC.

William J. Feltus IV

Will Feltus is senior vice-president at National Media Research Planning and Placement LLC, an advertising and media agency in Alexandria, Virginia, where he manages political, corporate, and not-for-profit clients. Mr. Feltus is recognized as an innovator in the application of media research data to political and public affairs marketing. Providing polling, communications, and advertising services, he has worked for eight presidential campaigns and for gubernatorial, Senate and Congressional clients in forty-four states.

Feltus has been a press secretary in the U.S. Senate, deputy campaign manager of President George H. W. Bush’s unsuccessful 1992 re-election bid, and staff director of the U.S. Senate Republican Conference. He received his B.A. from Yale and his M.B.A. from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. Feltus has been an adjunct instructor at Graduate
Arnon Mishkin

Arnon Mishkin has led the Fox News election night decision team since 2008, leveraging Election Day voter polling, sample precincts, and actual vote results to estimate results of all statewide and congressional contests. He has worked as part of the team since 1998.

After the 2016 election, following Fox News’ decision to leave the national exit poll consortium, Mishkin led the team that designed a new way for Fox (later joined by the AP) to conduct Election Day polling and estimate voter behavior and attitudes.

Mishkin often appears as an on-air expert to discuss election expectations and campaign strategy. Most memorably, he and Chris Stirewalt were interviewed in 2012 after people objected to Fox calling Barack Obama the winner of Ohio.

Earlier in his career, Mishkin worked on election night coverage at NBC News, and as a political consultant for the late David Garth, the well-known New York-based political consultant. Apart from his work at Fox, Mishkin is an independent strategy consultant, and was formerly a partner of The Boston Consulting Group and Mitchell Madison.

Mishkin holds a BA in Mathematics from Yale and an MBA from Harvard.

Patricia N. Takemoto (Moderator)

Trish Takemoto is a Legal Assistant at Friedman & Wittenstein, P.C., a commercial litigation firm in New York City. She is an active member of the Association of Asian American Yale Alumni (AAAYA, www.aaaya.org), a national 501(c)(3) organization, and was on the Steering Committee for the first Yale Asian Alumni Reunion (YAAR) that took place in April, 2014.

Peter Young (Founder, Moderator and Organizer)

Peter Young is the CEO and President of Young & Partners, a leading boutique strategy and investment banking firm focused on the life science and chemical industries. He manages the firm and is actively involved in client projects, transactions and financings.

Prior to founding Young & Partners, Peter was head of various related industry groups at Salomon Brothers, Schroders, and Lehman Brothers, a private equity investor with J.H. Whitney & Co., and a strategy consultant with Bain & Company serving life science and chemical companies.
Peter received an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School (Baker Scholar with Highest Distinction), an M.S. in Accounting from the New York University and a B.A. in Economics from Yale University.

**Previous Panels and Upcoming Events**

Previous panels have covered architecture, artificial intelligence, music, film and drama, internet and data services, entrepreneurship, medical (four times), legal (four times), finance and investing, investment banking (three times), investing, journalism and publishing, consulting (three times), boutique consulting, education, government service, medical devices, non-profit organizations, R&D, real estate, start-ups, and a comparison of investing/investment banking/consulting. Twenty-nine of these career panels were recorded and can be viewed at [www.yalecareerpanels.com](http://www.yalecareerpanels.com). The series for the 2019 – 2020 academic year have included boutique consulting and non-candidate political careers in the fall, and will include product management and medical careers in the spring.

In 2016, we started a series called, “Yale Career Fireside Chats.” This new series spotlights issues and opportunities which may be encountered during your professional career. So far, our chats have covered “Managing Major Career Changes,” “Serving on Boards,” “The Art of Networking”, “Cybersecurity”, and “How to Ace Your Interviews.” They were recorded and can also be viewed at [www.yalecareerpanels.com](http://www.yalecareerpanels.com).

**The Series Sponsors**

This series is jointly supported by various organizations at Yale University and Yale Alumni organizations, including the Yale Office of Career Strategy, the Yale Alumni Association (YAA), the Yale School of Management, Students and Alumni of Yale (STAY), the Junior Class Council (JCC), the Yale Alumni Association of New York (Yale.nyc), and the Association of Asian American Yale Alumni (AAAYA).