# Executive Committee

## Marianna Stoyanchevka, FWN Co-Chair

Mariana is currently the Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives at Boston University School of Education. As the principal senior aide to the Dean of the School, she manages a core portfolio of responsibilities, including the development and implementation of the school’s strategic plan and of initiatives aligned with the School’s strategic vision, including select fundraising and alumni programs. Mariana also manages the School’s growing portfolio of online academic programs and oversees the Office of Marketing and Communications providing leadership and direction on SED print and social media, particularly for online educational programming.

Prior to joining SED Mariana worked at The Fletcher School, where she directed the signature Global Master of Arts Program (GMAP), a unique hybrid-learning graduate degree program in international affairs for mid- to senior-level professionals and business executives. She previously served at Fletcher as the Associate Director of Strategic Initiatives and Relationships, managing the relationships with the Fletcher Board of Advisors, developing new strategic initiatives in line with the mission of the School, and providing direct oversight and execution of a growing portfolio of executive education programs.

Before coming to the United States, Mariana practiced civil law, business law, and commercial law in Bulgaria and led several major privatization negotiations with the Ministry of Economy and Tourism. She holds a Law Degree with distinction from Sofia University Law School in Bulgaria and a Master’s from Fletcher.

## Kari Sides Suva, FWN Co-Chair

A Maine native, Kari graduated from Middlebury College and received a master’s degree in Health Administration from the University of Colorado. As a healthcare executive for 20 years, she led the strategic planning and marketing department for a hospital and served as the chief operating officer for three large multi-specialty medical clinics in California and Maine. While raising her two children, she took a hiatus from work and focused on civic and volunteer initiatives for which she was passionate and that called on her leadership and planning skills. In 2011 she graduated from Fletcher (GMAP) with the intent to pursue her interest in international development resulting from project work that she had done in Asia before moving to Maine.

Now an independent management consultant, Kari works primarily with small NGOs to improve their management systems to scale up their programs, services and products. She maintains a strong interest in women’s leadership, and in 2014 Fletcher engaged her to do a strategic planning project for the Initiative on Women’s International Leadership (IWIL), during which she researched the needs of alumnae and women students.  Kari currently serves on the GMAP Advisory Council for Fletcher.

## Tori Okner, FWN Vice-Chair https://www.linkedin.com/in/tori-okner-36162745/

## Yvonne Durbin, Treasurer

Yvonne graduated from The Fletcher School in 2015 with a MALD degree. Her fields of study were Development Economics and International Finance and Banking. After graduation, she went to work for State Street for a year in their Professional Development Program. Her roles in the program focused on compliance and risk management. Just over a year ago, Yvonne moved to Kigali, Rwanda to take a position with One Acre Fund. She now leads the Global Finance Operations team for 1AF -managing the Compliance and Accounts Payable teams and the organization's cash. She has been leading the process of centralizing all finance operations to Kigali for 1AF core countries. Her team currently covers payments and compliance for 6 East/South African countries plus the US. Outside of work Yvonne is an avid traveler, hiker, and rock climber.

## Sarah Clark, Communications Co-Chair

Sarah Clark is an independent consultant with more than 10 years professional experience in public health, conservation, animal welfare, food systems and agriculture policy research and practice. She specializes in strategic planning, grant writing, and program monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and has worked with clients in the US, Latin America and Europe including non-profits, foundations and businesses. She also has a passion for audovisual communication and storytelling and is the Founding Director of Image & Sound Group. Sarah is fluent in Spanish, having lived in Mexico for a number of years, and regularly presents her work at international conferences in English and Spanish; she is also a published author in scientific and grey literature. She holds a B.A. in Public Health from UC Berkeley, a M.S. from the Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science & Policy, and a M.A.L.D. from the Tufts Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy (Class of 2012).

## Mollie Pepper, Communications Co-Chair

Mollie Pepper is a doctoral candidate at Northeastern University and a proud Fletcher grad. Her dissertation research focuses on ethnic minority women’s participation in Myanmar’s ongoing peace process. While at Fletcher, she studied Human Security and Humanitarian Studies and worked with the Gender Equality Project, serving as its president in 2012-2013. Her research is informed by her previous work experience in women’s empowerment and microenterprise with ProMujer in Bolivia and humanitarian aid with the American Refugee Committee in Thailand.

Abby Fried, Events Co-ChairAfter graduating from Boston College in 2009, Abby lived and traveled for a year around the African continent, learning and experiencing as much as she could. Afterwards, she entered the Peace Corps, spending two years in Panama training teachers in English teaching methodologies. She then applied to Fletcher to pursue a career in public diplomacy, but got hooked on gender by Professor Mazurana. At Fletcher, she concentrated on gender in conflict, particularly pursuing her interest in how toxic masculinities harm women and men alike. During her second year at Fletcher, she was a co-leader of Global Women. The group concentrated on sponsoring events to showcase women leaders in a variety of fields. They also created a mentorship program between Tufts undergraduates and Fletcher women. For the past two years, she has worked for Promundo, a Washington, D.C.-based NGO that engages men and boys in gender equality, focusing on preventing violence, promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights, and positive fatherhood programming, mostly in the Middle East and North Africa.

## Rebecca Sholes, Events Co-Chair https://www.linkedin.com/in/rebeccasholes/

## Corey Barr, Local Groups Co-Chair

Corey Barr is an independent consultant working in human rights, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment in insecure environments. Previously, she was a Program Director at Human Rights Education Associates where she taught courses on women, peace and security, and gender and transitional justice. She has also held positions with UN Women, the Women’s Network of the International Action Network on Small Arms, and the Feinstein Center at Tufts University. Corey received her Bachelor’s Degree from Hampshire College and her Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School.

## Tallash Kantai, Local Groups Co-Chair

Tallash, who is based in Nairobi, graduated from the Fletcher School in 2015. At the undergraduate level, she studied International Relations and minored in Environmental Studies at the United States International University. Since graduating from Fletcher, she has worked as a communications officer for the UN Office for REDD+ Coordination in Indonesia, and a research assistant at the African Centre for Technology Studies. Her interests lie in global environmental politics and conservation, and she is has engaged on such issues as climate change, biodiversity conservation, chemicals management and renewable energy. Her other interests include promoting civic engagement, taking photos, and campaigning for women’s rights. She enjoys planning and hosting events, picnicking, dancing, singing wildly, and hiking.

## Judy Dunbar, Professional Development Co-Chair

Judith Dunbar is a senior expert with over nineteen years’ experience in international development programming for the public and private sectors. Her skills include: human-centered strategy development and program design, monitoring and evaluation, and program management. She is an accomplished presenter, trainer and facilitator. She has worked in 19 countries in Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe, as well as the United States.

## Jennifer Haworth McCandless, Professional Development Co-Chair

Jennifer Haworth McCandless serves as legal counsel in complex international arbitration cases, with a focus on investment treaty arbitration. She has advised and represented private and sovereign clients in proceedings before International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and its Additional Facility, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and other arbitral institutions, as well as in *ad-hoc* arbitration such as under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. She has also advised and represented private parties and governments in World Trade Organization (WTO) disputes. Jennifer served as a member of the Investment Subcommittee of the U.S. State Department’s Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy Regarding the U.S. Model Bilateral Investment Treaty in 2009 and Regarding the Implementation of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises in 2010. Jennifer also served as the Chair of Sidley’s D.C. Committee on the Promotion and Retention of Women from 2012 to 2017.  She currently serves as the Chair of Sidley’s DC Committee on Training & Development. Prior to entering private practice, Jennifer served as a law clerk for the Honorable Gregory W. Carman at the U.S. Court of International Trade in New York.  Jennifer also held legal internships with the U.S. Trade Representative’s (USTR) office of General Counsel in Washington, D.C. and with the USTR’s Office in Geneva, Switzerland. In addition, she served as a legal intern at the United Nations in New York and has worked at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.

# Steering Committee

Sylvia Conti Ugolini  
A 1982 graduate of the Fletcher School, Silvia is a lawyer with more than 30 years of experience in Public and Private International Law. Recently her work has focused on administration of development programs concerned with the rule of law in post conflict/fragile countries.

## Ana Garcia

Ana is a Humanitarian and Conflict practitioner with a strong program management and research background in the Middle East and Southeastern Europe. Currently working as a Humanitarian Affairs Officer at UN OCHA in Sudan in Field Coordination, Ana has more than 8 years of professional experience in the humanitarian sector. Skilled at analytical in-depth research on high-risk environments, her work has informed a Syria country-wide humanitarian needs overview, as well as project design, research projects, and policy briefings on Somalia, South Sudan, Afghanistan, and Syria. Ana holds a MALD from Fletcher with a focus on Conflict Resolution and International Organizations, as well as a MA in International Trade and International Relations. She is a native Spanish speaker, fluent in English and French, and is beginner proficient in Arabic.

### Priya Ghandikota

Priya manages a global marketing consultancy – inTREPit Advisors –based in Silicon Valley. She graduated with a MALD in 2002 and pre-Fletcher worked in the development field –microcredit finance and health – while based in Burkina Faso and India. Post-Fletcher, she assumed various leadership roles in marketing and business development in the technology sector while based in Asia, Europe and North America for leading brands in consumer internet (LinkedIn), enterprise software (Oracle), mobile (BlackBerry) and wearables (Pebble). Passionate about advancing equity in education, she has served on the Board of a leading charter school in San Jose, California and currently serves on the President’s Leadership Council of the Asia Foundation (San Francisco, USA).  Priya was Vice-Chair at FWN from 2015-2017 and served on the Dean’s Strategic Advisory Committee in 2015. She is involved in a number of organizations that advance women’s professional opportunities through mentorship, professional development, advocacy, and representation.

## Iliriana Kacaniki

A recent MBA graduate of the Hult International Business School, Iliriana Kacaniku is now the Community Manager for the OpenIDEO, in San Francisco. She has built her career of more than 15 years in the international development and philanthropy sectors in Western Balkans. Iliriana specializes in designing and leading implementation of strategies that support social agents to make a change in their developing societies. She has worked with the Open Society Foundations, USAID, and the World Bank. She received her MALD from the Fletcher School, and her MA from University of Bradford, UK focusing on international relations and post-conflict state-building.

## Cyndi Levy

Cyndi received a A.B. from Syracuse University in Soviet & East European Studies and Socialist Economics, MALD from Fletcher in Strategic Studies and International Law, and a Master's in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Public Administration. She then did Ph.D. work in Military Strategy and Philosophy at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences/Zrinyi Miklos National Defense University of the Republic of Hungary. Along the way someone decided to award her an Honorary Ph.D. from Moscow State University (the one in Russia not Idaho!). She has taught various courses in Political Science, Strategic Studies and Public Administration (as a Full Professor) at Colorado College, Zrinyi Miklos National Defense University in Budapest (as a representative of the Naval Postgraduate School), the US National Defense University in Washington, DC and the US Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, California. She also served as the Assistant Provost for External Affairs at NPS.   
  
She began her career in the Federal Government at CIA HQ in Langley, then to the Maritime Administration, served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger and was one of the authors of our first DoD Defense Guidance in 1984. She worked for US Senator John Chafee and US Senator Orrin Hatch as their Legislative Aide for Defense, Intelligence and Foreign Affairs (one at a time, of course!) Cyndi has lectured around the world for the US Naval Justice School on the US Congress and Civilian Control of the Military. To round out her resume--she did a stint on "K Street" at CSIS (Center for Strategic and International Studies) as Special Assistant to former Deputy Director of the CIA, Dr. Ray Cline. She had to return home as her father was ill and served as the first Internal Auditor for the county in Hilton Head Island in Beaufort, South Carolina. She is currently teaching at Norwich University (one of the six senior enlisted academies) and a founder of their online program for the Special Operations Community.

Along the way Cyndi studied at the Pilchuck Institute (under Glass Master Chihuly) and owns a bespoke artisan glass company called, Hilton Head Design since 1994. She has too much business and has taken down her website and works exclusively with designers and companies that are already her clients. Please take a look at her web portfolio at: (http://picasaweb.google.com/hiltonheadart2011).

## Jessica Meckler

Jessica Meckler (F16) currently works as a Training Manager at J-PAL South Asia in New Delhi, where she focuses on helping development professionals build their understanding of M&E techniques, particularly regarding randomized evaluation. At Fletcher, Jessica focused on Development Economics and NGO Management. Previously, she has worked with NGOs in India, Bangladesh, and the US. She also taught English in South Korea through the Fulbright Program in 2011- 2012, after graduating with her BA from Temple University in 2011.

Stacy NealAs director of programs for FSG’s Shared Value Initiative (SVI), a multi-stakeholder effort driving adoption and improving implementation of shared value strategies amongst leading companies, civil society, and government organizations, Stacy works with SVI and FSG team members, as well as external networks, to shape and execute SVI programming and content. She is the author of several SVI case studies and the primary architect of the Initiative’s regular partner convenings and annual Shared Value Leadership Summit. Prior to joining FSG, Stacy was Associate Director of the Center for Emerging Market Enterprises at The Fletcher School, where she oversaw research projects, fellowship and research assistant programs, executive education development, major events, and grant-funded initiatives—including the FletcherSchool Leadership Program for Financial Inclusion, which trains senior-level central bank and finance ministry regulators in effective advocacy for inclusive growth. Stacy also previously led external relations at Fletcher’s Jebsen Center for Counter-Terrorism Studies, managed business development activities at a boutique, China-focused consulting firm, and worked in communications and events planning at global microfinance network ACCION International. Stacy holds a MALD in NGO management and international migration from Fletcher, and a BA in English and Political Science from Boston College.

## Annie Paulson

Annie Paulson has spent her life working at the intersections of divergent disciplines. Her Master’s degree from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University covered the intersection of international development, conflict resolution, human security, and peacebuilding through the arts.  Annie also holds a bachelor’s degree from Brown University, where she graduated *Phi Beta Kappa*, with honors in Anthropology.  Her Master’s Thesis research explored the ways that the arts, and music in particular, can contribute to resilience for refugees and displaced people.  Her other research interests have included gender, human rights, forced migration, and cultural diplomacy.  Currently, Annie works as a consultant, a researcher, a lecturer, and also performs as a cellist with the Greenwich Village Orchestra.  She also serves as the Chair of the Young Professional Advisory Board for *The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction* (IIRR), and as a trained mediator, she volunteers as an international dialogue facilitator for the nonprofit *Soliya*. Previously, she has taught high school in the Galápagos Islands with the nonprofit *WorldTeach*, traveled extensively in Africa and Asia with the World Bank's Advisor on Disability and Development, and studied cello performance and chamber music at the conservatory in Bologna, Italy.