

TOURO SYNAGOGUE FOUNDATION

REPORT OF THE 2017 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee, composed of Andy Teitz (Chair), Rita Slom, Larry Sheftel, Louise Ellen Teitz, and Laura Freedman Pedrick, is pleased to present the following slate of officers and board of directors.* Short biographies of new Officers and Board members are enclosed.

Andy Teitz, Chair, Nominating Committee
July 21, 2017

Proposed Officers:

B. Schlessinger Ross, Chair[#]
Laura Freedman Pedrick, First Vice Chair[#]
Bernard Gewirz, Vice Chair
Andy Teitz, Vice Chair[#]
Rita Slom, Secretary
Michael Pimental, Treasurer

Class of 2020:

Rebecca Ackerman
Beverly Bavly
Jonathan deSola Mendes
Barbara Epstein
Michael Feldberg
Richard Rudick
Shirley Saunders
Sam Shamoon
Elliott Slom
William Stern
Keith Stokes
Pierre Gentin*

Class of 2019

Bernard Wax*

* Indicates new member to board.

Indicates existing Board member or Officer in new position.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON NEW OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Pierre Gentin

Scarsdale, NY

Pierre Gentin has been involved with the World Economic Forum (Davos) for many years. One of his roles there has been to serve as a Jewish representative on the Global Agenda Council on Faith. In that capacity, he traveled to Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar, and engaged in dialogue designed to foster greater understanding among different faith communities. He has served as an officer of the Young Israel of Scarsdale congregation, and as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Center for Jewish Life at Princeton University. He recently taught a philosophy class called "Complex Ethical Dilemmas" in the MBA program at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

A graduate of Princeton University and Columbia Law School, he has worked as an assistant United States attorney in Manhattan, an in-house lawyer for a financial services company, and is currently a partner at the New York law firm of Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP. He previously served on the executive committee of the lawyers' division of the Anti-Defamation League and in 2014 was awarded the ADL's Human Relations Award which is given to an individual in recognition of his "commitment to diversity, civil rights and defense of democratic ideals."

Pierre and his wife Reyna live in New Rochelle, New York, and they have two teenage children.

Bernard Wax

Boston, MA

Bernard Wax, a resident of Brookline, MA, is the Director Emeritus of the American Jewish Historical Society which he served from 1966-1993. A native of Philadelphia, he received a BA and MA in History from the University of Chicago. He served as the Field Services Supervisor of the Illinois State Historical Library and the Cook County and Downstate Illinois Record Commissions from 1959-1966.

He helped design and supervise the construction of the AJHS library and headquarters on the campus of Brandeis University. During his tenure, the Society became the largest repository of American Jewish original documents and received awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission where he also served as a consultant.

He has worked as a volunteer and consultant to the United Way of Boston, American Jewish Congress and helped found the National Center for Jewish Film. He also was a development consultant to the Touro Synagogue Foundation (under its prior name as the Society of Friends, etc.) and assisted in programming. He was instrumental in making contact with Ambassador Loeb, which eventually led to the construction of the Visitors Center.