EACH YEAR, WESLEYAN ALUMNI ELECT THREE OF OUR PEERS
to serve on the University's Board of Trustees for a three-year term. While
many schools have some alumni-elected trustee representation, Wesleyan
is unique in that nearly one-third of the Board is elected by the alumni
body. The alumni-elected trustee process is a remarkable and important
way for alumni to demonstrate stewardship of our University. I urge you
to participate in making the very important decision of who among our
alumni colleagues will serve on the board and influence the direction of
the University.

I hope you will join me in voting, and I hope you will encourage your
friends to vote. Your vote does matter and can have a lasting impact.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

ANDREW FAIRBANKS ’90
Chair, Alumni-Elected Trustee Nominating Committee
Because I went to Wesleyan, I start by listening and asking questions, and I always consider those less fortunate. Practicing inquiry prepared me for the real-world challenges I've encountered in my life and has served me well during my 15-year career in consulting, where it was my job to ask all the questions to get to the real answer and then create the workable solution.

I believe that giving back is one of Wesleyan's greatest lessons. It taught me to use my talents and abilities to help those less fortunate and to help others feel their own dignity. I live these lessons at the Robin Hood Foundation, where I work directly with our community partners to help them build scale and capacity, while addressing challenges in New York City in the areas of early childhood and youth, housing, and health.

Wesleyan is an exciting and dynamic environment, with individuals constantly thinking and creating in their own sphere of interest. In some ways I liken it to a Choose Your Own Adventure book, where you make choices along the way that lead you down different paths. No two readers have the same experience because it is completely customized to your decisions and what you choose to make of it.

Wesleyan and its students, faculty, alumni, and Board are a team. If I am fortunate enough to serve on the Board, I promise to do my part to make the team better. That means asking the questions to get the answers needed to build the solutions that will make Wesleyan an ever-improving institution—an institution of which we can be proud and where generations of new Wes students can come to build their dreams from the adventures they have created there.

- MPH & MBA, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health & Columbia Business School
- Carter Burden Network Board Member and Head of Nominating Committee
- Success Academy Leadership Council
- NEST+m Executive Committee
- https://www.linkedin.com/in/pritha-mittal-358374113/

I feel grateful every day to have attended Wesleyan. As a kid from a big public high school in southern California who had only been to the East Coast once before, I was blown away from the first moment I visited campus. My host took me to see an Ebony Singers concert in the student center, with an audience packed to the rafters. I went to meet my father the next morning and told him that I wanted to go to Wesleyan and that I wanted to be part of the Ebony Singers. I was lucky enough to get to do both of those things, as well as have the privilege to represent Wesleyan athletically as a member of the women's soccer team.

Wesleyan taught me to think independently and to question. As a religion major, I thought about how human beings make meaning in this world and what it takes to form a community. When I applied to graduate school, my application essay was on the many ways Wesleyan students formed communities on campus and what I’d learned about helping communities at schools grow stronger. I’ve spent the last 23 years of my life working in colleges and universities and in independent schools as an administrator. I care deeply about making educational institutions the best versions of themselves they can be.

When people ask me to describe why I love Wesleyan so much I always say that the people I met at Wesleyan all had something they cared about that went beyond their own success. I continue to find that inspiring and true whenever I meet Wes alums across generations. As someone who has committed her life to working in education, I think I could add great perspective to the Wesleyan Board of Trustees and I am humbled and honored to be on the ballot.

- BA, Religion from Wesleyan; MA, Higher Education Administration and Student Affairs, Stanford University
- 16 years working in undergraduate admissions and college counseling, primarily at Columbia University in New York and at St. Stephen’s Episcopal School in Austin, Texas
- High school division head for the last seven years, currently serving as the Head of the Upper School Campus of the Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles, California
- Married to a Wesleyan graduate, Gregg Ross ’90; very involved with the University. Served on the Admission Alumni Advisory Board for several years and on the Host Committee for the Class of 1993 25th Reunion this past summer

Transformative—that was my Wesleyan experience.

I arrived on campus young, eager, and overwhelmed because since second grade, I had been educated in Orthodox Jewish schools (and had had little contact with the 98 percent of American society that wasn’t Jewish). Nearly 25 years later, I am a serial entrepreneur living in Beijing; through my company, I guide some of the best Chinese high-school students and their families as they explore going to college in America.

Through my students’ cross-cultural journey, I get to see the American liberal arts education through their eyes. I share with them that while majoring in philosophy, I also explored my interests in economics and French. They love to hear how I made close friends, found professors who mentored me, and helped strengthen the campus Jewish community. And I explain how, by the time I graduated, I felt emboldened to try something new: Without having ever been to Asia, I moved to Shanghai and began studying Chinese.

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- MBA, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
- Volunteer: Wesleyan 25th Reunion Committee; Camp Ramah in Wisconsin Committee
- Member, Entrepreneur’s Organization (EO)
- https://www.linkedin.com/in/tomer-rothschild-815133/
My favorite Wesleyan memories: making chai for friends, debating U.S. politics, and playing cricket on weekends. As I tell prospective students today, theater studies may not be an obvious major for an international student and aspiring entrepreneur, but what I learned at Wesleyan is far bigger than anything a single concentration could teach.

These memories traveled with me back to Bangladesh. After graduation, I worked with my family to set up a liberal arts university, the only one of its kind in South Asia. Over the years several Wesleyan alumni have visited to teach courses such as World Civilization; over 1,200 students now take this course annually. Inspired by my Wes friends who started Long Lane Farm, my brother and I started the first organic tea garden in Bangladesh, focusing on environmentally sustainable practices and support for farmers through a unique cattle-lending program for women. It is the first and only fair-traded tea brand from Bangladesh in the international market. I am also serving as a second-time elected director of the Bangladesh Cricket Board, part of the global governing body for the sport.

I feel grateful for my wide-ranging work experiences and know that so much that I have accomplished professionally took root at Wesleyan. The exposure I had at Wes has become ever more important in building my professional versatility than any specific specialization.

I would like to see Wes grow as a leading place for an education fit for the fourth industrial revolution and as a destination for the brightest international minds.

We can and will build stronger relationships with alumni to increase our endowment, expand scholarship opportunities, and strengthen our liberal arts curricula. I believe I am in a position, professionally and personally, to help. Wesleyan has given a lot to me and made me who I am today. I will feel honored to return to campus as an alumni trustee.

- Member Board of Trustees, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
- Director, Kazi & Kazi Tea, Teatulia USA
- Director, Gemcon Group
- Director, Bangladesh Cricket Board; launched a new national cricket league: https://m.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/106747/bcb-launches-new-domestic-t20-tournament
  (op-ed after the 2016 terrorist attack in Bangladesh)

Friends, relatives, and acquaintances can all attest that my love for Wesleyan runs deep. This love story started during my first visit to Wesleyan as an admitted student in the spring of 1996. Witnessing the vibrant Wes community out on Foss Hill enjoying the beautiful weather and each other convinced me that I had found home for the next four years. Over the course of that weekend, I made lifelong friends. Their kids are now friends with my two sons.

For me, the Wes campus is a shining example of what a truly diverse community looks like as it constantly strives to be more inclusive. The breadth of the education we received is impressive, but it is truly a wonder when one accounts for the fact that we are a small liberal arts college that excels in multiple disciplines. Ultimately, the alumni, professors, staff, and future students are what truly make Wesleyan a special place. None of the myriad things we love about Wes would be possible if it weren’t for the extraordinary people whom the school brings together.

Both my professional and personal experiences have deepened my belief that the institutions that thrive and evolve are those that focus on their people. As a trustee, I will focus on listening to and fighting for our people. And for me that fight includes continuing to champion diversity in all forms, advocating for need-based financial aid, and ensuring that programs like the Wesleyan Media Project continue to receive the funding and support they need.

- Managing Director, Royal Bank of Canada
- Member, Wesleyan President’s Council
- Seed Investor, Stadium Goods, LLC – Subsidiary of Farfetch, Ltd.

After my return from pre-frosh weekend, I proudly announced to my parents that I knew without a doubt that Wesleyan was the place I wanted to spend the next four years of my life. My parents nodded along as I rambled about all the amazing people I met, the cool activities I could participate in, and the interesting classes I could take. Then, without missing a beat, they asked why I was no longer wearing a bra. Witnessing the personal liberation I underwent after only a weekend at Wesleyan made it clear to all of us that the University would be the perfect place for me to explore and grow.

At Wesleyan, I constantly tested my boundaries and expanded my interests by participating in a range of extracurricular and social activities, and by taking advantage of Wesleyan’s flexible and robust curriculum, while still spending time on the hill to soak in the people and environment. Still today, I appreciate meeting Wesleyan alums from all generations because we always seem to share an innate curiosity for learning about one another and sharing our experiences.

I have a deep love and commitment to this school and its community, so it would be an honor to serve as a Board member. I look forward to helping shape Wesleyan’s future to ensure future generations receive a holistic educational experience that prepares them to navigate the constantly evolving and complicated world. I am well-qualified to do this work, having amassed a diverse skill set and relevant experience serving on nonprofit boards, working as a lawyer on controversial civil rights issues, and living as a millennial with student debt on a nonprofit salary in a socioeconomically challenging world.

- Director of Policy Research, AI Now Institute at NYU
- Board Member, College & Community Fellowship, and Advisory Board Member, the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project
- Speaker at several events, including SXSW, Emtech Digital, RightsCon, and Paris Peace Forum
VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

If you are unable to vote online, please follow these instructions to cast your ballot by mail:

1. Check the boxes beside the name of your preferred candidates.
2. Vote for one, two, or three candidates. (Ballots with votes for more than three candidates will NOT be counted.)
3. Include your name and class year and mail to: Gina Driscoll, Wesleyan University, 110 Mt. Vernon Street, Middletown, CT 06459.
4. Questions? Contact Gina Driscoll, gdriscoll@wesleyan.edu.

VOTE FOR UP TO THREE:

21 OR MORE YEARS PAST GRADUATION
☐ Pritha Jalem Mittal ’96
☐ Laura Davidson Ross ’93
☐ Tomer Rothschild ’94

20 OR FEWER YEARS PAST GRADUATION
☐ Kazi Inam Ahmed ’04
☐ Olivier D’Meza ’00
☐ Rashida Richardson ’08

SIGNATURE: _________________________________

PRINT NAME: _______________________________

CLASS YEAR: _______________________________