

## PANELISTS' BIOS

### BONNIE S. BRIER

**Bonnie S. Brier** was appointed Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of **New York University** on August 24, 2009. Her duties include overseeing all of the University's legal operations, including the Medical Center and its affiliates.

Previously, Ms. Brier was the General Counsel and Assistant Secretary to the Boards of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and The Children's Hospital Foundation since 1990. She was their first in-house counsel. Prior to that, she was a partner at Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll, specializing in legal issues related to colleges and universities, hospitals, and other nonprofit organizations; she joined the firm in 1979. Ms. Brier was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania from 1977 to 1979. She was a law clerk to Chief Judge Joseph S. Lord, III of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania from 1976 to 1977.

Ms. Brier received her A.B. from Cornell University magna cum laude, and her J.D. from Stanford University, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif and an editor of the Law Review.

### RICARDO CASTRO

**Ricardo Castro** is General Counsel and Secretary to the **Open Society Institute**. Mr. Castro joined the Open Society Institute in 1997.

Prior to joining the Open Society Institute, Mr. Castro was an associate at the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, where he worked on corporate finance matters in Latin America. Mr. Castro also spent three years working as a legal services lawyer on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS. Upon graduation from law school, he served as law clerk to the Honorable Marie L. Garibaldi of the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Mr. Castro graduated from New York University School of Law. He served as Editor-in-Chief of the Review of Law and Social Change and President of the Latino Law Students Association.

### SHARON H. COTT

**Sharon H. Cott** is Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of **The Metropolitan Museum of Art**, responsible for overseeing the legal affairs of the Museum, corporate governance, art acquisitions, risk management, and the Archives of the Museum. Ms. Cott is also the Secretary to the Board of Trustees and responsible for management of Board activities. The Museum has a collection of more than two million works of art, a total budget of over \$250 million per year and a staff of over 2,500

employees. Ms. Cott has been Secretary to the Board of Trustees and General Counsel since 1992, and supervises a staff of five attorneys. She joined the Museum in 1988.

Previously, Ms. Cott was an associate at Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler in the tax, trust and estates and corporate departments, with an emphasis on non-profit organizations.

Ms. Cott is a graduate of Yale Law School and the University of Virginia.

#### **KAREN GOLDSTEIN**

**Karen Goldstein** joined the **Vera Institute of Justice** in August 2000. In addition to serving as General Counsel, she is also the Institute's Vice President.

Previously, she served as general counsel for the New York City Department of Homeless Services and as general counsel to Miracle Makers, Inc., a community-based nonprofit corporation in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn.

Ms. Goldstein has also assisted the Honorable Kathryn McDonald in the administration of the Family Courts; served as deputy general counsel to the New York City Human Resources Administration; and worked as a trial attorney for the Legal Aid Society's Juvenile Rights Division and as a Senior Supervising Attorney for the Society's Criminal Appeals Bureau.

Ms. Goldstein has a J.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

#### **BARRON "BUZZ" TENNY**

**Barron M. Tenny** is Executive Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of the **Ford Foundation**, serving in that position since 1996. He joined the Foundation in 1983 as special assistant to the President and was made Vice President, Secretary, and General Counsel in 1984.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Mr. Tenny was general counsel, vice president, and assistant secretary of Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, a community development corporation in Brooklyn, New York. From 1970 to 1974 he was an attorney with the New York law firm of Greenbaum, Wolff & Ernst.

Mr. Tenny graduated from the University of Chicago Law School. He received his bachelor's degree in history and science from Harvard College.

## ROBERT J. VANNI

**Robert J. Vanni** is Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of **The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations**, a private nonprofit corporation, operating 86 branch and four research libraries with an annual budget of \$240 million.

A former corporate associate with the law firm of Shearman & Sterling, Mr. Vanni has also served as the first General Counsel of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, as legislative assistant to Assemblyman Anthony G. Olivieri, and in legal positions with the United Nations Secretariat. He is presently a member of the Board of the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York and Chair of its Government Relations Committee.

Mr. Vanni is a graduate of New York University School of Law and Columbia Business School. He received his bachelor's degree in business and economics from Babson College.