



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Center for Progressive Reform Welcomes Four New Board Members

Scholars and Community Leaders from Florida, Indiana, New Hampshire, and Washington State Join Leadership of the Nonprofit Organization

The Center for Progressive Reform (CPR) is pleased to announce the addition of four new members to its Board of Directors. Each of them brings a wealth of experience and unique perspectives to the Board and will help enrich and strengthen CPR's work toward thriving communities and a resilient planet.

Joining the Board in June 2019 are advisor Gilonne d'Origny, public relations expert and nonprofit leader Michele Janin, and CPR Member Scholars Joel Mintz and Laurie Ristino.

[Gilonne d'Origny](#) is Translational Advisor for the Institute for Protein Design at the University of Washington and also runs PlanetA, a cellular agriculture and climate solutions consultancy. Robert Verchick, President of CPR's Board, said, "We are thrilled to have Gilonne join our Board of Directors. She brings an entrepreneurial spirit and technological savvy to the organization, and I'm looking forward to tapping her rich set of experiences as we grow CPR together."

"I'm excited to have the chance to work with so many talented scholars as we strive to translate their research and scholarship into policy," said d'Origny, a Seattle resident. "In addition to sharing the values that undergird the organization's policy work, I'm also thrilled to experience CPR's unique organizational model as a virtual organization with scholars and staff spread across the country. They've found a formula that other organizations will want to emulate, and I'm looking forward to helping the organization get every bit of impact from its scholars' labors."

[Michele Janin](#) is a community leader in Indianapolis and serves on several nonprofit boards, including Planned Parenthood Advocates of Indiana. Verchick said, "Michele is an outstanding addition to our Board of Directors, and I'm looking forward to working closely with her. She brings valuable experience in nonprofit leadership to our board table, and that's particularly important for CPR as we work to expand our organizational impact and reach."

"I'm delighted to join CPR's Board," said Janin. "The organization has grown steadily over the years, taking on an ever-increasing role in policy development at the state and national levels."

I'm eager to help make sure it gets everything it can out of the hard work its 60-plus Member Scholars and small but mighty staff are doing."

[Joel Mintz](#) is Professor Emeritus of Law and C. William Trout Senior Fellow in Public Interest Law at Nova Southeastern University Law Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and a long-time Member Scholar at CPR. Verchick noted, "Joel is a terrific addition to our Board of Directors. He's had a long and distinguished career in the academy, applying his expertise to the inner workings of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, always seeking to make it the most effective protector of the environment it can be. I welcome his insights as he takes on this new role with CPR."

"I've been a CPR Member Scholar since the earliest days of the organization, and I'm delighted to join its Board of Directors," said Mintz. "I'm particularly pleased with the opportunity to work more closely with my fellow Board members, each of whom brings a wealth of experience through their scholarship, nonprofit, or entrepreneurial work."

New Hampshire resident [Laurie Ristino](#), principal and founder of Strategies for a Sustainable Future and an expert on sustainable agriculture and the Farm Bill, joined CPR as a Member Scholar in January 2018, bringing fresh perspectives and an enthusiasm for communications to the organization. Verchick said, "We're delighted to have Laurie join our Board of Directors. She's a prolific and insightful scholar, and she brings a wealth of experience to the board table. I'm looking forward to working closely with her as we guide the organization's growth."

"I'm honored to join CPR's Board of Directors," said Ristino. "It's a vital organization made up of deeply committed scholars who are passionate about health, safety, and the environment. I'm excited to join a talented Board to support CPR's next phase of growth and impact."

The four new Board members join Robert Glicksman, Alice Kaswan, Thomas McGarity, Sidney Shapiro, Amy Sinden, and Robert Verchick, all CPR Member Scholars. More information and bios for all CPR Board members are available on the organization's website at <http://progressivereform.org/cprboard.cfm>.

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The Center for Progressive Reform is a network of more than 60 Member Scholars with a shared vision of thriving communities and a resilient planet. We drive policy reform with rigorous and accessible legal analysis designed for changemakers.

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