

**PETER ROBINSON**  
**STRAUS INSTITUTE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION**  
**PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90263**  
**(310) 506-4655**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR AND PROFESSOR OF LAW (2012 – PRESENT)**  
**ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR FINANCE, SCHOOL OF LAW, (2013-2015)**  
**MANAGING DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW (2005-2011)**  
**Associate Director and Assistant Professor of Law (1990-2004)**

Duties include:

- Direct the day-to-day dispute resolution program at the Straus Institute.
  
- The Straus Institute administers three academic programs: an LL.M., a Masters in Dispute Resolution, and a Certificate in Dispute Resolution.
  - During the 2012-2013 academic year the Institute will offer more than 40 courses with an enrollment of more than 800 students.
  - Many of the 200 students in the Straus academic programs are mid-career who have high expectations of student access and services.
  - Administration of the Straus academic programs includes:
    - Recruitment (Print advertisements, Posters, Internet Site and Visibility, Exhibits at dispute resolution and LL.M. trade events; and outreach to other graduate students at Pepperdine.);
    - Admissions;
    - Course planning and scheduling;
    - Recruiting and orienting visiting faculty;
    - Academic counseling for students;
    - Internship placement;
    - Thesis supervision; and
    - Career guidance and placement.
    - Alumni relations
  - I regularly teach the Negotiation, Mediation, Apology/Forgiveness/Reconciliation, and co-teach the London/Geneva courses.
  
- The Straus Institute also administers an array of continuing education skills workshops and conferences.
  - Annual events include:
    - Mediating the Litigated Case;
    - More than ten simultaneous workshops present together as the Professional Skills Program (attended by more than 250 last year);

Hosting Southern California Mediation Association's Conference;  
Managing Conflict and Change in the Church;  
-Periodic events include:  
The Masters Forum;  
Teaching Mediation in American Law Schools; and  
Dispute Resolution in Technology Driven Companies.  
-Administration of the continuing education skills workshops and  
conferences includes promotion, program planning, and recruiting and  
hosting faculty.

- Serve as faculty for the following professional skills training programs:

Mediating the Litigated Case

Faculty member for this six-day program to equip experienced attorneys and judges to mediate litigated cases.  
Annually since 1993.

Star: a Systematic Approach to Mediation Strategies

Lead faculty for this three-day program on introductory mediation skills.  
Annually since 1993.

- Coordinate international opportunities available to the Institute. Projects have included:

Mediation Skills for Dutch Attorneys

Lead faculty for five-day program in Amsterdam training approximately 25 Dutch attorneys and judges in mediation techniques.  
February 1995 and March 1996.

Mediation Skills for Argentine Lawyers

Lead faculty for this five-day program offered by the Institute in Los Angeles for about 45 Argentine lawyers in association with an Argentine mediation center. (This course was simultaneously translated into Spanish.)  
July and November 1995, 1996.

Indian Mediation Program

Administered a grant from the Asian Development Bank to train mediators and mediation trainers in three cities in India under the auspices of the Indian-based International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution. The Institute's proposal required payment of the maximum possible grant and was selected over proposals from universities and companies

in England, Italy, Australia, and the United States. As part of that project, I led five-day mediation skills workshops in Delhi and Hyderabad.

Spring, Summer, and Winter 1997.

Jewish Palestinian Mediation Program

Presented one six-day mediation skills training attended by 20 Jewish and 20 Palestinian lawyers and community leaders. The program was co-sponsored by and presented at Neve Shalom/Wahat al Salom in Israel and funded by the United States Information Agency.

Fall 1996 and Spring 1997.

Indonesian Consultation

Served on a team from Pepperdine University School of Law to explore dispute resolution solutions for international commercial disputes arising from foreign investments in Indonesia.

September 2000.

ABA Rule of Law Initiative in Jordan

Provided a five day mediation skills program for attorneys and judges affiliated with court annexed mediation programs. April 2007

•Serve as visiting faculty at other universities; projects have included:

Representing the Straus Institute on a collaborative Advanced Mediation program presented in conjunction with Harvard Faculty at Harvard Law School for Argentine attorneys. 1997.

Teaching MCLE programs at the Alabama State Dispute Resolution Conference organized by the Jones Law School at Faulkner University. 1999 and 2000.

Teaching a graduate level mediation or negotiation course for Abilene Christian University from 1999 to 2003.

Teaching a mediation course for Pan American Universidad in Guadalajara, Mexico. 2000.

Teaching a basic and advanced mediation course for Masters in Dispute Resolution program at the City University of Hong Kong. 2004

•Teach negotiation and mediation MCLE programs for off-campus constituencies; projects have included:

Teach in the “Mediation Skills for Judges” program for the ABA’s Judicial Section annually from 2000 to 2004.

Led a team of Straus adjuncts in teaching a five-day “Mediation Skills for Judges” program at least annually for California Judges under the auspices of the Center for Judicial Education and Research program of the Administrative Office of the Courts.  
1999 – 2007.

Teach the six-day Mediating the Litigated Case program for the Los Angeles Superior Court to attorneys serving on its mediation referral panel. (Participants in this program have a 70% resolution rate compared to 50% for others on the panel.)  
2001 – present.

Teach the six-day Mediating the Litigated Case program for the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California to attorneys serving on its mediation referral panel.  
2002.

Teach programs for private sector firms, including Loeb & Loeb, Lexis Nexis, Nationwide Insurance, Vulcan Materials, Greenberg and Bass, Tenet Healthcare, and Cox, Castle and Nicholson.  
1995 – present.

Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services (JAMS), the largest for profit dispute resolution service provider in the United States, entered into a collaborative relationship through which Pepperdine’s Institute provided dispute resolution training programs for JAMS/Endispute’s clients and staff. I provided usually two-day negotiation and mediation advocacy training programs for **Farmers Insurance** (throughout California, Dallas, Houston, Seattle, Portland, Denver, Chicago), **State Farm Insurance** (San Antonio,

Dallas, Austin, Atlanta, Fresno), **USAA Insurance** (Sacramento, Fairfax, VA, Norfolk, VA), **Maryland Casualty Insurance** (Sacramento, Hartford, Baltimore, Indianapolis), **Nationwide Insurance** (Washington, D.C., Richmond, Roanoke, Orlando), **Aetna Insurance** (Boston), **Allstate Insurance** (Walnut Creek), Plaintiff's attorneys in Sacramento, San Diego, and Los Angeles, **Coopers & Lybrand's** Litigation Support Section (Los Angeles and national training retreat in Oklahoma City) and the **State of Washington's Attorney General's** staff.  
1992 – 1996.

## **MEDIATION EXPERIENCE**

- Convened and mediated more than 300 disputes while serving as the full-time Director of the Christian Conciliation Service of Los Angeles (CCS). CCS offers a special mediation and arbitration program that integrates Scripture and prayer for disputing Christians. CCS also offers a traditional mediation program for the general public in association with the Los Angeles County and Municipal Courts in Van Nuys. CCS' program grew while I was director from an annual budget and caseload of \$8,000 and one case in 1984 to \$117,000 and 213 cases in 1989. During my tenure with CCS, I mediated over 300 legal disputes involving issues such as church construction projects, wrongful termination from Christian organizations, breach of contract, and the dissolution of business partnerships and marriages.  
January 1985 – May 1990.

- Received referrals approximately bi-monthly from Los Angeles or Ventura County Superior Courts or the Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. Cases have ranged from single two-party personal injury disputes to a toxic tort case with 60 defendants meeting over two years.  
1993 – 2002.

Received requests for private mediations approximately bi-monthly. I continue to mediate about once a quarter.  
2003 to present.

## **PUBLIC POLICY EXPERIENCE**

- \* Appointed by the Los Angeles City Attorney to mediate objections to a draft environmental impact report for a \$1.3 Billion project to build a football stadium and rebuild the Convention Center in Los Angeles.

- Serve as project director for a \$80,000 grant from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to develop a dispute systems design in the organized workplace initiative. The final report for the project was accepted and a pilot demonstration project successfully concluded.

- Served as convener for a dispute between the Burbank, Pasadena, Glendale Airport Authority and the City of Burbank regarding a proposal to expand the airport. My duties consisted of interviewing 15 elected city council members, 9 appointed airport commissioners, and a variety of community advocates framing the variety of disputed issues, identifying the parties necessary for a successful mediation, and assisting them in selecting a mediator. My report was accepted unanimously by the various state holders and a mediator was successfully selected.

- Member of the Western Justice Center project team designing ADR systems to be available to Southern California Association of Governments and its constituencies. The project was funded by the Haynes Foundation and involved integrating the concerns from more than 40 interviews with elected officials from five counties.

- Training programs for the Washington Attorney General's staff, the Human Resource Department at Los Alamos Laboratories, a project of the U.S. Department of Energy, the Snake River Adjudication Court Staff and Stakeholders, the Idaho Industrial Commission, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court judges and volunteer mediators for the Central District of California.

- Staff attorney with the Office of General Counsel for Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), a United States Government Agency from September 1980 to October 1982. The PBGC administers a pension plan insurance program created by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). My duties included assisting in program-related litigation regarding such issues as the termination date of certain pension plans and the recovery of damages from fiduciaries who breached their duties to terminated pension plans. I also assisted in litigation to defend the PBGC in EEO suits, drafted opinion letters interpreting Title IV of ERISA and the PBGC's regulations, reviewed proposed regulations, and drafted congressional testimony.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

*An Empirical Study of Settlement Conference Nuts and Bolts: Settlement Judges Facilitating Communication, Compromise, and Fear* 17 HARVARD NEGOTIATION LAW REVIEW 97 (2012)

*Opening Pandora's Box: An Empirical Exploration of Judicial Settlement Ethics and Techniques* 27 OHIO STATE JOURNAL ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION 53 (2012)

*Settlement Conference Judge – Legal Lion or Problem Solving Lamb: An Empirical Documentation of Judicial Settlement Conference Practices and Techniques*, 33 Am. J. Trial Advoc. 113 (2009)

*Adding Judicial Mediation to the Debate About Judges Attempting to Settle Cases Assigned to Them for Trial*, 2006 MO. J DISP RESOL 335 (2006)

*DyADS: Encouraging “Dynamic Adaptive Dispute Systems” in the Organized Workplace*, (with Arthur Pearlstein and Bernard Mayer) 10 Harvard Negotiation Law Review 339 (2005)

•*Centuries of Common Law Can’t Be All Wrong: Why the Uniform Mediation Act’s Exception to Mediation Confidentiality in Enforcement Proceedings Should Be Embraced and Broadened*, 2003 MO. J DISP RESOL. 135 (2003)

•*Public Sector Dispute Resolution in Local Governments: Lessons from the SCAG Project*, 1 PEPP. J. DISP. RESOL. 55 (2001), with Greg Ogden and Alana Knasten.

•*Mediation Confidential*, LOS ANGELES LAWYER, May 2001, at 28, with L. Randolph Lowry.

•*Teaching a New Paradigm: Must Knights Shed Their Swords and Armor to Enter Certain ADR Arenas?*, 1 CARDOZO ONLINE J. CONFLICT RESOL. (1999), at [www.cardozo.yu.edu/cojcr/final\\_site/symposia/vol\\_1\\_symposia/TNPtranscript.htm](http://www.cardozo.yu.edu/cojcr/final_site/symposia/vol_1_symposia/TNPtranscript.htm).

•*Avoiding Wolves in Sheep’s Clothing: A Cautiously Cooperative Approach to Mediation Advocacy*, 50 BAYLOR L. REV. 963 (1998).

•*Negotiating in a Mediation: The Winning Strategy*, CALIFORNIA LITIGATION, a publication of the Litigation Section of the California Bar Association, Spring 1996.

•*Understanding the Competitive Negotiation Dynamic in Mediation*, cover story for the ADVOCATE, a publication of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, November 1995.

## **HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

•Designated a “Southern California Super Lawyer” in mediation and arbitration periodically from 2006 to present.

•Member Board of Directors, California Dispute Resolution Council, 2005 – 2007.

•Member of the Board of Directors, Dispute Resolution Services program of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, 2005 – 2008.

•Fellow, International Academy of Mediators, 2003- present.

•Member, American College of Civil Trial Mediators. 2006 - present

•Member of the Board of Directors, Ventura Center for Dispute Settlement, 1990 – 2003.

- Peacemaker of the Year Award, Southern California Mediation Association, 2000.
- Member of the Public Policy Dispute Resolution Consortium of the Western Justice Center Foundation, 1994 – 1997.
- Member of the Board of Directors, Southern California Mediation Association, 1994 – 1995, 1991 – 1993.
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Dispute Resolution Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, 1994.
- President of the Board of Directors, Christian Conciliation Service of Los Angeles, 1990 – 1991.
- Member, California Bar Association, 1980 – present.

## **EDUCATION**

- Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco, California  
Juris Doctor awarded May 1980.
- University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California  
B.A. June 1977, major in economics.  
Graduated magna cum laude.

### **Presentations at National Conferences**

Made presentations at the ABA's annual Dispute Resolution Section Conference every year since 2002. Topics have included:

- i. Pre Conference Skills Training Session: Getting to the Heart of the Matter in Mediation -How to Add Value and Satisfaction by Exposing and Acknowledging What is Hidden Beneath the Surface.
- ii. Mediator Techniques for Capturing the Human Dimension in a Mediated Litigated Case.
- iii. The Use and Misuse of Apology in Mediation.