[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Risa M. Mish**

116 Irving Place, Ithaca, NY 14850 607-351-3415 rmm22@cornell.edu

**Experienced professor and global keynote speaker focused on critical and strategic thinking, leadership, and influence:** using 30+ years’ experience as a litigator, I help MBA and Executive MBA students, corporate and non-profit clients hone critical thinking, problem solving, and leadership skills so that they are able to influence with positive impact – no matter how complex the challenges that they, their teams and/or their organizations are facing.

# *Education*

Cornell Law School, Ithaca, NY – Juris Doctor (JD) With Honors; Note Editor, *Cornell International Law Journal*

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY – Bachelor of Science With Distinction in All Subjects; Merrill Presidential Scholar

***Teaching Experience***

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, S.C. JOHNSON GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (6/07-present)

## Professor of the Practice of Management

* Created and teach the MBA, EMBA, and EMBAA Core “Critical and Strategic Thinking” course and MBA “Advanced Critical Thinking” elective
* Created and taught the Cornell-Tsinghua FMBA Core course in Critical and Strategic Thinking
* Created and taught EMBA “Building Leadership Influence” elective course
* Created and taught “Johnson Team Leadership Practicum” course to all 1st year MBA students (2008-17)
* Created and taught “Johnson Leadership Fellows” course (2009-2017)
* Developed eCornell courses in “Problem-Solving Using Critical Thinking”, “Motivating People for High Performance”, and “Growth Leadership for Women Entrepreneurs”
* Teach Executive Education sessions on Critical Thinking, Persuasion and Influence, and Leadership for companies/executives in a wide variety of industries, including financial services, consumer packaged goods, technology, professional services, pharmaceuticals, fashion, hospitality, and health care
* Founding Faculty Director, Johnson Leadership Fellows and Johnson Board Fellows Programs
* **Teaching Honors and Awards:**
  + Cornell University Provost’s Award for Graduate and Professional Teaching Excellence (2020)
  + Earl Hill, Jr. Faculty Achievement & Diversity Leadership Award, Consortium GSM (2024)
  + MBA Apple Award for Teaching Excellence (2009, 2017)
  + MBA Core Faculty Teaching Excellence Award (2017, 2019, 2024)
  + Accelerated MBA Core Faculty Teaching Excellence Award (2020)
  + Executive MBA Globe Award for Teaching Excellence (2014, 2017, 2023)
  + Executive MBA of The Americas Star Award for Excellence in Teaching (2020)
  + Cornell-Tsinghua FMBA Program Best Teacher Award (2018) and Gravitas Award (2024)
  + Stephen Russell’61 Distinguished Teaching Award (2013, 2019, 2022, 2024)
  + eCornell Trailblazer Award (2018)
  + Teaching Honor Roll(4.5+/5 instructor course evaluations) (2007-present)
* **Faculty Service:** 
  + Faculty Advisor, Access Johnson (2023-present)
  + Faculty Advisor, Black Graduate Business Association (2008-present)
  + Faculty Advisor, Human Capital Association (2008-present)
  + Faculty Advisor, Out for Business (2008-present)
  + Faculty Advisor, Women’s Management Council (2021-present)
  + Johnson Academic Integrity Committee (Member, 2020-22; Chair, 2023-present)
  + Cornell Faculty Senate, Nominations and Elections Committee (2023-present)
  + Cornell University – Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellows Selection Committee (2022-24)
  + Faculty Liaison, Cornell University Council Administrative Board (2014-17)
  + Johnson MBA Program Committee (2015-18)

***Litigation and Management Experience***

Represented companies and non-profit organizations in the financial services, consumer products, health care, and media industries on labor and employment litigation matters in federal and state court; adjudication of complaints filed with federal and state administrative agencies; arbitration of claims arising under union collective bargaining agreements; negotiation of settlement agreements and collective bargaining agreements; drafting of contracts and employment policies; and ongoing legal advice needs.

As a partner in a labor and employment law firm, developed significant new business; oversaw client engagements; recruited, trained, and supervised associates; and created and grew a management training practice focused on helping clients minimize legal risks related to employee, union, and independent contractor issues.

* Bar Admissions: U.S. Supreme Court; New York, 1st Appellate Division; Massachusetts
* Federal Clerkship: Law Clerk to the Hon. Martin L.C. Feldman, U.S. District Court, New Orleans, LA (1988-89)
* SIMPSON THACHER, New York City, 1989-92, Associate
* COLLAZO CARLING & MISH LLP, New York City, 1992-2001, Partner/Hiring Partner
* RISA M. MISH, ESQ, Ithaca, NY, 2001-2018, Principal

***Board Service***

* SMITHBUCKLIN CORPORATION, Chicago, IL – Director (2013-present); Nominating and Governance and Compensation Committees
* THERACARE CORPORATION, New York, NY – Director (2014-2020)
* TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Ithaca, NY - Trustee (2015-17)
* UNITED WAY OF TOMPKINS COUNTY, Ithaca, NY – Board of Directors (2014-17)
* COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF TOMPKINS COUNTY, Ithaca, NY – Director, Vice-Chair (2010-13)
* KITCHEN THEATRE, Ithaca, NY – Board of Directors (2009-14)

***Professional Associations***

* AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION – Member (1989-Present); Judicial Intern Opportunity Program interviewer (2016-present)
* PRIVATE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION – Member (2021 – Present)

***Publications***

* “Better Board Decisions: The Power of Critical Thinking”, *BoardForward,* 11/2013
* *Regarded as Disabled Claims Under the Americans with Disabilities Act”,* 1 University of Pennsylvania Journal of Labor and Employment Law 159
* Contributing Editor, *An Employee’s Duty of Loyalty, a State-by-State Survey* (BNA)
* Contributing Editor, *Covenants Not to Compete, a State-by-State Survey* (BNA)

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