

## Meet the instructors of ... Basic Training



### *Rita Pollak, JD*

**Rita Pollak** is an experienced Collaborative family law attorney, trainer, teacher and mediator. She is Past-President of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP) and was co-founder and the first two-term President of the Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council (MCLC). She is also Past-President of the Massachusetts chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC).

Before becoming an attorney, Rita was a teacher for 10 years, and she has continued her love of teaching by guest lecturing at her alma mater New England Law | Boston, at Brandeis University and many other venues, and by designing and offering Collaborative trainings with Dr. Cathy Heenan, a psychologist and Collaborative coach.

Rita has been a mediator for 25 years, adding that option to her legal practice, and has been on the Board and Faculty of mediation trainings at Community Dispute Settlement Center in Cambridge, MA.

Rita was named *Best Lawyer in America in Collaborative Family Law* in 2008, 2009 and 2010, as well as one of the *Best Lawyers in Boston in Collaborative Law* in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

# *Meet the instructors of ... Basic Training*



*Donna Smalldon, MBA, CDFA™, CFP®*

**Donna Smalldon** is a financial planning professional who specializes in the financial implications of divorce.

In her two decades in practice, Smalldon has acquired both Certified Financial Planner™ and Certified Divorce Financial Analyst designations. She earned her Bachelors in Social Ecology and her Masters in Business Administration from the University of California, Irvine, and is trained in divorce mediation.

Smalldon is a public speaker and appears on area television and radio to discuss the financial planning aspects of divorce. A contributing writer on divorce issues, Smalldon is also active in community affairs as a Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Portland.

# *Meet the instructors of ... Basic Training*



## *Yuval Berger, MSW, RSW*

**Yuval Berger** brings with him 20 years of clinical experience as a relationship and child therapist. Trained in the tradition of Attachment theory, Yuval joined the Vancouver Collaborative group in 2002 and since then has been an active participant.

Yuval is an associate of the Collaborative Center in Vancouver, a joint private venture of family lawyers and mental health professionals practicing Collaborative Process. Yuval has taught basic, intermediate and advanced Interdisciplinary CP courses in Vancouver, England, Scotland, the US and Israel.

Yuval was part of a team which facilitated the 'Train the Trainers' seminar in the Minneapolis Forum 2009.

Yuval is a registered social worker in the province of British Columbia who has been approved for private practice in the area of child and youth counseling, marriage and family counseling and Collaborative Divorce. He completed his graduate degree at McGill University in Montreal in the Area of Family and Youth counseling.

# *Meet the instructor of ... The Impact of Culture and Gender on Communication and Negotiation: Practical Skills for More Effective Collaboration*



*Nina Meierding, MS, JD*

**Nina Meierding** has assisted in the resolution of thousands of disputes and has conducted training throughout the world, including Canada, Sweden, Ireland, England, Scotland, the Netherlands and India. She has consulted and trained many groups—including court systems, corporations, medical agencies, governmental agencies, small and large business entities, and individuals in the areas of conflict resolution, cross cultural issues, management skills and negotiation skills.

Nina is an Adjunct Professor at Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, California (courses in Negotiation, Domestic Relations Dispute Resolution, Advanced Mediation, and Cross Cultural Issues in Dispute Resolution), in both Southern Methodist University's Dispute Resolution program in Dallas, Texas (courses in Gender and Culture, Mediation, Advanced Negotiation, Advanced Family Mediation, Divorce Mediation) as well as SMU's Counseling program (Counseling Diverse Communities), and at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee (Cross Cultural Issues in Dispute Resolution). She has been a guest instructor at many other universities and law schools. Nina has also been an instructor at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada and the California Judicial College, and has been a plenary speaker and presented workshops at judicial and state bar conferences.

She is a Past President of the Academy of Family Mediators, has served on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Association for Conflict Resolution, and has also served on the boards of the Southern California Mediation Association, the Ventura County Bar Association, and the California Dispute Resolution Institute. She was awarded the Peacemaker Award in 1992 by the Southern California Mediation Association for her outstanding work in the conflict resolution field. In 2005 she was awarded the the John Haynes Distinguished Mediator Award which is an international award given annually by the Association for Conflict Resolution.

# Meet the instructors of ... Effective Advocacy in Collaborative Practice



## *Nancy Cameron, Q.C.*

**Nancy Cameron** is a family law practitioner, writer and educator. She was one of the co-founders (in 1999) of the Vancouver interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice group. She served 6 years on the IACP Board of Directors, from 1995 through 2010, and was President of IACP in 2009. Nancy has written a book on Collaborative Practice called *Collaborative Practice: Deepening the Dialogue*. She has also written and trained extensively in the Collaborative Practice model, winning her the ACLEA Best Programming award in 2001.

Nancy has been a speaker and trainer in the area of Collaborative Practice to groups in North America, Australia, Europe and Hong Kong. She spent three years as an adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia Law School teaching a course in Collaborative Practice.

She has confined her practice to mediation and Collaborative Practice and currently limits her trainings to advanced Collaborative trainings and mediation training.

# Meet the instructors of ... Effective Advocacy in Collaborative Practice



## *Julie Macfarlane, Ph.D.*

**Julie Macfarlane** is Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Windsor. She has researched and written extensively on dispute resolution and in particular the role of lawyers. Her new book *The New Lawyer: How Settlement is Transforming the Practice of Law* is published by UBC Press. Her current funded research examines the use of Islamic family law principles and values in divorce processes conducted by third parties in North American mosques. She has conducted skills-based training for lawyers all over the world for more than 20 years. Julie is an active mediator, and also consults regularly on conflict resolution interventions, training, program evaluation and systems design for a range of public and private sector clients.

She has special expertise in dispute resolution program evaluation and conducts qualitative research on various aspects of the impact of conflict resolution on professional and community practices. In 2005 she was the first Canadian recipient of the International Academy of Mediators' Award of Excellence, presented annually to an individual mediation practitioner.

Julie has been appointed on three occasions to report to the Canadian government (both federal and provincial levels) on dispute resolution policies and programs, and her work has been relied upon in the formulation of dispute resolution policy including legislation and rules of civil procedure. In 2003, she was Virtual Scholar in Residence at the Law Commission of Canada and was the principal author of the Law Commissioner's 2003 policy paper "Transforming relationships through participatory justice", presented to the Minister of Justice.

# *Meet the instructors of ...*

## *Brains Matter: The Art and Science of Using the Mind in Conflict*



### *Jennifer Kresge, LMFC*

**Jennifer Kresge** has undergraduate and graduate degrees in psychology and a Masters of Governance certification. A mediator for over twenty-six years, she has mediated over 2,000 cases with a variety of disputes, resulting in expert awareness of the complexities of dispute resolution.

Jennifer is a mediator and trainer of negotiation and mediation programs as well as an innovator in the integration of neuroscience into the field of psychology, negotiation and conflict resolution. She provides training in mediation and neuroscience nationally and internationally. She has been an adjunct professor in both the private and public sector, including Loma Linda University, the AOC, Southern Methodist University, and Pepperdine School of Law. Past President of the California County Boards of Education, in addition to initiating the development of a Strategic Plan for the Boards of Education, she was one of three state county board members selected to serve on the legislative public policy making committee of California.

Jennifer is the liaison for Napa Superior Court's Peer Court and Restorative Justice Programs is President of the Association for Dispute Resolution of Northern California, an Advanced Practitioner/Trainer member of the Association for Conflict Resolution, a member of the Legislative and Public Policy Committee of ACR, and the Napa Valley Leadership Council. For the past nine years, Jennifer has been involved in neuroscience research, and is a member of the Brainy Bunch. She feels passionate about understanding brain research and its implications for purposeful thought and creating change.

# *Meet the instructor of ...*

## *Nuts, Bolts and Clouds: Innovative Practice Management for Collaborative Professionals*



### *Jim Calloway, JD*

**Jim Calloway** is the Director of the Oklahoma Bar Association Management Assistance Program. He publishes the award-winning weblog Jim Calloway's Law Practice Tips at <http://jimcalloway.typepad.com> and has served as co-author of three American Bar Association books on law practice management, *How Good Lawyers Survive Bad Times* (with Ross Kodner and Sharon Nelson) and *Winning Alternatives to the Billable Hour: Strategies That Work*, Second and Third Editions (with Mark Robertson).

Mr. Calloway also produces, with Sharon Nelson, the monthly podcast, *The Digital Edge: Lawyers and Technology*. This monthly podcast covers a number of legal technology issues and can be downloaded from [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org) or from iTunes.

Mr. Calloway is a member of the American Bar Association where he served as chair of the ABA TECHSHOW 2005 Board, after serving on the TECHSHOW board for three previous years. He is also an active member of the ABA's General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division, where he serves on the Technology committee and Technology & Practice Guide Editorial Board.

He has made hundreds of presentations on law office management, legal technology, ethics and legal business operations and has been inducted as a Fellow of the College of Law Practice Management.

Mr. Calloway is also a member of the National Association of Bar Executives where he has chaired its Website Committee, Knowledge Management Committee and Member Services Forum.

# *Meet the instructors of ... A Headstart Program for Collaborative Practice Trainers: Using the IACP Basic Training Curriculum*



## *Diane Diel, JD*

**Diane Diel** is the Past President of the IACP, where she has served as the Chair of the Professional Development Committee and the Standards and Ethics Committee. She is a frequent trainer and speaker on Collaborative Practice and on ethical topics.

Diane received her JD degree in 1976, graduating with honors (cum laude); received American Jurisprudence award in Constitutional law; received first annual Constitutional Law Prize; on staff of Wisconsin Law Review; Legal Writing Teaching Assistant.

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**Susan Miller, MA, CPA, CDFA™, CFP®**

**Susan Miller** has been providing financial planning, tax, and investment advice to individuals, small business owners and non-profit organizations for over 20 years.

Susan's expertise is in helping individuals navigate life's transitions such as retirement, job changes, marital changes and widowhood. In 2001, she founded Aurora Financial Advisors, LLC (AFA). Prior to AFA, Susan co-founded another financial planning firm and has been associated with a number of other accounting and financial planning firms.

Susan is a trained mediator and provides financial mediation in business and marital disputes. She currently serves on the Civil Committee of International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP) and is co-chair of the Family Law Practice Group of the Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council (MCLC), which is dedicated to the non-adversarial practice of law using third-party neutrals, such as financial professionals.

In addition to working one-on-one with clients, lawyers and mediators, Susan presents seminars on IRA Distribution Issues, Financial Issues in Divorce, Financial Planning For Women, Charitable and Planned Giving Strategies, and Stock Option Strategies For Individuals. She has been quoted in a number of financial publications, including *The Journal of Financial Planning* and *The Financial Planning Association's Solutions Magazine*.

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## *Nancy J. Ross, LCSW, BCD*

**Nancy J. Ross** is a co-founder of the Collaborative Divorce Interdisciplinary concept and principal of Bauer, Shepherd & Ross & Associates, a group psychotherapy practice in Cupertino, California. As a clinician for over 30 years, she has specialized in couples and family therapy. Currently, over 80% of her practice is dedicated to Collaborative work. She is a divorce coach and mediator for both custody and post-divorce issues.

A founding member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP), she helped to develop the Ethics and Training Standards for IACP. In 2007, Collaborative Practice California awarded her the Eureka Award for her contributions to California Collaborative Practice. She is a Certified Interpersonal Communications Trainer, training work teams, Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice teams and practice groups in effective teamwork.

She conducts trainings with Collaborative Practice Silicon Valley Trainers, introducing lawyers to the role of Coaches and Child Specialist in Collaborative Practice. With her Santa Clara colleagues, she has taught Collaborative Practice at Santa Clara University School of Law. A co-author of *Divorce: A Problem to Be Solved, Not a Battle to Be Fought* and author of numerous articles on Collaborative Divorce, she continues to teach and train in the Collaborative Divorce model with Collaborative Divorce Team Trainings and present the concepts both nationally and internationally.