

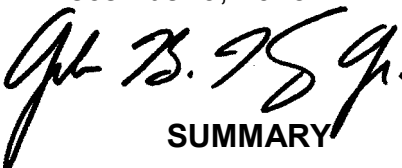
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY,  
NY 12234

**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** Kevin G. Smith 

**SUBJECT:** Appointments to the New York State  
Independent Living Council, Inc.

**DATE:** December 9, 2013

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**   
SUMMARY

**Issue for Consent Agenda**

Vacancies have occurred on the New York State Independent Living Council, Inc. (NYSILC). Should the Regents approve the proposed appointments and reappointments of members to NYSILC?

**Reason(s) for Consideration**

The 1992 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act require the Board of Regents to appoint members to the New York State Independent Living Council, Inc.

**Proposed Handling**

This item will come before the Full Board at its December 2013 meeting.

**Procedural History**

Each year, as vacancies occur, the Board of Regents approves recommendations to fill such vacancies.

**Background Information**

Information on the proposed appointees is noted in Attachment 1 and a list of the entire NYSILC is noted in Attachment 2.

## **Recommendation**

**VOTED:** that Zachary Garafalo be appointed for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2016.

**VOTED:** that Roger Benn be appointed for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2015.

**VOTED:** that Henry Nixon be appointed for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014.

**VOTED:** Chad Underwood, Shelley Klein, Julie Cardone, and Brett Eisenberg be reappointed for a second three-year term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2016.

**VOTED:** that Marc Rosen and Nicole David be reappointed for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2016.

## **Timetable for Implementation**

Upon approval by the Regents of the recommended candidates, appointments will go into effect January 1, 2014.

**New York State Independent Living Council, Inc.  
(New Appointments)**

ACCES is recommending three new appointments and six reappointments resulting from expiring terms of existing members.

**Roger Benn**

55 Farnham Street  
Cazenovia, NY 13035  
(315) 569-3654  
[rogerbenn1@gmail.com](mailto:rogerbenn1@gmail.com)

- Serves on the board of directors for Heritage Farms, LLC. This organization provides services to adults with developmental disabilities, as an agricultural program that provides: day habilitation, respite, recreation, job training, and adult programming.
- Served as the chairperson of the Madison County Mental Health and Community Services Board Mental Health Subcommittee from 1997 to April 2013.
- Former member of the National Association of the Deaf.

**Zachary Garafalo**

737 Madison Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208  
(518) 708-9930  
[zgarafalo@youthpowerny.org](mailto:zgarafalo@youthpowerny.org)

- Assistant Director of Youth Power! Youth Power! is the New York State network of young people who have been labeled and are seeking change.
- Has run the Ready to Achieve Mentoring Program (RAMP), a high-tech, career focused mentoring program for youth with disabilities who are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.
- Presented to United States Department of State delegations of young people from Belarus and transition-aged youth from the Netherlands.

**Henry Nixon**

1791 Bruckner Boulevard, Suite # 1G  
Bronx, NY 10472  
(718) 589-5102  
[mrhenrynixon@aol.com](mailto:mrhenrynixon@aol.com)

- Worked with the Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz Jr., to address some of the challenges that both exist, and hinder, the ability of the disabled to fully engage their lives.
- Program organizational consultant for multiple human service agencies in New York City.
- Worked for Latino Pastoral Action Center, Inc. as Director of Programs.

**New York State Independent Living Council, Inc.  
(Term Expirations)**

**Center for Independent Living Director**

2014 Denise A. Figueroa (Chair), 1064 New Loudon Road, Cohoes, NY 12047, (518) 785-8295, E-mail: [dfigueroa@ilchv.org](mailto:dfigueroa@ilchv.org)

**Representatives from Centers for Independent Living**

2016 Chad Underwood (Treasurer), Access to Independence of Cortland County, 26 N. Main Street, Cortland, NY 13045, (607) 753-7363 V & TTY, (607) 756-4884 Fax, E-mail: [cwunderwood@aticortland.org](mailto:cwunderwood@aticortland.org)

2014 Susan Hoger, Resource Center for Accessible Living, 727 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401, (845) 331-0541, (845) 331-2076 Fax, E-mail: [shoger@rcal.org](mailto:shoger@rcal.org)

2014 Susan Ruff, Advocacy Director, Southern Tier Independence Center, 135 East Frederick Street, Binghamton, NY 13904, (607) 724-2111 V & TTY, (607) 722-3600 Fax, E-mail: [advocate@stic-cil.org](mailto:advocate@stic-cil.org)

**Advocates for Individuals with Disabilities**

2014 Kenneth L. Stewart, 34 Points of View, Warwick, NY 10990, (845) 986-2955, E-mail: [cclvi@yahoo.com](mailto:cclvi@yahoo.com)

2016 Brett Eisenberg, Executive Director, Bronx Independent Living Services, Inc., 4419 Third Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457, (718) 515-2800 ext. 116, E-mail: [brett@bils.org](mailto:brett@bils.org)

2014 Helen Fang, PO Box 980, New York, NY 10013, (917) 957-1871, E-mail: [hfang88@gmail.com](mailto:hfang88@gmail.com)

2014 Maura Kelley, Western New York Independent Living, 3108 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14214, (716) 836-0822 ext. 162, E-mail: [mkelley@wnyil.org](mailto:mkelley@wnyil.org)

2016 Shelley Klein, Ph.D., 227 Norman Road, New Rochelle, NY 10804, (914) 632-4916, E-mail: [accwest@aol.com](mailto:accwest@aol.com)

2015 Carla Lewis-Irizarry, 147 Fifth Avenue, Apt. 4-A, Brooklyn, NY 11217, (917) 346-7611, E-mail: [carlalewis34@gmail.com](mailto:carlalewis34@gmail.com)

## **Representatives of Service Organizations for Individuals with Disabilities**

- 2016 Kari Cooke, M.A., CRC, Center for Disability Rights, Inc., One Commerce Plaza, Suite 806-B, Albany, NY 12210, (212) 781-8309, E-mail: [kcooke@cdrnys.org](mailto:kcooke@cdrnys.org)
- 2014 Wendy Strobel (Member-at-Large), MS, CRC, ATP, Faculty, DBTAC Northeast ADA Center, 203 ILR Extension Bldg., Ithaca, NY 14853, (716) 713-6038, E-mail: [ws283@cornell.edu](mailto:ws283@cornell.edu)
- 2015 Susan (Storms) Gray (Vice Chair), 8135 Shepherd Road, Weedsport, NY 13166, (315) 730-6845, E-mail: [scsrcg09@gmail.com](mailto:scsrcg09@gmail.com)
- 2014 Luis Gutierrez, 670 Water Street, Apt. 5A, New York, NY 10002, (347) 614-8221, E-mail: [lui3185@aol.com](mailto:lui3185@aol.com)

## **Parent/Guardian of an Individual with a Disability**

- 2015 Lynn Drucker, Director of Development, Winthrop University Hospital, 1406 Van Nostrand Place Merrick, NY 11566, (516) 426-0358, E-mail: [lynndrucker@verizon.net](mailto:lynndrucker@verizon.net)
- 2015 David Whalen, Disability Awareness Trainer/Consultant, 74 Fleetwood, Williamsville, NY 14221, (716) 565-9338, E-mail: [davidvwhalen@yahoo.com](mailto:davidvwhalen@yahoo.com)

## **Native American Section 121 Project Representative**

- 2015 Nicole David, PO Box 362, Rooseveltown, NY 13683, (518) 358-6176, E-mail: [Nicole.david@srmt-nsn.gov](mailto:Nicole.david@srmt-nsn.gov)

## **Youth Representative**

- 2016 Marc Rosen, 241 Walnut Road, Glen Cove, NY 11542, (516) 458-2161, E-mail: [marc.rosen88@gmail.com](mailto:marc.rosen88@gmail.com)

## **Other Appropriate Individuals**

- 2014 Ralph Giordano, 51 Creekside Circle, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033-3206, (518) 477-7235, E-mail: [rgio12@msn.com](mailto:rgio12@msn.com)
- 2014 Henry Nixon, 1791 Bruckner Boulevard, Apt. # 1-G, Bronx, NY 10472, (917) 450-3634, E-mail: [mrhenrynixon@aol.com](mailto:mrhenrynixon@aol.com)
- 2014 Clinton Brown III, 22 California Street, Hicksville, NY 11801, (516) 343-3600, E-mail: [clintonhowardbrown@gmail.com](mailto:clintonhowardbrown@gmail.com)
- 2016 Zachery Garafalo, 737 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12208, (518) 708-9930, E-mail: [zgarafalo@youthpowerny.org](mailto:zgarafalo@youthpowerny.org)

## **Business**

2015 Roger Benn, 55 Farnham Street, Cazenovia, NY 13035, (315) 569-3654, E-mail: [rogerbenn1@gmail.com](mailto:rogerbenn1@gmail.com)

## **Ex Officio (DSU)**

2014 Robert Gumson, Manager, Independent Living Program, New York State Education Department, ACCES-VR, 99 Washington Avenue, Rm.1605, Albany, NY 12234, (518) 474-2925, (518) 473-6073 Fax E-mail: [rgumson@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:rgumson@mail.nysed.gov)

2016 Julie Cardone CRC, Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, New York State Office of Children and Family Services, New York State Commission for the Blind, 843 Union Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 200, New Windsor, NY 12553, (646) 660-1789, E-mail: [julie.cardone@ocfs.ny.us](mailto:julie.cardone@ocfs.ny.us)