



New York Minute

October 2021

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The Perfect Wave Driving ESG

Hello everyone! We here at NIRI NY hope that you're all well and keeping safe.

These days you can't turn around without running into another article, event, or investment vehicle centered around ESG policies and impact investing. At the same time, we consistently hear that investors, analysts, and IROs are increasingly facing the issue of what to do about ESG reporting – how to create a program around it, how to interpret the myriad ratings (which are not always consistent!), and how to build an investing platform centered on ESG.

An ESG framework has steadily gained traction in recent years. Adopted earlier internationally than in the U.S. – it's unclear whether the current wave of enthusiasm around ESG and impact strategies would have reached similar levels as quickly under different circumstances.

Had we not been sitting at home during a global pandemic, witnessing the events of the past few years, including (but not limited to) the #metoo movement,

PARTNER PERSPECTIVE



2021 Guide to Effective Proxies:

In the current environment of Say on Pay, heightened shareholder activism and intensifying interest in ESG, human capital, and sustainability, clearly and credibly communicating these expanding yet inter-related stories through company proxy statements, annual reports, sustainability reports, and other channels is rapidly moving past a "nice to have" to an imperative. IROs can play a significant role in helping their companies clearly articulate

#blacklivesmatter, and volatile weather conditions driving an accelerated discussion around climate change, perhaps things would be different.

At NIRI, we wholeheartedly support greater transparency (hopefully leading to more significant action) into public companies' approach to ESG. At the same time, with multiple ESG disclosure methodologies in use and a continuously changing landscape as regulatory bodies (SEC, etc.) pay more attention, it is also challenging for IROs and ESG professionals (who are in high demand these days!). Even if we agree philosophically, the how and what of getting there is sure to be a bumpy ride.

In the hopes of addressing these concerns, NIRI NY will be hosting a virtual panel discussion on **Monday, November 15** ([Peer-to-Peer: ESG Insights for IROs](#)), with peer ESG experts aimed at helping our members navigate the alphabet soup of ESG and implement their corporate programs. We look forward to seeing all of you virtually to discuss this very topical and important subject.

In further news, we're continuing our [Member Spotlight](#) feature below, with *Vanessa Quarantello*, VP, US Corporate Access Originator, Berenberg Capital Markets LLC!

Finally, please send us your thoughts, questions, and ideas to programs@niriny.org as we think about ways to continue engaging members through a semi-remote environment.

As always, I would encourage you to stay connected with the NIRI NY chapter by following us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and checking out the latest information on our [website](#).



Best,
MaryKate McGilley

these stories, consistently across documents and media. Donnelley Financial Solutions (DFIN)'s 2021 guide shows where this communications bar is heading, which also drives investor expectations. You can access the Guide on a complimentary basis [here](#).


UPCOMING EVENTS

Virtual Panel: Peer-to-Peer: ESG Insights for IROs

Monday, November 15

5:00PM – 6:00PM ET

Register [here](#)

Sponsored by  Nasdaq

NIRI NextGen

November 2021

In-person, Outdoor Meet-up

Stay tuned for more details!

[See entire calendar](#)

WELCOME NEW

MEMBERS!

- [Jake Jeoun](#), **Interpublic Group**
- [Louis Fanzini](#), **MISTRAS Group**
- [Russ Bloomfield](#), **PJT Partners**
- [Trang Watson](#), **Yext**

President, NIRI New York Chapter
president@niriny.org

Find us here: [NIRI NY Board](#) and [NextGen Committee](#)



Member Spotlight

Vanessa Quarantello, VP, US Corporate Access Originator at *Berenberg Capital Markets LLC*, joins us for our second **Member Spotlight!** Here are a few snippets from our conversation. The full profile can be found [here](#).

"My role is diverse, and I primarily focus on creating meaningful connections between innovative management and IR teams and global institutional investors as a corporate access originator at Berenberg Capital Markets."

"Patience, persistence, transparency, and effective communication consistently serve me well both personally and professionally."

"I'm a native San Diegan and was home on the west coast for about four years after living in NYC for 12 years. While in California, I did a 180-degree professional turn and started a Breathwork meditation and holistic wellness practice for individuals, groups, and corporations. COVID had a huge impact on how I view the ways I contribute to the world, and I felt a return to banking was a way to bring a refreshed sensibility to corporate access."



Update

NIRI NextGen is excited to announce it will be hosting the first in-person, outdoor meet-up in over a year to kick off the new season. Stay tuned for more details!

If you are interested in helping the NIRI NextGen committee or have program ideas, please contact Emily Mohr, President, NIRI NY NextGen, at nirinextgen@niriny.org.



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