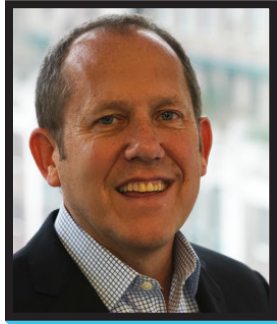


David H. Steward

Cornell degree: AB '79 (A&S)



What inspired you to accept the nomination to serve on this year's ballot?

Through my work on Cornell Alumni Magazine, the new Cornellians alumni portal, and Cornell Pride, I've delighted in connecting fellow alumni to our time as students, the experience of students today, and the great work being done by our faculty.

Cornell was such a great place for me to grow as a young man. I would relish the opportunity to further leverage my business and nonprofit leadership know-how to help the university expand and better serve future generations of students.

What does "to do the greatest good" mean to you personally, and in terms of your service to Cornell?

My Cornell education and student experience not only enabled me to succeed in business, but also to serve Cornell and several other nonprofit institutions that help make our world a bit better. So many Cornellians I have met over the years have not only succeeded in their many fields of endeavor, but also given back to their communities. Cornellians are people who care and give back, and I am so proud to be a part of that tradition.

How can the Board of Trustees support Cornell's founding principle of "... any person ... any study?"

As a prospective student, I was attracted by Cornell's wide range of academic offerings. I did not yet know what I wanted to be "when I grow up" and Cornell was the perfect place for me to explore so many diverse areas of instruction. The board provides both strategic direction and resource allocation for university priorities. The board must enable Cornell students to become leaders of an increasingly complex world by continuing to evolve our curricula with world class faculty, while attracting and nurturing an ever more diverse student body.

What is the single most important issue the Cornell University Board of Trustees can address?

We live in a divided world; at Cornell, we need to create an environment where we can not only live together, but where all are encouraged to passionately share their ideas and points of view while truly listening to those of others.

Professional experience:

- Overlook Enterprises, managing director, 2008–present
- Overlook Farms, partner, 2018–present
- Shermans Travel, CEO, 2012–2016; Board of Directors, 2010–2016
- 20x200, a division of Jen Bekman Enterprises, president and COO, 2010–2012; COO (fractional), 2013–present
- International Masters Publishers (IMP), CEO North America, 2001–2004
- *TV Guide*, a division of News Corporation, president, 1997–1999
- *Martha Stewart Living*, COO and president of publishing, 1989–1997
- Time Warner, various positions, 1985–1989

Alumni service:

- Cornell University Council, Engagement Committee vice chair, 2023–present; Administrative Board member, 2022–present; member, 2020–present, 2014–2018
- *Cornellians* Alumni Advisory Council, member, 2022–present; Ad Hoc Committee on Alumni Publications, member, 2020–2022
- *Cornell Alumni Magazine* Committee, member, 2017–2021; Task Force member, 2016–2017
- Steven W. Siegel '68 Award recipient, 2022
- Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network (CAAAN), member, 2018–present
- Cornell Mosaic, member at large, 2018–2023
- Cornell University Pride LGBTQIA+ Alumni Association, Strategic Planning chair, 2016–2017; board member, 2014–2016; Development Committee chair, 2013–2016; Governance Committee chair, secretary, 2015–2016; secretary, 2014–2015
- Class of 1979 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, 2009

Community/public service/philanthropic priorities:

- The Executive Forum, co-chair New Products and Business Development Committee, 2020–2022; co-chair Member Engagement Platform Committee, 2019–2020; Board of Directors, 2019–2022; Robert C. Sloan Award for Outstanding Contribution, 2020; member, 2004–present
- Slow Food New York State, Board of Directors, secretary and member, 2019–2022
- Slow Food East End, strategy consultant, 2017–present
- Point Foundation, co-chair Board of Directors, 2009–2012; committee chair, 2005–2012; emeritus board member, 2012–present
- GLAAD, co-chair Board of Directors, 2001–2003; committee chair, 1998–2001; Board of Directors, 1998–2003
- *Out Magazine* 100, 1999
- PFLAG NYC Stay Close Leadership Award, 2010
- Advertising Hall of Achievement, inductee, 1997
- Advertising Age, *The Marketing* 100, 1995

Other education:

- MBA, Booth School of Business, University of Chicago, 1985

Student involvements/activities:

- Watermargin Cooperative, president
- Cornell Gay Liberation, secretary and treasurer
- Olin Library, student employee

Additional information:

David leads Overlook Enterprises, delivering solutions to CEOs and boards seeking to transform their creatively-driven businesses. Previously, David was instrumental in building and reinvigorating three top media brands: *People Magazine*, *Martha Stewart Living* (as COO), and *TV Guide* (as CEO). He has also brought his leadership and media chops to a wide range of nonprofit organizations. David is passionate about using technology and media to build deep engagement between organizations and their members. He lives on a 125-acre farm in the Hudson Valley where he and his husband Pierre raise poultry, pigs, and beef cattle.