MEDIATION:

APPROACHES AND INSIGHTS

Russ Bleemer

Editor

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Acknowledgments

There is more than 20 years of faithful readers, writers, editorial board members, and editors without whom Alternatives would not have been able to produce its body of work. This volume is an outgrowth of their dedication and efforts.

Special thanks goes to all the contributors whose work appears here. Their enthusiasm for this project didn’t wane, even over a long period of time, and their support and criticisms provided incentives to push this book to a conclusion.

This compilation would not have been produced without the efforts of Baker & McKenzie partner Lawrence Newman, who works as an adviser to Juris. Larry stepped back and took a long look at many years’ worth of Alternatives’ material, back to early years, and recommended the thematic sections. He chose most of the articles that appear here. His efforts in covering a lot of ground quickly were invaluable. Without that groundwork, this book wouldn’t exist.

CPR’s staff also has been invaluable over the years as contributors, critics, salesmen and saleswomen, and most of all, as colleagues. Thanks to CPR’s present and past staff for assuming responsibilities that freed up Alternatives’ resources to complete this book project. Special thanks are due to Dorothy Morehead, who has handled circulation and reprint matters for Alternatives subscribers for most of the newsletter’s existence, and Peter Scherer, who heads H Plus Inc. in Pleasantville, N.Y., and who did the design and production work for Alternatives for most of its first two decades.

Alternatives publisher, Thomas J. Stipanowich, provides not only encouragement for the monthly newsletter and this book, but also is as close as business conflict resolution can come to an ADR Pied Piper. His unstinting, unwaivering, and unending enthusiasm and support for alternatives to litigation as Alternatives’ publisher and as CPR president is infectious, and his deep belief in the importance of promoting and advancing dispute resolution practices is felt on every page of this book and throughout each issue of the newsletter.

Finally, deep appreciation is extended to CPR’s founder James F. Henry, who started Alternatives in January 1983, and served as publisher until he retired from CPR in 2000. He pushed his editors to produce something more than an association newsletter, and eschewed puff pieces in favor of striving to chart clear paths to best ADR practices, throughout its many varieties, wherever it occurs throughout the legal profession.
Yes, *Alternatives* discusses CPR projects, and has presented over the past two decades CPR reports, projects and model rules. One of them is included here.

But at the same time, Henry insisted that *Alternatives’* pages take an unvarnished view of ADR. The philosophy was simple: There would be no cheerleading. *Alternatives* would report on the warts, as well as the gold star practices. That orientation would go much further toward ridding the ills, and establishing best practices, that would help litigating individuals and businesses – which would help make the legal system, and society, better.

That’s a goal that *Alternatives* will continue to pursue, hopefully, for at least another 20 years. Please subscribe (information at www.cpradr.org, or E-mail jbsubs@josseybass.com), read (Internet advances of hard copies are now available at www.WileyInterscience.com), and tell us what you think (*Alternatives@cpradr.org*).

— Russ Bleemer, Editor
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