

Edward Felsenthal '88

Montclair, NJ

Region I Alumni Trustee Candidate

Over a three-decade career in journalism, Edward Felsenthal has led major media organizations through a fast-changing industry landscape while focusing on trust and truth in telling the stories that shape and move the world.

As the former Editor-in-Chief and CEO of *TIME*, where he now serves as Executive Chair, Felsenthal led *TIME*'s evolution from a weekly magazine into a global media company with the largest audience in its history; an Emmy-winning TV and film division producing for every major network and streamer; live events around the world; new venues for *TIME for Kids*; and a climate platform bringing together science, business, and reporting.

With a JD from Harvard and a master's in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, Felsenthal began his career at *The Wall Street Journal* in 1992 as a reporter covering law, the Supreme Court, and politics, rising to become Deputy Managing Editor. During his fifteen years at the *Journal* he served as the founding editor of *Personal Journal*; supervised health coverage that led to two Pulitzer Prizes; oversaw a significant portion of the newsroom; and helped modernize the paper, expanding its range of coverage, integrating digital and print teams, and bringing in contemporary design.

By 2008, Felsenthal wanted to “build something from scratch.” He helped launch *The Daily Beast* as its founding Executive Editor, bringing together an enterprising team of veteran writers and journalistic newcomers who quickly built a national brand. Four years later, he did it again

with *Al-Monitor*, a multi-language global platform with contributors throughout the Middle East and North Africa and a mission to deepen dialogue and understanding.

Felsenthal went to *TIME* in 2013 to join “a great institution that has an important role in the global conversation.” He believes “journalism at its best can bring to life Princeton's mission of service, shining a light on people who make a difference and lifting up voices.” One project especially meaningful to him was naming fellow journalist Maria Ressa '86 a *TIME* Person of the Year “for her fearless work—amid relentless attacks from the government—to preserve freedom of expression in the Philippines.”

Today, along with his continued work at *TIME*, he serves as Senior Advisor in the Office of the CEO of Salesforce, the world's third largest software company. He is a founding board member of *The Daily Memphian*, one of the largest nonprofit local newsrooms in the country. He also serves on the advisory board of The Edward R. Murrow Center for Global Affairs at the Fletcher School. He is a former board member of the American Association of Magazine Editors and former advisory board member of the New York University Center for Publishing.

Felsenthal returns to Princeton often and has taken part in a wide variety of alumni volunteer work since he graduated, including as class regional representative. He especially enjoys mentoring and hiring Princeton graduates and early-career journalists. He has spoken at residential college events, was featured as a guest on the University's “We Roar” podcast, sat on Reunions panels, and participated in the Humanities Council's Program in Journalism.

“Journalism by its nature changes constantly,” notes Felsenthal. “Trust and truth, in media as in so many of our institutions, have never been more needed nor in such short supply. I've spent my

career running toward these changes. Every great institution that aims to survive and thrive has to ask itself as it evolves: What are we going to bring with us to the future, and what are we going to leave behind?"