



## Connecting Bridges and Borders Program

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### Entrepreneurship and Innovation NJCU—Jersey City Connect Project

#### **Diversity in the Workplace With Maurice Robinson**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwXyBBwrhjo>

Jersey City, June 10, 2020—On this week’s episode of “Connecting Bridges and Borders,” Professor David Weiss and Maurice Robinson, mediator and professor of law at Seton Hall University, discuss the unique opportunities for increasing diversity in the workplace and education system that may arise post-pandemic. Robinson teaches Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in New York City to spread his knowledge on the tools needed to generate more inclusive and diverse environments.

Robinson and Professor Weiss’s conversation sheds light on one of slowest spheres to diversify: the community of law. Robinson, who strives to amplify the voices of those who are often overlooked in the court setting, describes his implementation of ADR and mediation in his legal work.

Mediation, according to Robinson, is a vehicle that can be effectively used to diversify various professional and educational environments. To borrow Robinson’s phrase, mediators in the court setting can act as “cultural ambassadors” to tend to the needs of clients who do not speak the same language or utilize the same cultural practices as those in law. What was once an exclusive realm of work can become more accessible to those who have historically been excluded.

Robinson tells Professor Weiss, “I really try to use ADR as a mechanism for civil Gideon as well as increasing access to justice.” And that is exactly what Robinson and Professor Weiss agree is vital in the workplace, classroom, and courtroom setting: justice. Without diversity and inclusion, there is no justice.

Follow the link above to listen to this illuminating and inspiring conversation.

**About Us**

The Institute for Dispute Resolution at NJCU is a platform under the School of Business that seeks to promote international negotiation and mediation techniques to manage disputes in cross border commercial and general conflict resolution forums.

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