

Women's Directorship Programme

Harvey Nash & The University of Hong Kong

Dates

Session 1

9-11 October 2014
(Thurs-Sat)
3 days

Session 2

13-15 November 2014
(Thurs-Sat)
3 days

Gender-balanced boards are proven to result in greater business success, and yet women are still hugely underrepresented in boardrooms across the world. The Women's Directorship Programme aims to address this imbalance by enabling more board-ready female leaders to rise to the challenge.

Early bird registration: 11 July 2014

Registration close: 30 September 2014

Tuition: USD 11,000

Tuition includes some meals and materials, excludes accommodation

More information: www.wdpglobal.com

Overview

Through a comprehensive combination of lectures, interactive sessions, leadership exercises and input from international faculty members and senior business leaders, the Women's Directorship Programme addresses current and contemporary issues in the workplace, across industries and geographies.

The Women's Directorship Programme is designed to help participants develop their own set of strategies tailored to their career ambitions, situation and personality, recognising that these will evolve over time as new challenges arise and elements in their lives change.

The six-day programme, split into two sessions of three days each, will be held at The University of Hong Kong's Cyberport Campus in the Executive Education Centre.

Participants will have the opportunity to meet and network with counterparts from different countries and influential guest speakers such as:

Anne Minto, iNED of Shire and Tate & Lyle

Donald Brydon, Chairman Sage Group and Royal Mail

Dr. Raymond Ch'ien, Chairman Hang Seng Bank and MTR

Jean-Pascal Tricoire, Chairman & CEO of Schneider Electric

John Rice, Vice Chairman of GE and President & CEO of GE, Global Growth and Operations

Who Should Attend

The programme is designed to equip participants with the skills and knowledge to assume boardroom responsibilities as a Director or Non-Executive Director.

Guest speakers



Rick Haythornthwaite,
*Chairman of Centrica
and MasterCard*

"Tackling the current massive gender imbalance in the boardroom is top priority for businesses around the globe. Boardrooms need to adequately represent their consumer base in order to be most effective. We wholeheartedly support this initiative to develop female leaders."



Ruth Markland,
*Senior iNED of
Standard Chartered
Bank and Arcadis*

"This programme is absolutely crucial in making a difference at boardroom level as it serves to empower board-ready women to step up and maximize their potential. I look forward to working with participants to fulfill their professional aspirations and devise career strategies that will work for them."



Sir Roger Carr,
*Chairman of BAE
Systems*

"Building the pipeline and deepening the talent pool of women for board level appointment is a vital task for businesses across the globe and I am delighted to be involved and give support to the programme initiated by Harvey Nash."

Programme Modules

Module 1. Audit and Remuneration Essentials

1.5 days – 9 & 10 October

Prof. Gary Biddle – PCCW Professor, Chair of Accounting, HKU Business School

The first module of the programme provides participants with perspective on the roles of the board and supporting committees, plus practical insights regarding the roles and responsibilities of independent non-executive directors (INEDs) on the finance, audit, risk oversight and remuneration committees.

Module 2. Collaborative Leadership

0.5 days – 10th October

Dr. Gilbert Wong – Associate Professor, HKU Business School and Deputy Director, Executive Education

To achieve organisational goals, board directors as leaders, must collaborate with people across organisational boundaries – serving to acquire new ideas and resources outside of their own organisational settings. The objective of this module is to provide analytical concepts for participants to understand how to build their collaborative networks, exploring how different kinds of social networks bring distinctive resources and constraints, and how leaders can develop and use them effectively for collaborative purposes.

Module 3. Persuasive Communication and Conflict Resolutions

1 day – 11 October

Linda Garrett – Visiting Lecturer, HKU Business School

This dynamic, interactive communication module will engage participants in a full day of hands-on communication skills development, including role-playing exercises, group work and videotaping with playback. This module will help participants contribute maximum value to their board by communicating key messages more effectively, whilst remaining dispassionate and data-driven.

Module 4. Stock Exchange rules and regulations of major stock exchanges

1 day – 13 November

Beau Lefler – Principal Lecturer, HKU Business School

This module equips participants with a working knowledge of securities regulation and directors' obligations and responsibilities with respect to the public companies they oversee. After working through case studies and examples from major public markets, participants will gain a better understanding of the often problematic issues that regularly present themselves to directors of public companies.

Module 5. Board Appointment and Strategic Leadership

1 day – 14 November

Prof. Simon Lam – Professor, HKU Business School

The nomination committee is responsible for making recommendations on board appointments and maintaining a balance of skills and experience on the board. This module will discuss the typical responsibilities of the nomination committee and explore ways of running an effective nominating process. The module will also explore strategic thinking, focused on the benefits of various business models and their evolution, as well as understanding the key issues facing listed companies. Strategic advising skills will be examined, such as understanding what and how to advise the board and managing executives.

Module 6. Ethics and Compliance

1 day – 15 November

David Bishop – Principal Lecturer, HKU Business School

The final module focuses on moral philosophy, organisational psychology, and cognitive biology, with an emphasis on communication and ethical reasoning skills that impact on professional performance. Two primary areas of business ethics will be highlighted – firstly how directors can utilise “moral architecture” to build mechanisms that help employees and executive teams avoid unethical behavior. Secondly individual ethics will be discussed, reviewing universal cognitive biases, exploring how to best motivate people and how we can improve ethical decision-making.

Information

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Business success hinges on a gender-balanced boardroom for continued growth. Please visit www.wdpglobal.com for further details and registration.

Views of past participants



Agnes Chan, Regional Managing Partner, Ernst & Young

“As a former programme participant, I strongly recommend it to a wider sphere of the women's community, especially to those who aspire to a successful directorship role. Through practical case studies, as well as experience sharing with eminent speakers and peers, the programme has enhanced my understanding of board directorship and how to make a difference in today's corporate world.”



Ann Coughlan, Managing Director, Bupa (Asia) Ltd.

“The Women's Directorship Programme offers a fantastic setting to gain new insights and understand the different dynamics that impact on the outcome of a board's decision. The programme provides the opportunity to interact with industry leaders from different sectors around the globe.”



Rashmi Joshi, Finance Director, Castrol India Limited

“The Women's Directorship Programme provides senior women professionals with a view of what it means to be a Non-Executive Director and more importantly a network that will support them in their progress.”