



## How Can We Prepare You to Serve as a Board Director Now?

April 22, 2015 at 5 PM  
Purchase, NY

Less than 20% of all board members in the US are women! Only 6.2% of board seats at U.S. based companies valued at more than \$1B are held by women. These numbers have not significantly increased in the last 10 years. Why not? Barbara Byrne, vice chair of investment banking at Barclays, was quoted in 2014 that "Women Board Members Means Better Performance." While the pace of adding women to the boardroom may be slow, the good news is there is more awareness and attention to this issue, in the US and worldwide.

Our panelists will share their experiences, both challenges and successes, in preparing for and navigating the board selection process. They will advise how women should leverage recruiters and their networks and comport themselves as effective board directors. Are you ready to take initiative and serve now? Why wait? Start by asking the panelists what steps you may take to land your board seat.

### Participants

**Melina Higgins**, Goldman Sachs  
**Martina Hund-Mejean**, MasterCard  
**Nancy Karch**, Kate Spade & Company  
**Hope Taitz**, ELY Advisors  
**Katharine Ramsden**, *Moderator*

### Event Details

**Date:** April 22, 2015

**Time:** 4 PM Registration.

We will begin *promptly* at 5 PM; please arrive early. Since it is disruptive to everyone when latecomers enter the session, those arriving after an education session has begun will only be admitted at the discretion of 100WHF and the host. Please note the start time on this invite and plan to arrive early.

Networking and cocktails before and after session.

**Host:** MasterCard

**Location:** Mastercard

2000 Purchase Street, **Purchase**, NY 10577 - [Directions](#)

**RSVP:** [RSVP Now](#)

If you have any questions about this event, please contact the [Connecticut](#) committee.

If you would like to make a special donation to 100WHF to support our ongoing senior practitioner events, please [click here](#), or to become a 100WHF Global Angel, please [click here](#).

This event is NOT FOR ATTRIBUTION. All 100WHF events are private events and we require that no one reports publicly on any aspect of them.

**Admission is free, but there is a \$25 charge if you register and do not attend, even if you cancel in advance. No-show proceeds will be donated to 100WHF Foundation - Celebrating Education/Investing in the Next Generation initiative, the 2015 beneficiary of 100WHF's US philanthropic initiatives.**

If you have no-show fees in arrears, the system cannot register you for an event. You can view and pay for any outstanding no-show fees online from your [Member Profile](#)

Space is limited. No walk-ins will be permitted.

## **Biographies**

### **Melina Higgins**, Former Partner and Managing Director, Goldman Sachs

Melina Higgins is a retired Partner and Managing Director of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and currently serves on the boards of two Fortune 500 companies. She has two decades of experience in finance, investments and serving on corporate boards.

Ms. Higgins joined Goldman Sachs in 1989 and retired as a Partner and Managing Director of the firm in January 2010. Ms. Higgins was a member of the Investment Committee of the Principal Investment Area, which approved and oversaw global private equity and private debt investments and was one of the largest alternative asset managers in the world. Ms. Higgins was Head of the Americas as well as Co-Chairperson of the global Investment Advisory Committee for the GS Mezzanine Partners funds. Ms. Higgins was a founding member of the mezzanine funds and was instrumental in building and managing this business, which raised over \$30 billion of capital and invested in over 100 companies during her tenure, making Goldman Sachs the world leader in the industry. While at Goldman Sachs, US Banker ranked Ms. Higgins as one of the Top 20 Women in Finance.

Ms. Higgins has served as a board member or a board participant for over a dozen companies. She currently serves on the boards of two Fortune 500 companies - Mylan, Inc., a global pharmaceutical company, and Genworth Financial, Inc., a global insurance company. On the Mylan board, Ms. Higgins is Chairperson of the Finance Committee and a member of the Audit Committee. On the Genworth Financial board, Ms. Higgins is a member of the Risk Committee as well as the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Ms. Higgins holds an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and a B.A. from Colgate University. She resides in New York City with her husband and two children.

### **Martina Hund-Mejean**, Chief Financial Officer, MasterCard

Martina Hund-Mejean is chief financial officer for MasterCard. In this position, she is responsible for the Corporate Controller, Tax, Internal Audit, Investor Relations, Strategy, M&A, Financial Planning & Analysis, Treasury, Risk Management, Global Supply Chain, Business Unit Finance and Regional Finance areas.

Prior to joining MasterCard in 2007, Ms. Hund-Mejean served as senior vice president and treasurer of Tyco International Ltd. She joined Tyco in 2002 as part of its "new" management with responsibility for all areas of treasury, mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures. During her tenure with Tyco, she executed \$6 billion in financings in order to address Tyco's 2002/2003 liquidity crisis. She also revamped the company's capital structure, including debt reduction and share repurchase programs; introduced a new banking infrastructure; implemented revised risk management processes; and was instrumental in streamlining Tyco's business portfolio, including the 2007 separation of Tyco's Healthcare and Electronics businesses.

Prior to Tyco, she was senior vice president and treasurer of Lucent Technologies Inc. (now Alcatel-Lucent). In this position, her responsibilities included capital markets, corporate finance, banking, credit and risk management, and investor relations. From 1988 to 2000, Ms. Hund-Mejean held a series of finance positions of increasing responsibility at General Motors Corporation, both in the United States and the United Kingdom, including the assistant treasurer post. She began her corporate career as a credit analyst at Dow Chemical in Frankfurt, Germany.

Ms. Hund-Mejean has been named one of the "100 Most Influential People in Finance" by Treasury & Risk Management magazine three times, one of the "Most Powerful Women in Finance" by American Banker magazine for three consecutive years, and was also named "Woman of the Year -- Private Sector" by the Financial Women's Association. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Prudential Financial, Inc., a member of the Board of Trustees of The University of Virginia, Darden School Foundation and a member of the Board of Directors of the German American Chamber of Commerce-NewYork.

Ms. Hund-Mejean received a master's degree in economics from the University of Freiburg, Germany, and a Master of Business Administration from the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia.

**Nancy Karch**, Chair of the Board, Kate Spade & Company

Nancy Karch is a former Director (senior partner) of the international consulting firm, McKinsey & Company. In her 26 years with McKinsey, she held several leadership positions, including Managing Partner of the Retail and Consumer Industries Sector, and Managing Partner of McKinsey Southeast United States. In her latter capacity, she had full P&L responsibility for all of McKinsey's consulting activities in the Atlanta, Charlotte, and Miami offices, and management oversight of approximately 300 staff in those locations. She also served on a number of McKinsey's management committees. For most of her partnership years, Ms. Karch was the most senior woman at McKinsey, and in the history of McKinsey at the time.

Since retiring, Ms. Karch has pursued a part time career of Board service. She initially joined the Boards of Directors of Nabisco and Liz Claiborne; with the former she participated in the deliberations that led to the sale of the company to Kraft. She then joined the Boards of Toys"R"Us, the Corporate Executive Board (from which she recently retired), and Gillette. Two of these companies have also been sold; Toys"R"Us to a group of private buyers after a year long strategic review and sales process, and Gillette to a strategic buyer in P&G. Since these sales, she has joined the Boards of Genworth Financial, MasterCard, and Kimberly-Clark. Her roles with her current Boards include being the Chair of Kate Spade, chairing the compensation committee of Genworth Financial, and chairing the nominating and governance committee of MasterCard.

Ms. Karch also participates in not-for-profit leadership. While in Atlanta, she was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Woodruff Arts Center (WAC), as well as Chairman of the WAC Finance Committee. She was until December 2013 the co-vice chairman of the Westchester Land Trust; she is also a member of the Boards of Trustees of Northern Westchester Hospital and the North Shore-LIJ Health System.

Before joining McKinsey in 1974, Ms. Karch was a teaching assistant in mathematics at Northeastern University. She holds a B.A. in mathematics from Cornell University, an M.S. in mathematics from Northeastern University, and an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School, where she was a Baker Scholar (highest honors) and received the Copeland Award for excellence in marketing.

**Hope Taitz**, Managing Partner, ELY Advisors

Hope Scheffler Taitz is currently the Managing Partner of ELY Advisors. After graduating with honors from the University of Pennsylvania majoring in economics and concentrating in marketing, Ms. Taitz began her investment banking career first as a mergers and acquisitions analyst and then as an associate at Drexel Burnham Lambert. Ms. Taitz continued as a Vice President at The Argosy Group (now part of CIBC) and a Managing Director at Crystal Asset Management before founding her own money management firm, Catalyst Partners. Now acting as a consultant focused on analyzing and investing in the consumer industry in both early and late stage, Ms. Taitz sits on the boards of Apollo Residential Mortgage, Inc., Athene Holding Ltd., Athene Life Re Ltd., Athene USA Corporation, Athene Annuity & Life Assurance Company, Athene Annuity & Life Assurance Company of New York, Athene Annuity and Life Company, Athene Life Insurance Company of New York, Diamond International Resorts, Inc. and Lumenis. She is a founding executive member of Youth Renewal Fund and a current executive board member of Pencils of Promise as well as Girls Who Code. Ms. Taitz also sits on the board of the Future Project and acts as the Co-Chair of the Westchester division of the Penn Alumni Interview Program for the University of Pennsylvania.

## **Katharine Ramsden**

Katharine Ramsden is Vice President, Global Head, Thought Leadership at Thomson Reuters. Prior to joining the company in 2008, she worked as a communications professional in the financial industry, holding positions with England Associates, Merrill Lynch, Dean Witter, Paine Webber, and Greenwich Associates. A graduate of Mount Holyoke College, she earned her Masters degree at Columbia University in the School of Journalism. She has served on numerous non-profit boards in education, literacy and environmental causes.



## **About MasterCard**

MasterCard is a global payments company that has technology at the heart of our existence. Our focus is on growing and innovating electronic payments. For nearly 50 years, we've connected buyers and sellers, facilitating transactions - and moving money around the world - faster than the blink of an eye.

We believe diversity of thought and talent is the heart of innovation. The more varied the life experiences, the more value that can be delivered. The value and relevance of our products and solutions are delivered through an understanding of both global and regional trends and needs. And, this understanding is driven by our commitment to a diverse workforce, including women in technology.

However, research - and experience - showed us that women were not selecting STEM-based careers. That concerned us in terms of our current talent and the pipeline we could build for future opportunities. We launched our Women in Technology initiative in 2013, with three key areas of focus:

- Grow the talent pipeline - We are supporting and developing middle and high school programs that focus on STEM and computer science skills to encourage young women at an early age.
- Find skilled and talented women to join MasterCard - We're working with universities to source new talent, as well as with organizations like Women 2.0 and Launch Code to establish a strong tie into women-led startups and businesses.
- Keep women at MasterCard by offering career opportunities and being a great place to work - We continue to look at ways to enhance careers for women at the company, creating role models for our workforce in daily activities and volunteer opportunities.



## **100 women in hedge funds®**

**About 100 Women in Hedge Funds** ([www.100womeninhedgefunds.org](http://www.100womeninhedgefunds.org))

100 Women in Hedge Funds is a global, practitioner-driven non-profit organization serving over 13,000 alternative investment management investors and professionals through educational, professional leverage and philanthropic initiatives. Formed in 2001, 100 Women in Hedge Funds has hosted close to 500 industry education events globally, connected more than 250 senior women through Peer Advisory Groups and raised over \$36 million for philanthropic causes in the areas of women's health, education and mentoring.