

Women's Directorship Programme

Harvey Nash & The University of Hong Kong

Dates

Session 1

26–28 May 2016
(Thurs-Sat)
3 days

Session 2

22–24 September 2016
(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.

Registration close: 30 April 2016

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 offers a blend of both academic and practical learning. The programme serves to address 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 LSE

Dr. Raymond Ch'ien, Chairman Hang Seng Bank

Jean-Pascal Tricoire, Chairman & CEO of Schneider Electric

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 Sage Group, iNED of Standard Chartered Bank and Deloitte

"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."



Donald Brydon
Chairman of Sage Group and LSE

"In this fast paced world we need to ensure the business community evolves to best reflect the interests of consumers – well balanced boardrooms are important in achieving success. This programme is most beneficial in terms of enhancing the development of women leaders to provide the next generation of board members."

Programme Modules

Session 1

Module 1.

The roles and responsibilities of board members

1 day – 26th May

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) in terms of the finance, audit, risk oversight and remuneration committees. This module will discuss the typical responsibilities of the nomination committee and explore the most effective processes for making board appointments.

Module 2.

Persuasive communication and conflict resolutions

1 day – 27th May

This dynamic, interactive communication module will engage participants in a full day of hands-on communication skills development, including board-relevant role-playing exercises and group work. This module will help participants contribute maximum value to their board by communicating key messages more effectively, whilst remaining dispassionate, data-driven and credible. The concept of executive presence will also be explored.

Module 3.

Strategic leadership

1 day – 28th May

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

Session 2

Module 4.

Securities market regulation

1 day – 22nd September

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.

Ethics and compliance

1 day – 23rd September

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.

Module 6.

Board simulation exercise

1 day – 24th September

Led by Donald Brydon (Chairman of LSE and Sage group) as ‘Chairman of the board’, this simulation exercise enables participants to put lessons learned throughout the programme into practice. This module will explore how to operate legally, ethically and efficiently in the current economic and legal environment. Participants will discuss how making decisions causes a ripple effect across the entire business.

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



Anamika Bhargava,
Senior Vice President of
Hitachi India Ltd.

“The Women's Directorship Programme offers a differential spring board to become successful global directors. The distinct programme curriculum and live connectivity with senior business leaders gives participants an all-round edge to compete and differentiate themselves to serve on global boards”



Fumbi Chima, Chief
Information Officer,
Burberry

“The Women's Directorship Programme serves to bring together women with the same aspiration of creating a step change at the board level.”



Agnes Chan, Regional
Managing Partner, EY

“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.”



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.”



Elena Markwalder,
Senior Vice President
Strategy - Partner
Projects of Schneider
Electric

“A platform for senior women with similar aspirations, the Women's Directorship Programme fosters learning and exchange through offering both a practical, hands-on approach as well as high-level theory to board directorship.”



Louise Moat, COO, IBD
Asia ex Japan, Nomura
International (Hong Kong)
Ltd.

“For anyone considering taking on a directorship role, the programme offers an excellent opportunity to better understand the more formal, as well as the more practical aspects involved in becoming a board member.”