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A Visionary View of Culture and Leadership



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Transcript

Susan S. Stautberg: It's so important to be able to have good leadership at all levels of the organization ready to move up, ready to be prepared to take that next step of leadership.

Jannice Koors: If you think about business strategy as what a company is going to do, then leadership strategy defines how a company is going to do it.

Catherine Allen: I absolutely believe boards have a responsibility to establish that leadership strategy as well as the business strategy.

Irene Chang Britt: There's no execution of a great strategy without the talent that bears that out.

C. Kim Goodwin: As they think about succession planning, as they think about the future of the company...it's the responsibility of the board to think longer term.

Christine St.Clare: Where's the talent today that will be there tomorrow when we introduce these new services or these new products? What do we need to do to develop that talent?

Evelyn Dilsaver: You cannot execute your strategy unless you have a clear idea of what your culture is capable of doing.

Kapila Anand: How well people are managed; how happy individuals are, how engaged they are – those are hard because those are soft metrics.

Arun Nayar: The board has to keep an eye on how the culture is developing and is that culture going to support the long-term sustainable growth of the enterprise?

Melissa Means: Times are changing so quickly. What we know today will not be in existence tomorrow. Innovation is a required aspect of any business today. If we're not paying attention to it, likely we won't be in business in the future.

Evelyn Dilsaver: The board's role in disruptive innovation is critical.

Catherine Allen: Think about providing an environment that allows for innovation, allows for safety, allows for the people to excel.

Eileen Fusco: The board needs to have its own leadership strategy. You are the place where the buck stops.

Aalap Shah: We talk a lot about diversity of the board, and what does that mean? Does that mean race and gender diversity, or does that actually mean diversity of the experience?

Irene Chang Britt: The willingness of a board member to take some of their own time to say, "I will help you set the tone if you're open to it and if you want a partner." I think that's a wonderful thing.

Susan Stautberg: It's important to be a visionary board. That's why these thought leadership reports, which were created by Pearl Meyer, are so important to WCD members around the world and also to other directors. They help you provide useful information to be able to go back to your board, ask the right questions, and be able to keep your board on the cutting edge.

About the Authors

Jan Koors is a senior managing director with Pearl Meyer and head of consulting services. In this role, Jan is focused on leveraging the firm's consulting capabilities and enhancing relationships with our national marketing partners. She is a member of the leadership team which guides the firm's strategy.

Melissa Means is a managing director at Pearl Meyer with over 20 years of experience. Melissa's areas of expertise include executive and non-employee director compensation, designing, implementing, and communicating total compensation strategies, pay for performance alignment, and short- and long-term incentive compensation programs. She works closely with boards and management teams in addressing issues including governance practices, executive transitions, succession planning, and aligning pay with business strategies. Melissa specializes in working with firms ranging in size from small, private and pre-IPO organizations to large multi-national companies across many different industries including materials/industrials, consumer, healthcare, information technology, and biotechnology. In being in the boardroom most days with different clients, Melissa also helps provide context to boards on group behavioral interactions among the board and with management.

Aalap Shah is a managing director at Pearl Meyer. With more than 20 years of experience, Aalap advises public and privately held companies on executive compensation issues, with focus on pay governance, pay-for-performance alignment, and incentive plan design. Of particular interest is the

intersection between business strategy, people strategy, and compensation strategy, believing alignment of all three is required to design effective programs.

About Pearl Meyer

Pearl Meyer is the leading advisor to boards and senior management helping organizations build, develop, and reward great leadership teams that drive long-term success. Our strategy-driven compensation and leadership consulting services act as powerful catalysts for value creation and competitive advantage by addressing the critical links between people and outcomes. Our clients stand at the forefront of their industries and range from emerging high-growth, not-for-profit, and private organizations to the Fortune 500.