



Connie R. Collingsworth



Experienced board member and C-Suite executive with expertise in governance, risk management, and complex investments. Strategic business advisor recognized for excellent judgment and exceptional communication and interpersonal skills. Role at Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation includes developing and implementing “global access” intellectual property strategy, forming strategic alliances with pharmaceutical and bio-tech companies, bi-laterals and multi-laterals, crisis management, and serving as Executive Sponsor for technology implementation to stream-line foundation operations and leverage data. Extensive international experience gained from establishing and managing operations of regional offices around the world. Unique insights regarding ESG and corporate social responsibility.

CORPORATE BOARD EXPERIENCE

BANNER CORPORATION (NASDAQ: BANR) 2013-present

Publicly traded bank holding company with \$14B in assets

Board Member; Chair, Governance & Nominating Committee; Member, Compensation and Executive Committees

- Initiated process for director and board self-evaluation as well as board training
- Developed pipeline of diverse board candidates

PREMERA BLUE CROSS

Preeminent Pacific Northwest health care insurance company with over 2.4M members 2013-present

Board Member; Chair, Compensation Committee; Member, Governance and Investment Committees

- Gained firsthand knowledge of directors’ role in dealing with cybersecurity issues

ATTENEX CORPORATION

Privately held technology company in eDiscovery marketplace 2000-2008

Board Member

- Served on Board from start-up through successful acquisition by FTI Consulting, Inc.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT/MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION 2002-present

World’s largest private foundation with over \$45.5B in assets, focused on improving healthcare and reducing poverty in the developing world and expanding educational opportunities in the U.S.

Executive Leadership Team Member, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Legal Officer

- Lead foundation governance, including meetings for Trustees, Bill Gates, Warren Buffett and Melinda Gates and Trustees’ Compensation Committee

- Manage all business operations employees, encompassing Human Resources, Information Technology, Legal, Global Security, and Grants and Contracts Services administering annual charitable distributions of over \$6.7B
- Co-Chair of foundation’s DEI Leadership Council
- Incident Commander responsible for managing all COVID-related issues from an operational perspective
- Development of foundation’s intellectual property strategy and approach to enterprise risk management
- Member of Investment and Innovative Finance Committees, with collective portfolio of over \$2.5B
- First in-house lawyer hired responsible for building diverse, award winning legal team of 41 members

NONPROFIT BOARD SERVICE

WOMEN’S WORLD BANKING, NYC 2011-present

Membership organization of 49 member banks located in 31 countries with mission to provide financial inclusion for low-income women in developing world

Board Co-Chair; Member, Compensation and Audit/Finance Committees

- Member of Strategy Steering Committee for 2017-22 Strategic Plan
- Led analysis of corporate structure/compensation arrangements with affiliated equity fund

GATES PHILANTHROPY PARTNERS 2015-present

Nonprofit facilitating philanthropy by high net worth individuals in partnership with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Board Chair and Board Member

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CORPORATE DIRECTORS (NACD)—NORTHWEST CHAPTER 2013-2015

National organization advancing exemplary leadership and education for directors

Board Member

- Organized and moderated program on thinking strategically about disruptive technologies
- Organized and moderated program on applicability of Sustainable Development Goals to private sector

SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS 1999-2005

Network of individual donors who leverage their expertise and resources to promote engaged philanthropy

Board Chair and Board Member; Member, Governance and International Committees

- Led development of board succession plan and creation of SVP International

FRENCH AMERICAN SCHOOL OF PUGET SOUND 1995-1999

Full-immersion French language school with over 380 students, pre-school-grade 8

Co-Founder; Board Chair; Board Member and President

- Vision to create school, organized entity and recruited initial board and management

PREVIOUS WORK/MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

K&L GATES (FORMERLY PRESTON GATES & ELLIS) 1987-2002

Prominent, full service international law firm

Partner

- Lead attorney for M&A transactions, private equity financings, and VC and hedge fund formation
- Executive Committee Member—Responsible for management of firm
- Compensation Committee Member—Responsible for setting partner compensation
- Chair of Business Department—Responsible for managing budget and work of lawyers, plus support staff

RECENT AWARDS AND RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

- 2019—Women’s Inc. Influential Board Member Honoree
- 2019—DirectWomen Board Institute—Distinguished Alumni Award
- 2017—Distinguished Alumna Award—University of Nebraska College of Law Alumni Council
- 2015—Recipient of Legal Momentum Annual Women of Achievement Award
- 2015—Recognized as one of Top 10 Most Innovative U.S. Legal Departments by *Inside Counsel*
- 2015—Selected by *General Counsel Powerlist* as one of top 100 in-house Legal Departments in U.S.
- 2014—Harvard Business School Leadership Forum

EDUCATION

LL.M., International Business Legal Studies, University of Exeter, England

J.D., University of Nebraska

B.A., Andrews University, Michigan