# MICHIGAN ROSS

#### **EXECUTIVE EDUCATION**

# BUILDING BOARD EXPERTISE ON SUSTAINABILITY

Invest in your understanding of ESG today to make sustainable business decisions tomorrow.

## Explore Why Sustainability is Crucial for Boards

Board members face an ever-increasing range of sustainability risks and opportunities, from the fiduciary role of directors for oversight of climate, integration of sustainability and strategy, to the evolving disclosure landscape.

This program brings together business and sustainability experts from Michigan Ross, the Erb Institute and Ceres, and non-profit leaders in sustainable business to deliver a unique educational experience and provide the essential climate and sustainability skills needed by every board member in today's rapidly evolving board rooms.



There are growing risks and opportunities for Board members and their advisors to address climate and other ESG issues. This course will uniquely prepare you for these vital issues.

> Steven Rothstein Managing Director, Ceres Accelerator for Sustainable Capital Markets

#### **KEY BENEFITS**

66

- Reduce Fiduciary Complexities: Board members gain an enhanced understanding of how to reduce increasingly complex fiduciary responsibilities.
- Improve Management of Risks and Opportunities: Improve your ability to exercise oversight of climate risks and opportunities.
- Explore Effective Management Tools: Employ tools for the implementation of effective board structures.
- Discover New Resources: Learn resources available to respond to the evolving disclosure landscape.
- Recognize Organizational Benefits: Learn how organizations benefit from increased climate and sustainability of their boards.
- Improve Board Oversight Effectiveness: Increased integration of sustainability and strategy.

#### DATES\*

6 May - 21 Jun 2024

### FORMAT

Online

#### **PROGRAM FEES\***

\$2,500 US Register now through February 1, 2024, and save \$500 US off the regular program fee of \$3,000 US.

#### CREDENTIAL

Program participants will receive a certificate and a social media-friendly badge after course completion.

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Board members new or senior executives who plan to serve on boards in the near future.
- Professionals from different disciplines, including law, investor relations, public affairs, policy, media, and communications.
- Past participants include C-suite executives and senior executives.



#### **PROGRAM STRUCTURE^**

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
<ul> <li>Why is Sustainability Crucial for Boards?</li> <li>&gt; How corporate purpose relates to the board's fiduciary duties</li> <li>&gt; Why investors are asking boards to focus on it</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>What ESG Risks and Opportunities Must Boards Understand?</li> <li>&gt; ESG risks vs. traditional risks, similarities &amp; differences</li> <li>&gt; Leverage different frameworks to oversee ESG risks</li> <li>&gt; Work with management to oversee ESG risks</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>What ESG Oversight Do Investors Expect from Boards?</li> <li>&gt; History of the sustainable investment movement</li> <li>&gt; Why investors want boards to oversee ESG risks &amp; opportunities</li> <li>&gt; The ways that investors communicate their ESG priorities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>How Can the Board Set Aspirational ESG Goals and Attain Them?</li> <li>Relationship between target setting, implementation planning and executive compensation</li> <li>Transition plans make targets actionable and credible</li> <li>Best practices for aligning compensation structures that incentivize ESG</li> </ul>
WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	
<ul> <li>What Are the Best Practices For Disclosing ESG Risks and Opportunities?</li> <li>Best practicies for ESG disclosure</li> <li>Investors' expectations for ESG disclosure</li> <li>Legal obligations fo ESG disclosure</li> </ul>	How Can Boards Align Corporate Political Activity to Meet Sustainability Commitments? Importance of Corporate Political Influence What is Corporate Political Responsibility? What are the barriers to CPR? How boards improve it	How Should Boards Be Structured to Oversee Sustainability Commitments? > The link between ESG oversight and positive board performance > Key characteristics of an ESG competent board > Structuring the board for effective ESG oversight	

#### **THE EXPERTS**

Learn from the same faculty who teach in our highly-ranked degree programs. See the website for additional details.



Mike Barger FACULTY DIRECTOR Clinical Assistant Professor of Business Administration



Tom Lyon FACULTY DIRECTOR Professor of Environment and Sustainability



Mindy S. Lubber Chief Executive Officer and President, Ceres



**Steven Rothstein** Managing Director, Ceres Accelerator for Sustainable Capital Markets

\*Dates and program fees are subject to change. Check the website for the most current program details. This sample schedule is meant to be representative of the program structure and content. Timing and session topics are subject to change.

© 2023 The Stephen M. Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan

#### TIME COMMITMENT

- > Duration: 7 weeks
- > Weekly Coursework: 2 4 hours/week
- **Format**: 95% Asynchronous instruction. Three 60 minute synchronous events and three optional maximum 60 minute office hours

## REGISTER TODAY!

For more information, contact: 734-763-1000 rossexeced@umich.edu michiganross.umich.edu/bbes