

eBrief | Issue 12 | Spring/Summer 2011

# MilwaukeeWomeninc

*Working to change the face and quality of leadership in Wisconsin through the advancement of women.*

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## **Milwaukee Women inc. Delivers through research, education and resources**

Welcome to the latest edition of Ebrief - the newsletter from Milwaukee Women inc. (MWi). MWi recently reaffirmed and clarified its mission, which is to change the face and quality of leadership through the advancement of women. Nine years after its formation, the purpose of MWi is no less relevant today than it was in 2002.

MWinc strives to accomplish its mission through:

- Research: benchmarking where we are and where we need to go
- Education: educating companies, the media and the community about the importance of women in leadership
- Resources: providing resources for both companies looking to place women on their boards and resources for women interested in serving.

**Milwaukee Women inc. has set a goal of filling 25% of board slots by women, on Wisconsin's top 50 publicly traded companies by 2014.** While this goal may seem like a near impossibility given the current status, for some companies, reaching this goal is only a matter of adding one woman to their board. Progress, however slow, is still progress nonetheless.

### **NEWS**

#### **Milwaukee Women inc Elects Board Members and Directors**

This spring at its annual meeting, Milwaukee Women inc. (MWi) elected its executive committee and new of board directors. Board Chair, Lynn Sprangers, said the group remains dedicated to its mission of advancing women on corporate boards. "Simply put: we will not realize our full potential without utilizing all of the talents of the women in this community" she said. The group's goal is to reach 25% female board representation on Wisconsin's 50 largest publically traded companies by 2014. Click here for a complete list of Milwaukee Women inc.'s Executive Committee and Board members (Or list as below)

The 2011/2012 Executive Committee and Board:

Chair: Lynn Sprangers; Mount Mary College

Vice Chair: Mary McCormick; Rotary Club of Milwaukee

Immediate Past Chair: Betty Quadracci; Quad Creative

Secretary: Liz Orelup; Quarles & Brady LLP

Treasurer: Amelia Macareno; Wells Fargo

At Large: Gail Lione; Harley Davidson Foundation

At Large: Joan Prince; UW - Milwaukee

Chair/Research Committee: Phyllis King; UW - Milwaukee

Chair/Board Resources Committee: Lindsay Hammerer; KPMG

Chair/Governance & Nominating Committee: Maureen McGinnity; Foley and Lardner

Chair/Fund Development Committee: Sharon Canter

Chair/Communications Committee: Wendy Baumann; WWBIC

Chair/Program Committee: Krista Brookman; Deloitte

## **Congratulations! MWi Board Member Wendy Bauman Recognized by U.S. Small Business Admin.**

Wendy received the 2011 award for Women's Business Center of Excellence Award for her role in promoting economic development and personal self-sufficiency and providing business education, one-on-one business assistance, and access to capital. Wendy is president of the Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC).

### **RESEARCH**

## **Latest MWi Report Shows Modest Increase in Women Directors on Wisconsin Boards**

MWi produces a biennial report on the gender diversity of the boards and c-suites of Wisconsin's 50 largest companies. That research is updated twice yearly. In April, 2011, we found that the percentage of women appointed to boards of Wisconsin's top 50 public companies has increased to 13.2%, up from 12.8% in 2010. This increase is in part due to the appointment of two women: Londa J. Dewey, who was appointed to the Board of Directors of Wausau Paper Corp., and Patricia L. Kampling, who was appointed to the Board of Directors of Briggs & Stratton. [Click Here for the report](#)

## **Women Under-Represented on Foundation Boards**

More than 500 foundations participated in the "Council on Foundations 2010 Foundation Management Series," which provides a snapshot of governance practices and administrative expenses.

Key findings include:

- Respondents indicated that the majority of board membership is male (nearly 62 percent).
- Approximately three-quarters of board members (74 percent) are over age 50, followed by 18 percent who are age 40 to 49.
- A significant majority of board members are white (85 percent), with African-Americans making up 7 percent, Hispanics 4 percent, and Asian/Pacific Islanders 2 percent.
- 29 percent reported having a written policy regarding board diversity.

For more information on the studies go to [www.cof.org](http://www.cof.org)

### **EDUCATION**

## **Proxy Voting Can Encourage Diversity Efforts**

An event held with the National Council for Research on Women promoted proxy voting as a vehicle to change the makeup of corporate boards. The session was led by Vicki Kramer, a board member of the InterOrganization Network, which is a national organization dedicated to advancing women in the boardroom. MWi is a chapter member of this organization.

Recommendations for investor activism included:

- Vote!
- Write to the board explaining your vote
- Attend shareholder meetings and
- Support resolutions that support board diversity

For more details on these and other ideas for investor activism, check out:

<http://www.ncrw.org/public-forum/real-deal-blog/investing-gender-lens-how-we-can-use-our-dollars-drive-positive-change>

## Quotable Christine

MWI Steering Committee Member Yvonne Lumsden-Dill found the topic on last Sunday's "This Week" with Christiane Amanpour on target. In case you missed it, the show featured a roundtable of prominent women discussing whether more women in positions of power would change the recent trend and the public sphere's culture on the latest scandal to top the list of male politicians getting caught for their misbehavior.

There were some interesting observations from a cast of international women leaders, including ABC's Claire Shipman, co-author of "Womenomics." Referencing a quotation from Debbie Walsh, the head of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Amanpour said, "The shorthand of it is that women run for office to do something, and men run for office to be somebody."

[Click here for a link to the webcast of the show.](#)

*Milwaukee Women inc is a collaborative effort of executive and professional women working to change the face and quality of leadership through the advancement of women.*

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