

Increasing Women on Corporate Boards

Panel Speaker Bios- Oct. 15



Lisa Wellman, Washington State Senator

- Senator Lisa Wellman represents 41st Legislative District in the Washington State Senate. She was elected in 2016 after a 25-year career in technology and marketing including executive level positions in Fortune 100 companies.
- A passionate advocate for education, Lisa began her career as a public school teacher but changed course in the 1980s becoming a systems analyst and programmer. She was recruited by Apple Computer to head up commercial publishing for the company's U.S. markets. Her success with Apple in the 90's led to her promotion as VP of Worldwide Publishing, Entertainment and New Media Markets.
- In the Senate, Lisa serves as the chair of the Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee. She was also chosen by her colleagues to serve on the Economic Development & Trade Committee, Energy, Environment & Technology Committee and the Transportation Committee.
- She serves on the board of Thrive (focused on early childhood education), the Washington State Public Works Board, Partners for Rural Washington and is a mentor for MBA candidates at the Foster Business School at the University of Washington.



Theresa Whitmarsh, Washington Investment Board

- Theresa Whitmarsh is Executive Director of the Washington State Investment Board (WSIB), one of the United States' leading institutional investors, managing nearly \$116.5 billion of state pension, insurance, and other assets. The WSIB is a leader in private asset investing, with private equity, real estate, and tangible assets comprising 43 percent of its retirement portfolio.
- Theresa joined the WSIB in 2003 with 20 years' experience in business, government, and media.
- Theresa currently serves as Chair of the Council of Institutional Investors and she is immediate past Chair of the Pacific Pension & Investment Institute and a past director of the International Centre for Pension Management.
- She also serves on the FCLT Global Board, the Millstein Center for Corporate Governance Advisory Board, the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Long Term Investing, and the ABP Investment Committee.



Connie Collingsworth, Board Director Banner Corp. and Premera Blue Cross, Corporate Attorney

- Connie Collingsworth is responsible for leading a significant portion operational needs, including Information Technology, Human Resources, Legal, Global Security, Grants and Contracts Services, and overall business design.
- Connie was a partner and member of the Executive Committee of Preston Gates & Ellis (now known as K&L Gates), where her practice focused on corporate securities law and private equity investments.
- Connie has extensive nonprofit governance experience including serving as co-chair of the board of Women's World Banking, board chair of Social Venture Partners, and board chair of the French American School of Puget Sound, of which she was also a founder. She currently serves on the board of directors of Premera Blue Cross and Banner Corporation.



Judge Anne Levinson (ret.), Business and Civic Leader

- Judge Levinson's career has been dedicated to public service, civic engagement, and fighting for the rights of the LGBTQ community. As a judge, she founded and then presided over Seattle's mental health court, the nation's first municipal mental health court, designed to divert mentally ill individuals out of the criminal justice system and instead connect them with treatment and services.
- Anne was a founding board member of an organization created to help pass the State anti-discrimination law based on sexual orientation in employment, housing and public accommodations. In the early 90's, she led the campaign to defeat an attempt to overturn Seattle's domestic partnership sick leave and funeral leave, and helped create a new statewide coalition to stop initiatives underway to bar enforcement of laws against discrimination based on sexual orientation, prohibit schools from promoting or supporting homosexuality and ban gay couples from adopting children, being foster parents, retaining custody of children after a divorce, or getting married.
- Anne was instrumental in keeping the Seattle Storm, Women's Basketball team, in Seattle in 2007. The Storm went on to win WNBA championships in 2010 and 2018.
- She is the recipient of numerous civic awards, including:
 - Community Leadership Award from the LGBT Bar Association (QLaw),
 - Lifetime Achievement Business of Pride Award from the Puget Sound Business Journal,
 - Brava Award from the Women's University Club,
 - Community Leader of the Year and Collaboration for Social Change Awards from the Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA)