

AGRIBUSINESS DIRECTOR TRAINING & EDUCATION

Institute for Agribusiness Director Education®

“The Institute’s board training program played a valuable role in helping our board and future directors, audit committee and management understand their respective roles and leadership responsibilities. Conducting this training in-house was especially beneficial in terms of using our own numbers during the financial portion of the training.”

*The Board of Directors
Oregon Cherry Growers, Inc.*

What’s The Institute for Agribusiness Director Education All About?

The Institute for Agribusiness Director Education IADE® was created to ensure that directors of investor-owned and family agribusinesses and cooperatives are well prepared to discharge their governance and fiduciary responsibilities. Effective professional and ethical leadership at the board level is a requirement for companies to succeed in today’s fast-paced and dynamic business environment.

The core curriculum is conducted on an **IN-HOUSE** basis. This approach provides directors with an opportunity to openly discuss leadership issues and governance requirements unique to their company, share perspectives, and promote idea exchange within the confidentiality of their own boardroom.

Directors who complete the director education program will be awarded a Certificate in Agribusiness Board Leadership (CABL).

Because some Insurers agree that one of their best “risk reducers” in writing Director and Officer Liability (D&O) insurance is an educated board, those boards that complete IADE’s director education program and whose directors

are awarded the Certificate in Agribusiness Board Leadership may earn significant discounts on their D&O insurance.

To fulfill the requirements for the Certificate, directors of an investor-owned or family agribusiness or cooperative must participate in a two-day in-house education and training program presented by IADE® faculty. The Certificate in Agribusiness Board Leadership remains active for three years.

Directors may choose to renew their Certificate through IADE’s continuing education program. It is designed to update and provide them with new information pertinent to exercising their duties. Renewal also may enable their companies to continue receiving a discount on their D&O insurance.

To renew the Certificate, a director must participate in IADE® approved Continuing Board Training & Education Courses that represent at least 12 hours of credit. The Certificate in Agribusiness Board Leadership must be renewed within 12 months following its expiration and will be renewable every three years providing all requirements are met.

Continuing education courses will be conducted by IADE® faculty at regional seminars or by approved continuing education course providers.

Effective professional and ethical leadership at the board level is a requirement for companies to succeed in today’s fast-paced and dynamic business environment.

“You played a valuable role in helping our board and management understand their respective roles in leading our company.”

*Edward F. Brennan
President & CEO,
American Legend
Cooperative*

“Your assistance in clarifying the board-CEO partnership enhanced our board’s understanding of its respective duties and responsibilities.”

*Wally Smith
President & CEO,
Recreational
Equipment, Inc.*

CURRICULUM IADE’s **IN-HOUSE** core curriculum will be tailored to meet each board’s individual needs. The following are examples of topics to be presented.

The Board’s Role and Structure

- Director duties and responsibilities
- Ethics in the boardroom (i.e. code of conduct & conflicts of interests)
- Confidentiality outside the boardroom
- Evaluating board performance
- Director selection & new director orientation

The Board’s Fiduciary Responsibility

- Understanding the balance sheet, income and cash flow statements
- Key financial performance measures
- Overseeing risk management (i.e. asset protection & D&O insurance)
- Valuation of assets and how the business is capitalized (debt & equity)
- Selecting & working with the auditor

The Board and CEO Partnership

- The CEO’s role and responsibilities
- Board and CEO decision making boundaries
- Monitoring & evaluation CEO performance
- Strategic planning and taking action
- Facilitating effective board meetings

Board Governance Policies and Practices

- How investor-owned and family agribusinesses and cooperatives function
- The role of stockholders vs. co-op members
- Communicating with stockholders, members and employees.
- The role of the board chairperson
- Director and CEO compensation
- Utilizing outside professionals

WHO are the Faculty?

The faculty is comprised of experts in corporate, agribusiness, and cooperative governance. They include representatives from audit firms, law firms, universities, consulting firms and highly respected executives who are willing to share their time and knowledge as IADE® instructors. They have deep experience, insight, knowledge, and expertise in corporate governance as it relates to investor-owned and family agribusinesses and cooperatives. They are effective communicators and are able to direct discussion with clarity that enables directors to express their views and perspectives openly.

For more information about IADE®, please call

509.458.3210

ABOUT the Executive Director

Since 1971 Dr. Harvey A. Meier has worked with CEOs, boards, owners, and senior executives of investor-owned and family agribusinesses and cooperatives of all types and sizes. Clients often ask him for guidance and insight on how to strengthen the board and CEO partnership, chart and execute strategic business plans, and hire senior managers. He also has served on for-profit and non-profit boards; and held management and executive positions with the First Interstate Bank of Los Angeles and with the Spokane Bank for Cooperatives. And, he has served as CEO of a privately held distribution company in Silicon Valley and has taught at Oregon State University. Harvey’s Ph.D. is from The Ohio State University.

We invite you to contact IADE® to learn more about its director training and education program.

Dr. Harvey A. Meier
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Director Education®

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