ICGS Distinguished Panel Speakers
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Jay W. Lorsch is the Louis E. Kirstein Professor of Human Relations at the Harvard Business School. He is an internationally recognized expert on corporate governance with a specific focus on boards of directors and the author of two path-breaking books about corporate boards: *Back to the Drawing Board: Designing Boards for a Complex World* (with Colin B. Carter, 2003); *Pawns or Potentates: The Reality of America’s Corporate Boards* (with Elizabeth MacIver, 1989) and is editor of *The Future of Boards* (2012). He is currently Chairman of the Harvard Business School Global Corporate Governance Initiative and Faculty Chairman of the Executive Education Corporate Governance Series. He has also served on the boards of many public companies in both the U.S. and Europe. Professor Lorsch is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

Alexey Volynets is a Corporate Governance Officer at the Environment, Social and Governance Department of the International Finance Corporation, part of the World Bank Group. He works for the IFC Corporate Governance Program’s global HQ in Washington, D.C. USA, and specializes in design and delivery of capacity building products and programs. Specifically, he oversees thematic programs on Managing Corporate Governance Disputes, Governance of Small and Medium Enterprises, and CG Media Program (training journalists to properly understand and cover corporate governance issues.) In this capacity, he coordinates development of training programs, materials and publications, and works closely with IFC regional CG programs to guide their local rollout and adaptation. He most closely works with the regions of Europe and Central Asia and South Asia. Alexey has also managed IFC support to and participation in the Emerging Markets Corporate Governance Research Network.

Alexey has a degree in Electromechanical Engineering from Saint-Petersburg Mining University (Russia) and a degree in Media Management from The University of Missouri-Columbia (USA). Alexey started his career at the World Bank in 2001 at the Europe and Central Asia Private and Financial Sector Development Department, and moved to IFC in 2006 to work for the Small and Medium Enterprise Department.
Francis Byrd, Founder and CEO of Byrd Governance Advisory, has over 20 years of experience in the corporate governance field possessing a thorough understanding of governance from the perspective of investors and corporate issuers. Francis has held responsible positions with top institutional investors (TIAA-CREF, the Connecticut Retirement Plans & Trust Funds and the NYC Pension Funds); assessed governance quality at North America’s largest companies on behalf of bondholders and creditors (at Moody’s Investors’ Service) and advised corporate public issuers on how to respond to and engage with activist investors, ESG advocates, shareholder proponents and proxy advisor firms (at proxy solicitation/shareholder communications firms The Altman Group and Laurel Hill Advisory). In 2014 and 2010, NACD Directorship identified Francis as a D-100 governance professional and one of a group of 30 “People To Watch”, respectively. Francis provides strategic advice on governance risk and shareholder engagement and ESG integration.

Arturo Bris is Professor of Finance at IMD. Since January 2014 he is also leading the world renowned IMD World Competitiveness Center. At IMD he directed the Advanced Strategic Management from 2009-2014. He has directed programs for senior executives in several industries and continents. Prior to joining IMD, Professor Bris was the Robert B & Candice J. Haas Associate Professor of Corporate Finance at the Yale School of Management (USA). A Research Associate of the European Corporate Governance Institute, and a member of the Yale International Institute for Corporate Governance, he has worked extensively on issues of Corporate Governance, Financial Regulation, and International Valuation.

His research and consulting activities focus on the international aspects of financial regulation, and in particular on the effects of bankruptcy, short sales, insider trading, and merger laws. Arturo Bris has also researched and lectured on the effects of the Euro on the corporate sector, as well as on the valuation impact of corporate governance changes.

Arturo is passionate about global competitiveness, financial development and macroeconomics. His latest research identifies the relationship between income inequality, social mobility and
competitiveness. He is also developing a competitiveness-based investment portfolio that track the best and worst economies.

His work has been published in the Journal of Finance, the Journal of Financial Economics, the Review of Financial Studies, the Journal of Legal Studies, and the Journal of Business, among others.

Professor Bris taught Corporate Finance and Investment Banking at Yale from 1998 to 2005, where he received the Best Teacher Award twice. His consulting experience includes companies in both the US and Europe.

He is the President of the Board of Trustees of IMD Pension Foundation, and a member of the Supervisory Board of the International School of Lausanne. He is a frequent speaker in international conferences, and appears regularly on international media outlets. Arturo Bris graduated in Law and Economics from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, and received an MSc from CEMFI (Foundation of the Bank of Spain). He holds a PhD in Management from INSEAD. He enjoys reading, road- and mountain-biking, and playing bass guitar.