

# PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

## NAVIGATING THE CHALLENGES OF NEW STANDARDS: LESSONS FOR THE FUTURE



**MODERATOR**  
**TIMOTHY F. RYAN**  
**PwC**  
US Chairman and Senior Partner of  
PwC

Tim Ryan is US Chairman and Senior Partner of PwC after being elected to a four-year term beginning July 1, 2016. Tim is responsible for leading the culture and setting the tone on quality for the US firm and its approximately 52,000 employees and partners. Prior to July 2016, Tim acted as Vice Chair and Markets, Strategy and Stakeholders Leader at PwC, having responsibility for the firm's strategy function and stakeholder relationships including investor relations, regulatory affairs, public policy, corporate responsibility and human capital. Prior to this role, Tim led PwC's Assurance Practice.

Tim serves on the US Board of Partners and Principals as well as the Network Leadership Team (NLT), which includes the senior partners from the network's four largest territories. In addition to the US Board and NLT, he has assumed responsibility as Asia Pacific Americas (APA) Leader and drives activity in that region. He plays an active role in the CAQ.

Tim is a visionary, strategic, and results-driven leader

and board member operating with a high level of integrity. He is known for high quality professional relationships with business, industry and community leaders across the country and globally.

He has over 28 years of diversified experience serving clients in the financial services industry in the US and internationally. He is heavily experienced in complex business issues facing the marketplace and is highly respected and sought out by multiple stakeholders, including regulators, investor groups, and the press. He has been published and quoted in numerous publications and is a frequent contributor to industry events.

In addition, Tim worked with a small group of CEOs and launched The CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™ — a pledge that outlines specific actions that companies can take to advance diversity and inclusion in the workplace. It is the largest ever CEO-driven business commitment on diversity and inclusion.

Tim is a certified public accountant in Massachusetts and New York and a member of the AICPA. Tim serves on the Board of Trustees for the SEC Historical Society and the Children's Aid Society. He graduated from Babson College, where he studied accounting and communications, and joined the firm after graduation. ■

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**PANELIST**  
**CANDY DUNCAN**  
**Discover Financial Services, FTD,**  
**Teleflex**  
Audit Committee Member

Candy Duncan joined the Boards of Discover Financial Services (DFS), FTD Companies, Inc., (FTD) and Teleflex (TFX) after she retired from KPMG at the end of 2013. She serves as Dean of KPMG's leadership program for senior partners, and Chairs the Advisory Council for the KPMG Women's Leadership Summit. Candy has lead the efforts for the advancement of next generation women in the "C Suite."

Candy is a proven business leader with a long record of significant achievements in her life and in her career at KPMG. She served as managing partner of the Washington Metropolitan Area for the firm. In this role, she was responsible for driving revenue, and managing nearly 2,500 partners and professionals across the firm's Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC offices. Prior to this role, Candy served as the Mid-Atlantic Area Managing Partner for Audit and as the audit partner in charge of the firm's Virginia business unit. Candy also served as a member of KPMG's Board of Directors and as Chair of the firm's Nominating Committee and Partnership and Employer of Choice Committee. She was admitted to the KPMG partnership in 1987 and has more than 35 years of experience serving some of the firm's largest and most prestigious clients.

A highlight of Candy's career was advising senior-level executives of Dollar Tree Stores on the company's IPO. Today, the \$19 billion discount retailer has grown to more than 14,000 stores. She assisted a number of other clients in registering their IPOs, secondary offerings, and bond offerings with the SEC. She also assisted publicly and privately held clients in seizing timely opportunities including mergers, acquisitions, spin-offs, and consolidations.

Candy received her BS in accounting from Kansas State University. ■



**PANELIST**  
**JEFF JONES**  
**KPMG LLP**  
Chief Accountant

Jeff Jones became the Chief Accountant in KPMG's Department of Professional

Practice in New York in 2016. From 2005 until 2014, Jeff was a partner in the Practice Advisory/SEC group, leading the firm's topic teams on Share Based Compensation and Pensions and Other Compensation Arrangements. In 2015, Jeff became a Group Head of the Practice Advisory/SEC group.

As Chief Accountant, Jeff leads the Accounting Standards Group and the Practice Advisory/SEC Group, comprised of approximately 75 professionals. The groups' priorities are to consult with the firm's engagement teams on difficult and emerging accounting issues, monitor emerging issues at the SEC, FASB, IASB and other standard setters to communicate that information to engagement teams and other constituents, and to enhance audit quality on audits. He is also an SEC Reviewing Partner and has served in that capacity for a diverse group of companies, including Liberty Media Corporation, The Hershey Company, CA, Inc., and Frontier Communications.

Jeff began his career in 1987 in KPMG's Baltimore office. In 1994, he transferred to the National Office in New York. From 1997 to 1999, Jeff was a Professional Accounting Fellow in the Office of the Chief Accountant at the SEC. Jeff rejoined KPMG in 1999 as a partner in the Department of Professional Practice in New York. During his appointment to the SEC staff, Jeff consulted with registrants on accounting and reporting matters and participated in developing rule proposals under the Federal Securities laws, including SAB 100 and SAB 101. ■



**PANELIST**  
**DAVE SULLIVAN**  
**Deloitte & Touche LLP**  
National Managing Partner – Quality & Professional Practice

As the National Managing Partner – Quality & Professional Practice at Deloitte & Touche LLP, Dave Sullivan leads the national office including the accounting, SEC services, audit policy and methodology, risk management, inspections, and regulatory functions. He also oversees the regional and local quality leaders. Dave serves as a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors at Deloitte & Touche. He is a member of the PCAOB Standing Advisory Group, and the CAQ's Professional Practice Executive Committee. He is a former member of the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Committee of the FASB.

## PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Prior to his current role, Dave served as the Deputy Managing Partner – Professional Practice, Audit; National Professional Practice Director, West Region; Professional Practice Director in the Silicon Valley and Orange County practices, and as the Industry Professional Practice Director for the Technology, Media and Telecommunications industry. Dave has served large Fortune 50 companies and worked on dozens of IPOs over his career. Dave has over 35 years of public accounting experience. He served as a practice fellow at the FASB. Dave graduated from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, CA. ■



**PANELIST**  
**CHRISTOPHER TOWER**  
**BDO USA, LLP**  
National Assurance Managing Partner –  
Audit Quality and Professional Practice

Christopher Tower is BDO's National Assurance Managing Partner for Audit Quality and Professional Practice, where he oversees the many elements of National Assurance, including auditing, accounting, SEC services, global services, quality control, and independence. He has over 34 years of public accounting experience, including client-facing service delivery, practice operational oversight, and audit quality and professional practice oversight. For a

significant portion of his career Christopher had a client service partner role, providing audit and other attest services to a diverse mix of privately and publicly held clients. From 2003 until 2016 he served as BDO's West Regional Managing Partner, overseeing audit and other attestation operations.

Christopher is a member of BDO's Executive Team, a group of senior leaders responsible for determining and communicating the firm's strategic priorities and key opportunities for sustainable growth. He chairs BDO's Audit Quality Committee, which oversees the audit partner annual audit quality assessment process, and serves on the firm's Assurance Committee, which sets BDO's policies and methodology with respect to audit and other attestations services. He oversees the development and implementation of the firm's annual plan for improving audit quality and the its annual *Audit Quality Report*. He has overseen various aspects of the firm's audit quality initiatives, including chairing the Effectiveness and Efficiency Committees.

Christopher has provided services to entities in a wide range of industries with a primary focus on real estate, specialty finance, technology, and manufacturing and distribution companies. He is a member of the AICPA, CalCPA, CAQ's Professional Practice Executive Committee, and the PCAOB Standard Advisory Group. Christopher received a BS in business administration from the Haas School of Business at Berkeley. ■

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## EVOLVING NEEDS FOR THE AUDIT IN 2023



**MODERATOR**  
**STELLA M. SHANOVICH**  
**BDO USA, LLP**  
Assurance Office Managing Partner

Stella Shanovich has substantial experience in serving both publicly-held and privately-owned companies, domestic and international, in the areas of financial statement audits, compliance audits (including Uniform Guidance (previously, OMB A-133)), strategic planning (including design, implementation and monitoring phases), transaction workflow/process improvement, internal control structure review and design, and complex financial reporting. She has provided services to a

wide range of industries. These include manufacturing, technology, retail/distribution, network marketing, franchising, financial services, transportation, nonprofit organizations (including healthcare organizations), colleges, university foundations, and ancillary educational organizations, such as student loan entities and study abroad organizations.

Stella has 20 years of public and corporate accounting experience. Her areas of knowledge include building strong client relationships, developing dynamic and diverse teams, and overseeing audit and accounting projects. Stella is actively involved in teaching, developing and facilitating change and transformation, whether it's process-related or culture-related.

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Stella previously served as the chief financial officer of a medical laboratory in New Mexico. Her significant accomplishments included negotiating construction financing for new building construction, coordinating a legal restructure project (adding a tax-exempt entity to a taxable nonprofit organization), managing business optimization and functional realignments over the front-end and billing processes, overseeing M&A due diligence activities, and reviewing/negotiating third-party payor contracts.

Stella is a member of the AICPA, the Arizona Society of CPAs, NACD, and the Arizona Business Leadership, and serves on the Finance Committee of the Pacific Southwest Conference Executive Board. She has a BBA with an emphasis in accounting from the University of New Mexico. ■



**PANELIST**  
**JEFF BROWN**

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**  
Josef and Margot Lakonishok Endowed Professor of Business and Dean of Gies College of Business

Jeff Brown is the Josef and Margot Lakonishok Endowed Professor of Business and Dean of Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also serves as a Professor of Finance and was the Founding Director of the Center for Business and Public Policy. Jeff is the Director of the Retirement Research Center at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) in Cambridge, MA; a trustee and Chair of the Audit Committee for TIAA; Vice Chair of the Board of Managers of UI Singapore Research LLC; and a member of the Advisory Board of the Urban Institute/Brookings Institution's Tax Policy Center. Previously, Jeff served as a Senior Economist with the White House Council of Economic Advisers. Jeff is a member of the Governing Board of the CAQ, and its Research Advisory Board.

He earned his PhD in economics from MIT, his MPP from Harvard, and his BA from Miami University (Ohio). ■



**SARA LORD**  
**RSM US LLP**

Partner, National Director of Assurance Services

Sara Lord is the National Director of Assurance Services for RSM. In this role she leads the Assurance Standards and Methodology Group (ASMG) and the Specialized Services Group (SSG). ASMG has overall responsibility for the methodology, tools, and training supporting RSM's assurance services. SSG includes the industry leaders that support audit quality for specialized industry practices.

Prior to joining RSM, Sara was a partner in a regional accounting firm where she served clients and was a concurring and consultation resource for accounting and assurance needs. Sara also worked for a Big Four accounting firm in a variety of roles, including audit client service, national office consultation, and global office public policy.

Sara is a member of the AICPA Auditing Standards Board and the CAQ's Professional Practice Executive Committee.

Sara received a bachelor of accountancy from the University of North Dakota (UND). She is a 2015 inductee in the UND Accounting Hall of Fame and a member of the UND College of Business and Public Administration Advisory Board. ■



**PANELIST**  
**LORA A. ROTHE**  
**Deloitte Services LP**  
Talent Managing Director

Lora Rothe is the Lead Talent Managing Director for Deloitte & Touche LLP's Audit & Assurance business. In her role, Lora is responsible for the strategy and delivery of Talent Services including acquisition, development, total rewards, and strategic operations to meet the needs of the business. She leads a team of talent professionals responsible for delivering on Deloitte's value proposition to Audit and Assurance professionals by fostering a leadership culture focused on their development and well-being. In addition, Lora is an active member of Deloitte's National Talent Executive Group.

## PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Lora joined Deloitte in 1987 as an external auditor in the Pittsburgh office, eventually serving as the lead senior manager for several significant clients. Although serving external clients was a familiar space for her, she ultimately chose to shift her focus internally, bringing her interests of Human Resources and auditing together.

Lora is passionate and committed to strengthening Deloitte's culture of inclusion, having been involved in these efforts most of her career. Lora has been an active board member of various organizations as part of her community involvement. She is a member of the PICPA, AICPA, and the CAQ Talent Steering Committee. She earned her BA in accounting and business administration from Thiel College in Greenville, Pennsylvania. ■



**PANELIST**  
**SCOTT ZIMMERMAN**  
**EY**  
Americas Assurance Innovation and Digital Leader

As EY's Americas Assurance Innovation and Digital Leader Scott Zimmerman is responsible for driving development of enabling technologies and business practices with a digital-first approach to

all aspects of the Assurance practice. He leads the innovation initiatives in several areas, including Cloud Transformation, NextGen Data and Analytics, Intelligent Process Automation (IPA), AI, machine learning, and blockchain. Scott is delivering innovation and digital to help transform EY's audit delivery model with a complete focus on exceptional client service. To this end, he is responsible for centralizing EY's audit approach in shared service center environments to maximize efficiencies by utilizing technologies and standardized processes and controls.

Previously Scott served as EY's Private Equity assurance leader. In this role he managed client engagements in the areas of audit, compliance, process improvement, regulatory reporting, technology transformation, and other initiatives across finance and operations.

Scott has over 15 years of experience performing public accounting, auditing and transaction advisory services, and more than five years of transaction work as both an investment banker and private equity investor. Scott has significant experience in all aspects of asset management including deal origination and execution, investment operations, and the valuation process.

Scott is a CPA and graduated from the University of Maryland with a BS in accounting. ■