

IR UPDATE

WEEKLY

August 14, 2018

Leaders Wanted

There are more than 1.4 million not-for-profit organizations in the United States, including hospitals, charities, foundations, service organizations, and religious institutions. Included in that number are approximately 65,000 individual membership societies (like NIRI) and trade associations in which companies are members. These groups – generically, associations – have much more in common than a tax status. One major example: all have boards of directors.

Boards are composed of members who volunteer their time to help guide the strategy, policy, and programs of their organization to advance a mission and achieve goals. They must balance the needs of members – expressed and unexpressed – and the aspiration to do more things to serve members – with the ever-present challenge of limited resources.

As an association management professional for 37 years, I have had the privilege of serving alongside of thousands of board members, many of whom inspired and supported me. And I have served on some two dozen boards. Most board members work hard, care a great deal, and are generous with their time, talent, and treasure.

NIRI is looking for four new board members right now. The deadline to apply is **Monday, August 20**. Anyone can [nominate](#) any NIRI regular member. As many as two dozen nominations are received. The Nominating and Governance Committee reviews each applicant and carefully considers a range of factors before recommending a slate of four candidates to the Board. The committee strives to ensure a geographical and demographic balance, and tries to get a mix of company sizes (valuation) and business sectors, among other aspects. After the Board approves the slate, the candidates are proposed for election by the members. New board members serve a four-year term, and attend at least four board meetings a year. Board members pay for their own expenses incurred during their board service.

With just four open seats, not all applicants are successful in being selected. But all are appreciated for being willing to step up and serve the greater good of the profession.

I hope you will consider nominating someone for board service. The future of NIRI – and of the IR profession – is in the hands of those who serve on the Board.

All the best,
Gary



Gary A. LaBranche, FASAE, CAE
President and Chief Executive Officer
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P.S. A reminder to [register](#) for "Fundamentals of IR" and the other informative seminars and networking events that are part of NIRI East in Boston on Sept. 24-28.