MGMT 6100: TOPICS IN MANAGEMENT - CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

This course will combine insight from academic understanding of corporate responsibility issues with problems, approaches and solutions as seen from executives who have to address these issues. Topical applications will be drawn from Marilyn Nelson’s work on CSR issues.

This course will evaluate:
- What is corporate responsibility and how executives think about it.
- The factors that make assessing corporate responsibility complex.
- How such complexity is often manifest by unintended consequences from what seem appropriate responses to issues regarding corporate responsibility.
- The need for business leaders to understand and make choices with respect to corporate responsibility issues.

Students in the course will better appreciate how a firm impacts society is complex and multi-faceted and why simple axioms or imperatives for how firms should act can be misguided. Students should leave with a better appreciation of how to evaluate, assess and demonstrate leadership with respect to these issues.

Course Faculty

Marilyn Carlson Nelson is chairman and former CEO of Carlson which includes such brands as: Radisson Hotels, Country Inns & Suites, Carlson Wagonlit (Vah-Gor-LEE) Travel and T.G. I. Friday’s. More than 150,000 people work under the Carlson brands in 150 countries.

Marilyn has appeared on Forbes magazine’s list as one of “The World’s 100 Most Powerful Women.” U.S. News and World Report named her one of “America’s Best Leaders.” In 2004, Marilyn co-chaired the World Economic Forum’s annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland. She served as chair of the National Women’s Business Council, a bi-partisan advisory council to the President and Congress on issues impacting women business owners, and is past chair of the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board.

Marilyn serves on the boards of ExxonMobil, The Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. She is Chair of the Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees.

The Center for Integrative Leadership was inspired by Marilyn’s vision that the University of Minnesota could lead in the development and study of cross sector leadership to solve the complex problems of our time. She is the author of the bestselling book How We Lead Matters: Reflections on a Life of Leadership.

Myles Shaver is Professor of Strategic Management and Organization at the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota. He also holds the Pond Family Chair in the Teaching and Advancement of Free Enterprise Principles. Prior to joining the Carlson School, Myles was Associate Professor of Management and International Business at the Stern School of Business, New York University and has been a visiting scholar at Copenhagen Business School and the National University of Singapore.