

Book Review Submission Guidelines Director Today

Book Review Procedure

- Request for book reviews must be e-mailed to **info@iodglobal.com**.
- Additionally, **four (4) print copies** of the book should be couriered to the following address:

Address: INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

M-56 A, Greater Kailash Part-II (Market), New Delhi-110048, India

- The book will subsequently undergo an **Editorial Review**, which may take up to **four (4) weeks**.
- Upon approval**, the Editorial Team will revert accordingly and schedule the review in alignment with a relevant thematic issue of the publication.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- The rights for **selection/rejection** of any **article/ book review/ other feature** in the **Director Today** or **IOD Blog** shall **vest solely with the Editorial Board, without assigning any reason**.
- Feature placement** of the review is completely under the discretion of the Editorial Board of Director Today.
- Submission of books** for review **does not guarantee feature** in the Director Today.

ON BOARD
The Modern Playbook
by Jonathan F. Pomeroy

GOVERNANCE & BOARD LEADERSHIP

At a time when boards face unprecedented scrutiny and rapid change, *On Board: The Modern Playbook* for Corporate Governance serves as both a compass and a toolkit for directors committed to excel in governance. It masterfully bridges traditional governance principles with the complexities of the contemporary business landscape. What makes this book stand out is its pragmatic approach. Rather than simply theorizing governance, it provides concrete strategies for enhancing board effectiveness, managing risk, and aligning decision-making with long-term value creation.

THE NOTORIOUS ESG
Business, Climate and the Race to Save the Planet
by Vinod Khosla

SUSTAINABILITY & POLICY

The notorious ESG: Business, Climate and the Race to Save the Planet offers a clarion call for global business transformation. At a time when ESG dominates boardroom discussions, the book unpacks the hype and explores the challenges facing corporations striving to deliver their climate commitments in the public eye. The book is both a critique and a roadmap, dissecting how business leaders make ambitious sustainability promises that risk being more rhetorical than actionable. Highlighting the pitfalls of short-term thinking, the book presents a compelling Climate Manifesto for business and a strategic guide for organizations eager to lead in sustainability and planetary stewardship.

HUMAN EDGE IN THE AI AGE
Eight Timeless Mantras for Success
by Nalin Sriv

CHALLENGE & SECURITY

As Artificial Intelligence continues to redefine industries, displacing traditional roles and automating capabilities once considered uniquely human, the true competitive advantage for both individuals and organizations will be in cultivating distinctly human strengths. In this book, Nalin Sriv introduces the Human Edge Framework, an eight-dimensional model of human capabilities and values that he argues are essential in the AI era. The author unfolds eight dimensions that he considers pillars for thriving: Problem Solving, Openness to Change, Spirituality, Systems Thinking, Purpose-driven Leadership, Balance Managing Leadership, and Entrepreneurship. *Human Edge in the AI Age* is an essential read for board members, CEOs, and senior leaders seeking to navigate the intersection of technology, governance, and human values. It is a thoughtful, well-structured, and timely contribution to the literature on

CEO READY
What You Need to Know to Earn the Job and Keep the Job
by Dr. Mark C. Thompson and Mr. Bryan Laffin

BOOK REVIEW

The CEO Ready book asserts if you think it is purely rational, you are not CEO ready. This honesty becomes the book's driving strength. It demystifies the politics, pressures, and personalities that shape leadership decisions, offering readers a rare insider's view of what truly matters when the baton of power is about to be passed.

Leadership often feels like a destination stamped with corner office prestige, global town halls, and decisive boardroom signatures. But Dr. Mark C. Thompson and Mr. Bryan Laffin demystify this illusion with precision and empathy in *CEO Ready*. They present a candid yet deeply motivating leadership legacy long before the title, and if you believe the CEO selection process is purely meritocratic, you are already behind.

The most compelling insight in the book is what the authors call *executive humility*, a juxtaposition that captures the essence of sustainable leadership. Alongside this comes *productive paranoia*, an anticipatory skill that embraces preparation without succumbing to fear. A central theme and perhaps the book's most practical contribution is the call to identify *functional barriers*. Many professionals rise by excelling in one domain, only to falter when required to lead across.

The *CEO Ready* is far more than just a manual for aspiring CEOs. It is packed with real-world insights, compelling narratives, and actionable frameworks.

The authors delivered a powerful message: *CEO Ready* does not just prepare for the top job. It ensures the leader whose name makes others believe you are already there.

Some of the key questions answered:

- Why is leadership selection far more emotional and personal than a rigorous paper?
- How can aspiring leaders develop "confident humility," and why is it considered a new superpower among top performers?
- How can leaders build credibility across functions they have never worked without becoming overwhelmed?
- What are the hidden expectations boards have from CEO candidates that are almost never articulated?
- What separates those who merely hope for leadership roles from those who actively earn them?

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr. Mark C. Thompson is the Chairman of the Chief Executive Officers (CEO) and the Global Institute of Directors (IOD) and the author of the book *CEO Ready*. He is also the Chairman of the IOD's #CEO Council and the author of the book *CEO Ready*. He is also the Chairman of the IOD's #CEO Council and the author of the book *CEO Ready*.

Mr. Bryan Laffin is the current Vice President and the Global Institute of Directors (IOD) and the author of the book *CEO Ready*. He is also the Chairman of the IOD's #CEO Council and the author of the book *CEO Ready*.

