

Our Antioch University BOARD OF GOVERNORS

APRIL 2017



HOWARD COLEMAN



Howard Coleman has served four terms on the University Board since 2006. He served as Chair of the Board from 2013-2016. Before being elected to Antioch University's Board in 2006, Howard was elected in 2004 as an ex-officio member of the Board's Investment Committee.

1 What drew you to serve on the Antioch University Board of Governors? What makes you most proud?

I was drawn initially to the Board because I am an Antioch College alum and thought my background in investment and my legal experience could add value to the Board. I am most proud of the access to education Antioch University provides for so many individuals who are the first in their families to obtain higher education degrees, let alone graduate degrees.

2 What contributions do you feel you bring as a Board member to lead Antioch University? As the Board Chair?

I have a deep love of the University. And I have a single-minded commitment to base my actions on the simple principle: "What is in the University's best interest."

3 What has your experience been on the Board to date? Have there been any surprises you'd like to share?

My experience has been both challenging and rewarding. Of course, the fiscal situation is a source of continual angst. The commitment to and caring for Antioch University and its mission that pervades this institution is truly remarkable. And I am glad to be a part of it.

I have also been struck by the collegiality and focus of my colleagues on the Board. No one is trying to prove they are the "smartest person in the room," and we are all focused on doing what's best for the institution.

My biggest surprise was the joy I got from attending my first graduation ceremony at Antioch University Seattle.

4 If I were to interview you five years from now, what would you like to be able to say about...

a. Antioch University?

That Antioch University is prospering financially; it is continuing its long tradition of innovation; it is serving under-served populations; and, it's living its mission.

b. Your role as a BoG member?

I helped get us through some challenging times. I listened.

5 What would you like our readers to know that they might not learn from your brief biography?

My spouse, Linda (who is also a lawyer), founded a nonprofit in 2002 called Education Action Network to provide college prep (test prep, application help, and some financial aid advice) to kids who can't afford prep courses at places like Kaplan. I have taught grammar and writing for years, and our two kids (now grown) also volunteered in their high school years. I will continue helping this non-profit after my term on the Board expires.

Howard is a 1975 graduate of Antioch College with a BA in Political Science. Following graduation he served as the Director of VISTA. He received his JD, with honors, from the University of Washington Law School in 1984, and is also a graduate of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy.

Howard has led Coldstream's Investment Strategy Group and has been a member of the firm's Investment Committee since his previous firm, Genesee Investments, LLC, was acquired by Coldstream in 2012. Howard spent 15 years as general's counsel, managing director, and investment committee member for Genesee Investments.

Before joining Genesee, Howard was a partner in the law firm of Riddell Williams. In 1985, he served as a judicial clerk to Justice Barbara Durham of the Washington State Supreme Court. Howard is also a member of the Washington State Bar Association's Securities Law Committee and was the 2011 chair of the Northwest Securities Institute. He is a former board member of the Seattle Alternative Investment Association, and currently serves on the Board of Directors of Education Access Network, a not-for-profit educational organization.

Before being elected to Antioch University's Board in 2006, Howard was elected in 2004 as an ex-officio member of the Board's Investment Committee.

HOLIDAY HART MCKIERNAN



Holiday (Holly) Hart McKiernan joined the Board of Governors of Antioch University in 2013. She has written several articles on higher education and she speaks frequently on legal, governance, and policy issues concerning nonprofit organizations and higher education.

1 What drew you to serve on the Antioch University Board of Governors? What makes you most proud?

Antioch University is an incredibly unique institution—in its history, in who it serves, in its values, in its vision, and in its willingness to be transformative and embrace change. When I first learned of Antioch University, I thought, “I want to be part of something that is really striving to be part of, and lead, higher education change.” I was drawn to the Board and found its members to have passion, expertise, commitment, and drive.

I am honored to be part of this Board. As a group we tackle really tough decisions. We are willing to challenge ideas, not the people expressing those ideas. We have a decision-making process that takes into account the facts, considers the array of perspectives as well as intended and unintended consequences, and ultimately is willing to take action. The wisdom and commitment is second to no other board. I am proud of the partnership which has been forged to truly work as a team with the AU leadership.

2 What contributions do you feel you bring as a Board member to lead Antioch University?

My day job at Lumina involves many aspects of postsecondary education policy—state, federal, and institutional policy. We look at what the United States needs to build a postsecondary education system to ensure participatory democracy, have an effective economy, and be a global player. I think I bring a bit of “where the world of postsecondary education is going”—the challenges it is facing to truly be high quality, affordable, accessible, and equitable. That lens I find to be valuable.

I find many institutions are governed by boards where many discussions begin with “When I was in college...” That frame, frankly, is totally irrelevant. Today’s student is not the memory we have from our own college experience—of course, there are still traditional-aged students, but they are not the majority. Policies and institutions were designed with the traditional student in mind—that no longer works, and I hope I bring that perspective to our discussions and deliberations.

Finally, my role as the general counsel of a private foundation brings expertise in working with a board, in understanding the fiduciary role of a board, and in how best to navigate complex legal issues.

3 What has your experience been on the Board to date? Have there been any surprises you’d like to share?

I enjoy my Board service tremendously. Partially because of the Antioch University mission, partially because as a board we are working through difficult issues, and, partially due to the talent that I have the incredible fortune of working with—both on the Board and on the staff. To date I believe I have learned more, and gained more, from my Board service than Antioch University has gotten from me. I am far better in my job at Lumina as a result of being on this Board. Candidly, I understand, first hand, the tough decisions that have to be made. I understand the existing tensions and that there are no easy solutions.

4 If I were to interview you five years from now, what would you like to be able to say about...

a. Antioch University?

I will say that the Antioch University story will be one that is told, and told broadly. That this is a case study of sorts. That Antioch University becomes a model for other institutions facing challenges and seeking to change.

b. Your role as a BoG member?

I hope that I will have genuinely contributed.

5 What would you like our readers to know that they might not learn from your brief biography?

I believe that it is ideas and people who make things happen. Relationships are essential to building trust, and in course, bringing about change.

I have been fortunate to have a number of fabulous positions. Yet, the most significant role is that of being a mother. Our three children are now adults, and I am constantly reminded of what a privilege it is to be their mother.

Holiday Hart McKiernan serves as executive vice president, chief operating officer, and general counsel for Lumina Foundation for Education. Holly oversees the foundation's operations, legal affairs, and board governance. Part of her work has included Lumina's exploration of the Bologna Process and the implications of that reform effort on American higher education. She speaks frequently on legal, governance, and policy issues concerning nonprofit organizations and higher education. Holly began her career practicing law with a concentration on nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations. Prior to joining Lumina in 2003, she was executive director and counsel for Alpha Chi Omega and advised universities on approaches to high-risk student behavior.
