

EXCELLENCE IN BOARD GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2026

9:00 - 9:15 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
PHILIP DEARBORN, President | ABHE

9:15 - 10:00 SESSION 1: INSTITUTIONAL VALUE, CULTURE, AND MISSION
PRESENTER: JOHN DERRY

- ▶ The promise the institution makes to its constituency
- ▶ Institutional distinctives, brand and value
- ▶ Institutional purpose and heritage
- ▶ Guarding against mission drift

10:00 - 10:30 Q & A DISCUSSION

10:30 - 10:45 MORNING BREAK

10:45 - 11:30 SESSION 2: STEWARD BOARD CULTURE AND AUTHORITY
PRESENTER: DAVID GYERTSON

- ▶ Steward board vs owner board
- ▶ Stewarding the institution as a spiritual enterprise
- ▶ Policy governance and the board policy manual
- ▶ Effective path for board chair and presidential partnership

11:30 - 12:00 Q & A DISCUSSION

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH/BRUNCH BREAK

1:00 - 1:45 SESSION 3: SUSTAINABILITY AND STRATEGIC PLANNING
PRESENTER: JOHN DERRY

- ▶ Modes of governance as leadership — fiscal, strategic & generative
- ▶ Accurate assessment of institutional SWOT
- ▶ User friendly dashboard of institutional KPI's
- ▶ Compliance, risk assessment, and crisis management

1:45 - 2:15 Q & A DISCUSSION

2:15 - 2:30 AFTERNOON BREAK

2:30 - 3:15 SESSION 4: BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION
PRESENTER: DAVID GYERTSON

- ▶ An effective board governance committee
- ▶ Strategic board member recruitment and orientation
- ▶ Board and presidential evaluations
- ▶ Continuous board development

3:15 - 4:00 Q & A DISCUSSION

4:00 WRAP-UP

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW:

Serving on the board of a Bible College is an exceptional opportunity to shape the institution's spiritual and academic direction that will help fulfill its mission. As such, it is important to ensure that trustees understand the responsibilities entrusted to them and that they are well-informed on the unique aspects of college board governance. This one-day virtual conference will introduce these fundamentals and provide a foundation for future development. Boards are encouraged to have all trustees, and the president, participate so they can identify areas to improve efficiency and effectiveness. It is also an excellent opportunity for new trustees to engage as part of their orientation to the board.

PRESENTERS:



Dr. John Derry
Board Governance Coach (TX)



Dr. David Gyertson
Board Governance Coach (KY)



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