

# CHEMONICS BOARD

Our Board of Directors

To promote accountability, leadership, and innovation, our board of directors includes corporate executives, and field and external leaders.

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## **Ashraf W. Rizk, Chairman**

Ashraf Rizk was Chemonics' President and CEO from April 2002 to April 2006. Before that, he was the firm's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, a position he had held since 1990. A Chemonics employee since 1982, Mr. Rizk has led the firm's activities in the Middle East and Asia and managed Egypt Local Development II, the largest decentralization development project in the world at the time. Before joining Chemonics, Mr. Rizk was senior auditor for an Egyptian accounting firm and oversaw CARE programs in Egypt.

## **Ronald J. Gilbert, Vice-Chair**

Ronald Gilbert is cofounder and president of ESOP Services, Inc., an international consulting firm specializing in all aspects of Employee Stock Ownership Plan ("ESOP") applications and ESOP privatization for private and public companies and government-owned entities. He brings more than 35 years of ESOP experience and currently serves on The ESOP Association's Board of Governors and its Legislative and Regulatory Advisory Committee as well as the board of directors of three other ESOP companies. He currently chairs the Audit Committee and the International Ownership Expansion Committee and formerly served on the board of directors of The National Center for Employee Ownership. He is co-author and co-editor of Employee Stock Ownership Plans: ESOP Planning, Financing, Implementation, Law and Taxation, the most comprehensive work on the subject, published by the Beyster Institute, and has also authored numerous ESOP articles. Prior to cofounding ESOP Services, Inc., Mr. Gilbert was a vice president of Kelso & Company in San Francisco, where he worked with Louis Kelso, the "father" of the ESOP.

## **Susanna Mudge, President and CEO**

Since joining the firm in 1992, Susanna Mudge has served the company in many key leadership roles, including as executive vice president, senior vice president of the Latin America and Caribbean region, and as director of several of the company's larger programs. She brings in-depth global expertise in strategic private sector development, organizational development, trade and investment promotion, and sustainable natural resource management. She views quality project management as "inextricably linked to business success because that is what differentiates us and makes us competitive." Raised in Latin America, she began her career as a regional

development and tourism specialist for the Organization of American States, then as a privatization specialist with Ernst and Young, responsible for managing marketing and investment projects in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

### **Lizann Prosser, Board Member**

Lizann Prosser is a seasoned and proven leader with more than 20 years of experience in international development. As the past president and CEO of Crown Agents-USA, she has managed all aspects of development consulting and has worked in more than 50 countries. Ms. Prosser entered development consulting following careers in environmental management and investment banking and has extensive experience managing complex projects in challenging situations. She holds advanced degrees in both public health and management, as well as a bachelor's in engineering.

### **Martha Verrill Schlager, Board Member**

Martha Schlager, a board member since 2007, is a former senior executive with A.T. Kearney and Korn/Ferry International. With a focus on higher education, she has led executive management projects for leading colleges and universities and business schools nationally and internationally. Clients include Harvard University, University of Virginia, University of Michigan, El Zamorano, Escuela Agricola Panamericana (Honduras), London Business School (UK), University of Chicago Booth School of Business, and Cornell University Johnson Graduate School of Management, among others. Ms. Schlager brings an outside perspective to the board also having served as a founding member of the Board of Georgetown University Hospital Department of Pediatrics and recently as vice president of service learning at the National Cathedral School in Washington, D.C.

### **Annika Sweetland, Board Member**

Dr. Annika Sweetland is a research scientist in the Department of Psychiatry at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In addition to several published academic works, she has extensive technical knowledge and experience in health and sustainable development in several settings including in Brazil, Nigeria, Mozambique, Haiti, and Peru. She is co-founder and co-chair of a working group on tuberculosis and mental health at the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, one of the oldest and largest global health research and technical organizations in the world with membership from more than 150 countries. Her previous work with the World Health Organization, Pan American Health Organization, Millennium Villages Project/Columbia Earth Institute, and Partners in Health/Harvard Medical School contributes to her valuable perspective on the board. Dr. Sweetland received a masters in social work from the University of California at Berkeley in 2002 and a doctorate in public health from Columbia University in 2010.

### **Barbara C. Teele, Board Member**

Barbara C. Teele was married to the late Thurston F. Teele, Chemonics' founder, and has been with the company for 33 years. An educator by profession, her experience includes serving as executive director to the co-chairman of one of the national political parties and as director of the public affairs program for the American College

of Nuclear Physicians. She has travelled to more than 10 countries as a representative of Chemonics, and hosted many social events for visiting international dignitaries in the United States.

### **Eijk Van Otterloo, Board Member**

Eijk Van Otterloo became majority shareholder and served as chairman of the board for Chemonics in 2006. He led the company's efforts to become 100 percent employee-owned in 2011. Mr. Van Otterloo is a founding member of Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Company (GMO), an investment management company based in Boston. Before GMO's founding in 1977, he managed investments at Phoenix Mutual Life Investment Company and Keystone Custodian Funds. Mr. Van Otterloo studied economics at Amsterdam Municipal University (Netherlands) and earned an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

### **Dov S. Zakheim, Board Member**

The Honorable Dov S. Zakheim is a senior advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and senior fellow at the CNA Corporation. As the former undersecretary of defense (comptroller) and chief financial officer for the Department of Defense (DOD), Dr. Zakheim developed and managed department budgets, negotiated five major defense agreements with U.S. allies and partners, and served as a principal advisor to the secretary of defense. He also served as DOD's coordinator of civilian programs in Afghanistan. Dr. Zakheim is currently serving as the vice chairman of both the Center for the National Interest and the Foreign Policy Research Institute, as well as being a member of the DOD's Defense Business Board and the Chief of Naval Operations Executive Panel. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and Chatham House/The Royal Institute of International Affairs; and is a fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences. Dr. Zakheim holds a doctorate in economics and politics from St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, where he held three graduate and post-graduate fellowships.

# Michele Piercey

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## Michele Piercey

Director, Conflict and Crisis Practice at Chemonics International

### Location

Washington D.C. Metro Area

### Industry

International Trade and Development

Current  
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## Summary

Michele Piercey is an international development practitioner with 17 years of professional experience, including 10 years working on political transition and counter-violent extremism (CVE) programs in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Tunisia. She is the Director of Chemonics International's Crisis and Conflict Practice, in which she leads Chemonics' industry outreach on conflict and CVE, supports new business efforts, and provides technical support to projects under implementation.

After corporate change management posts with the Australian Department of Defense early in her career, she worked with the U.S. Army Engineers on small-scale community engagement projects across Iraq. Upon joining DAI, she partnered with Provincial Reconstruction Teams and Iraqi civil society on local development projects to reinforce legitimate local governments, and counteract the influence of extremists in south and west Baghdad in 2008 and 2009. From 2009 to 2012 she served as Deputy Chief of Party on USAID - Office of Transition Initiatives Afghanistan Stabilization Initiative, during which she developed and piloted the District Stability Framework, a counterinsurgency planning tool later mandated for use by US military and civilians planning stabilization operations throughout Afghanistan.

As Chief of Party of the Tunisian Transition Initiative from 2012 to 2014, Michele led over 30 local and expatriate staff in the design and development of an innovative small grants program to support Tunisians in their pursuit of a democratic society, a program noted for its innovative use of art, music, and new media to reach a wide cross section of Tunisians and support democratic change. Under Michele's leadership, TTI piloted an innovative new CVE programming strategy that focused on fostering a sense of belonging to moderate Tunisian society for at-risk youth, in response to the disconnection and hopelessness that many young Arabs experienced in the aftermath of the Arab Spring.

## Experience



- **CHEMONICS** **Conflict and Crisis Practice Director Chemonics International** October 2015 - Present (2 months) Washington D.C. Metro Area

## Organizations

- **Women Chiefs of Enterprise International** Starting January 2013

## Languages

- **English** Native or bilingual proficiency
- **French** Professional working proficiency

## Volunteer Experience & Causes

**Causes Michele cares about:**

- **Civil Rights and Social Action**
  - **Human Rights**

## Groups



- **International Development Professionals**



Corporate Social Responsibility CSR and Sustainable Development



Consultants Network



U.S. Agency for International Development/Outreach and Recruitment



Risk Group



ASIS International



Australian Expatriates and Repatriates

• See 1 more



U.S. Agency for International Development

• See less

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- [Hunter Keith](#) Libya Country Director at DAI



- [Mina Day](#) Chief of Party at Global Communities



- [Barb Lauer](#) Principal Global Practice Leader - Capacity Building / Leadership Development at DAI



- [Louise Hogan](#) Senior Global Practice Specialist -- Governance and Stability at DAI



- **Phelps Feeley** International Development Professional



- **Robert Jacobi Sr.** Advisor (Bench), Economic Growth and Livelihoods



- **Sonya Day** Senior Project Manager

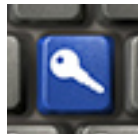


- **Greg Gisvold** Director, Governance and Rule of Law



- **Stig Marker Hansen** Chief of Party at Abt Associates

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