

# BAM 2021 CONFERENCE IN THE CLOUD



## Corporate Governance Track

### Track Chairs

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### Track description:

The SIG Track warmly welcomes submissions in all areas relating to corporate governance to the BAM 2021 annual conference, particularly in relation to the current crisis.

The Covid-19 pandemic has emphasised the significance of effective governance and the crucial role that management play in ensuring the control of risk management, transparency and accountability. As anecdotal evidence has suggested, corporate governance has been greatly complicated over the past year by the onset of the pandemic. This modern plague, besides having a dire impact on society and the economy, holds significant implications for regulators and managers alike. Among many challenges, we note particularly the following:

For example, board meetings may be impossible to organise on the basis required by a company's memorandum. Face-to-face meetings may be illegal or impossible, especially when attendees have to travel from different countries, but online meetings may contravene corporate strictures. Even assuming that boards are able to convene lawful meetings, how might topics of debate be modified?

With many stakeholders financially impacted by the pandemic, how will boards of directors (particularly in *laissez faire* economies) respond to the needs of stakeholders? What of dividend payments? Can they be justified when so many other stakeholders have been badly affected by the crisis?

What of communications, fundamental to governance? How will employees, working remotely, ensure that corporate reporting is as efficient, transparent and comprehensive as required? Will directors use COVID as an excuse for abbreviated reporting or as a smokescreen to conceal malpractice?

How should regulators respond to the exigencies of the pandemic and ensure that codes of

corporate governance are sufficiently robust to withstand not only this global crisis but others of the same type that virologists tell us are bound to occur in the future?

We invite papers on these topics and similar, recurring social themes. At the same time, we welcome papers on a wide range of corporate governance topics, addressing many challenges that corporate boards and management ordinarily confront , not the least of which are global warming and sustainability.