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Distribution: **August 1, 2011**
Subject: board culture

Does the culture in your boardroom encourage discussion and
“constructive interaction?”

If not, should the board talk about its governance processes?

Six Questions To Ask Now

1. How does your board deal with “difficult” directors?
2. Does one board member dominate board discussions?
3. Do board members leave meetings early (to “catch a flight”)?
4. Are there adequate opportunities for questions (and meaningful discussion) at meetings?
5. Are board members comfortable asking “sticky” questions?
6. Has the board created a culture that values informed discussion, constructive disagreement and debate, timely resolution of issues and appropriate handling of conflict?

The role of the board of directors has morphed from “decorative” to “watch-dog/overseer” and “sounding board for the CEO.” In recognition of this evolution, and the heightened public interest in good corporate governance, ***boards are asking more meaningful questions.*** Pose these questions at your next board meeting – the list is intended to stimulate discussion. Check www.governancesolutionsgroup.com for a new list each month.

Some of the questions are easy to answer and will allow you to validate your belief that your board is operating within the scope of “governance best practices.” However, good governance is more than checking a “good governance box” so that the board keeps out of trouble and out of the spotlight. Good governance is about examining how the board is actually functioning and about making meaningful changes to improve your board’s effectiveness, engagement, efficiency and accountability. If your board could benefit from a dose of independent advice concerning how to establish or modify your board’s governance practices, structure your board or revitalize your board, call Denise Kuprionis at The Governance Solutions Group.



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“Good governance is part of every good business solution.” Mary Denise Kuprionis