



## Board Governance Workshop

October 13-14, 2018

Krakow, Poland

Facilitator: Mina Merkel

**“In Service of Great Schools: Committee Structures and Board Functioning”**



**Biography:** For the past 30+ years Mina Merkel has been working in the states and internationally with over 70 countries in both private and public sectors; corporate, governmental agencies, educational institutions, non-profits, think tanks with individuals and groups designing and facilitating strategic planning, governance sessions and leadership development curriculum. As an internal consultant, Mina lived and worked globally for General Motors for over 20 years in Asia, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, North and South America.

Currently, among other projects, Mina is performing strategic planning sessions, board governance-training sessions, customizes workshops and retreats for Boards of Directors through out the world. Mina is working with international schools, universities and non-profits locally and globally. Mina co-developed the Tokyo Chapter of a global non-government organization; Room to Read’s mission is to break the cycle of poverty one child at a time through education. Mina is the lead facilitator for the Antigua Forum, an annual Global Economic Conference of reformers, entrepreneurs and disruptors enabling innovative projects for business and political reform held in Antigua, Guatemala. Performed development work and strategic planning for several think tanks including the Fernand Braudel Institute of World Economics, Sao Paulo, Brasil and led the non-profit network’s Global Board Leaders’ Summit in New York called the Liberty Forum.

Mina develops individualized leadership curriculum and performs executive coaching for multiple corporate and educational clients. Mina is working with Naples Airport Authority Leadership in a multi-year, multi-faceted approach to increase efficacy through custom designed professional development events, executive coaching and new leader development. Recently, Mina completed a 2-year contract with Godiva's Supply Chain and a 6 month dedicated onsite change management consulting assignment with Hertz Corporation readying the corporation to spin off a division to be a separate, publicly held company.

Mina currently serves on the Community Foundation of Collier County Grants and Performance and Outcomes Committee and as a C3 (Creating Capacity Consultant) to local non-profits. Mina is an officer on the Board of Directors of the Sao Paulo Education Foundation and served on the Boards of Frankfurt International School and Graded, American International School of Sao Paulo, Brasil and consulted as the Facilities Project Manager during the 2-year planning stages of a complete renovation of Graded's K-12 campus. Mina designed, facilitated governance conferences and a featured speaker at the Association of American Schools in Brasil (AASB), the Association for American Schools in South America (AASSA) 2014 and Business Managers Institute 2017, the East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS) 2015 and 2016 and Central and Eastern European Schools Association (CEESA) in 2017, Association for Advancement of International Education (AAIE) 2018. Mina taught a postgraduate level course in Change Management at Temple University in Tokyo, Japan, designed and facilitated a Leadership Course on Coaching Practice for Qatar Petroleum engineers and leaders through Qatar University in Doha and is currently teaching Deans and Professors Facilitation and Collaboration for the Classroom at Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala.

Mina responsibilities have included: large scale, high risk, strategic projects that span organizational boundaries including multiple business units and service partners/vendors. Mina has led cross-functional teams responsible for delivering defined project outputs to time, budget and project quality criteria. Her experience includes executive coaching, change management, organizational development, executive development training and mentoring programs that increased leadership's effectiveness, lean processing and empowering employees. Her background ranges from strategic planning, environmental design, and human resources. Mina has consulted in all facets of industry: Finance, Government and Public Relations, Supply Chain, Manufacturing, Engineering, Design, Legal, Information Technology, Planning, as well as international think tanks, K-12 schools and universities.