



Joan E. Steel

Ms. Steel is CEO and Founder of Alpha Wealth Advisors, LLC, a financial consulting firm advising family offices and private foundations in the U.S. and South America. In addition, she is an experienced board director drawing on her C-suite knowledge, corporate and nonprofit board work and audit committee financial expertise. She is an independent director and audit committee chair of the Mercer Funds, an institutional mutual funds complex. She is a former independent director and audit committee member of the Hershey Trust Company, a private trust company that is the controlling shareholder of The Hershey Company (NYSE: HSY) and manager of a multibillion investment portfolio of traditional and alternative assets. Her current nonprofit board work includes serving as chair of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) Chicago, Rush University Medical Center trustee and vice-chair, Investment Committee and Cuneo Foundation trustee and treasurer. She was formerly a trustee of Loyola University Chicago and served as its endowment chair for eight years.

Prior to founding her own firm, she was a senior investment advisor with the global asset manager, The Capital Group. Ms. Steel also served as a senior officer with Aon Corporation leading global investor and media relations and creating and overseeing its first global branding and advertising campaigns. Prior to Aon, she was senior executive at K.A. Steel Chemicals Inc., her family's privately held water treatment chemical manufacturing and distribution business that was sold to Olin Corporation (NYSE: OLN.) Ms. Steel launched her career at Salomon Brothers as an institutional fixed income trader and one of the first professional women on Wall Street. Following Salomon, she co-founded and headed institutional fixed income sales and trading for E.F. Hutton in Chicago.

Ms. Steel holds an MBA from the University of Chicago and a BS from Georgetown University and has completed director education programs at Harvard Business School and Stanford Directors' College.