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Lynn Sharp Paine is a Baker Foundation Professor and John G. McLean Professor, Emerita, at Harvard Business School. She has written widely on leadership and corporate governance, focusing on how companies can meld high ethical standards with outstanding financial results. Her recent publications include Capitalism at Risk, Updated and Expanded: How Business Can Lead (Harvard Business Review Press, 2020), “Covid-19 Is Rewriting the Rules of Corporate Governance,” “A Guide to the Big Ideas and Debates in Corporate Governance,” and "The Error at the Heart of Corporate Leadership" (all in Harvard Business Review). Ms. Paine co-founded the School’s required MBA course on Leadership and Corporate Accountability, and has served in various senior leadership roles, most recently as Senior Associate Dean for International Development. She currently co-chairs the School’s executive programs for corporate directors, including Making Corporate Boards More Effective, Preparing to Be a Corporate Director, Women on Boards, and Accelerating Board Diversity.

Outside of HBS, Ms. Paine has served on numerous panels and advisory boards including The Conference Board’s Blue-Ribbon Commission on Public Trust and Private Enterprise after Enron’s collapse and its Task Force on Executive Compensation after the financial crisis. She was a director of RiskMetrics Group (NYSE) before it was sold to MSCI, and is currently a director of Atos, SE, a global digital services company (Paris:ATO), and a member of the Global Advisory Council for Novonor S.A. (Brazil). She served two terms as a public member of the governing board of the Center for Audit Quality (CAQ). She received the Faculty Pioneer Lifetime Achievement Award from The Aspen Institute Center for Business Education for her innovative course development, and the Rendanheyi Badge Lifetime Achievement Award (China) for her research and contributions to management theory and practice.

A graduate of Smith College, Ms. Paine holds a doctorate in moral philosophy from Oxford University and a law degree from Harvard Law School.