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For Immediate Release

**Toigo Foundation Launches All A Board, A Diverse Directors Clearinghouse
Connecting Women & Minority Board Candidates with Public Companies, Non-Profits**

*New Online Platform to Feature Minority & Female Board Candidates,
Governance Experts, Board Resources and Events*

OAKLAND, CA. (April 6, 2011) — The Toigo Institute for Leadership Excellence Advancement and Diversity (I-LEAD) today announced **All A Board**, a diverse directors initiative with the goal of increasing board diversity on corporate and non-profit boards by providing ready access to minority and female professionals poised for board service.

All A Board is one of few, if not the only, online board clearinghouse focused exclusively on ethnic minorities and women. In addition to serving as a pipeline of diverse board candidates, the online tool will serve as a central hub for information relating to board diversity, including links to thought leadership, educational resources, women and minority organizations, and events focused on topics relating to diversity and board leadership. The Toigo Institute will support the All A Board community with board education and training.

“The ROI of diverse boards is well documented. With the launch of All A Board, we’re focused on eliminating shortage of talent as the rationale for why boards lack diversity. Candidates with diversity of thought, gender, ethnicity and multi-cultural perspectives exist—and with All A Board will be easier to identify and reach,” said Nancy Sims, president & CEO of the Toigo Foundation.

Due to “go live” in late April, All A Board is a natural extension of Toigo’s 20-year mission to promote leadership development and advancement of minority professionals within finance. Its network of nearly 1,000 minority MBA graduates will be among those featured in the clearinghouse. Toigo will collaborate with its industry partners, including a mix of national membership and affinity organizations serving women and minorities, to build a robust pipeline of candidates prepared for board service.

The launch of All A Board comes at a time when interest in board diversity is on the rise. From SEC regulations* requiring disclosure of whether a nominating committee or board considers diversity in identifying nominees to mounting data which underscores the financial merits of board diversity and quotas abroad that mandate board diversity, a combination of factors are driving public attention. Earlier this week, CalPERS and CalSTRS announced the Directors Diversity Database or 3D, which will serve as a platform

featuring senior professionals suited for Fortune 500 board service. Toigo's goal in creating All A Board is to foster and support a pipeline of diverse current and future talent for service on a broad base of boards, including non-profit, public and private entities. Recognizing the value of board and governance training as an important first step for board service, Toigo is integrating board development as part of its core MBA curriculum and encouraging its Fellows to pursue board service early in their careers.

"Toigo's Alumni will bring a wealth of new talent to the table. All A Board is an exciting new initiative which is highly complementary to our work on board diversity," said Anne Simpson, senior portfolio manager, CalPERS head of corporate governance.

Showcasing Diverse Talent—and More

Toigo researched and designed its All A Board clearinghouse and candidate profile based on robust board selection criteria utilized by public and private companies, as well as non-profit organizations. The non-profit integrated that criteria as part of an innovative matching technology, which will allow organizations seeking board candidates to identify diverse candidates with specific experience, expertise and interests. The non-profit has invested six-plus months in designing and developing the platform.

Minority and/or female professionals interested in board service complete an All A Board profile, including ranking their experience and interests, posting prior board and committee service, a resume and short video to showcase their credentials to corporate and non-profit organizations seeking new board members.

Public and private companies, non-profits and foundations will be invited to utilize All A Board to identify diverse board candidates, as well as profiles on board / governance experts, service firms, thought leadership and board training events. The tool will help organizations and board nominating committees connect directly with the candidates that best match their criteria.

"Our focus on promoting diverse talent with a wide range of professional experience, coupled with the educational component and centralized resources on board leadership and diversity issues, positions All A Board as a valuable and timely industry resource," noted Sims.

Women and minority board candidates are invited to [register today](#) for notification of the All A Board online launch later this month. Toigo is working with national and regional membership organizations and other groups serving minority and women professionals to promote those organizations and make All A Board accessible to their members.

About the Toigo Foundation

All A Board is a board diversity initiative of the Toigo Institute for Leadership Excellence, Advancement and Diversity (I-LEAD). Launched in 2010, the Toigo Institute leverages the Toigo Foundation's 20+ years of experience within the finance industry in developing and supporting minority MBA talent to serve a broader multicultural community of professionals working in finance and beyond. The Toigo Institute's initiatives and events are focused on leadership advancement of underrepresented professionals, including women and minorities.

Committed to changing the face of finance, the [Robert Toigo Foundation](#) inspires and supports minority MBAs as they earn their graduate degrees and pursue successful careers in the field of finance. The Toigo Alumni and Fellow network includes nearly 1,000 minority MBAs working in all sectors and all levels of leadership in finance. Toigo is the only non-profit initiative dedicated to the leadership development of pre-, current and post-MBA graduates working within the field of finance.

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