The sample of companies used in the 2007 UC Davis Study of California Women Business Leaders was collected using net revenue from the Standard & Poor's Compustat database for fiscal year-end reported between June 1, 2006, and May 31, 2007. The 400 largest public companies headquartered in California were selected.

The information on women directors and executives was compiled from the companies’ filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Using the SEC’s online EDGAR database, we examined proxy statements (DEF 14A), annual reports (10-K) and current reports (8-K) issued from July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007.

We compiled statistics on the companies' board members and executive officers. We gathered this information for men and women at each company. To ensure that the data reflected the current status of the company on June 30, 2007, we examined current report (8-K) filings after the proxy statement to capture any changes to directors or executive officers.

Companies that were delinquent in their SEC filings as of June 30, 2007, were not included in the sample.

Ethnicity data was gathered from a database produced by the Investor Responsibility Research Center (IRRC). This database provides historical data on boards of directors for companies included in the S&P 500 Index, S&P Midcap 400 Index, and S&P Smallcap 600 Index. The most recent data available were from 2005. Using this database, we could find ethnicity data on 157 of the 273 women board directors in our California sample. For the 116 women not included, no further determination of their ethnicity was made.

Changes in directors and executive officers after June 30, 2007, will be reflected in our 2008 census.

All reasonable steps have been taken to confirm the data and ensure their accuracy. Any remaining errors or omissions are the sole responsibility of the researchers.

**The InterOrganization Network (ION)**

The InterOrganization Network (ION) consists of eight regional organizations located across the United States, all of which work to advance women to positions of power in the business world, primarily to boards of directors and executive suites of public companies.

In 2006 ION welcomed its eighth member, the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs and Executives of Palo Alto, California, in partnership with the Graduate School of Management at the University of California, Davis. ION now spans the entire country and is better able to leverage the strengths of its members to increase their individual and combined influence and boost the number and percentage of women who comprise the leadership of corporate America. Each member of ION tracks women directors and executive officers of public companies in its respective geographic area.

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