

Cathy A. Trower - Biography



For the past 20 years, as President of Trower & Trower, Inc., Cathy has provided governance consulting and coaching services to more than 130 nonprofits that span the sector including universities and colleges; hospitals, academic health centers, and health care systems; independent schools; associations; foundations; and community service organizations. She is author of *The Practitioner's Guide to Governance as Leadership: Building High Performing Nonprofit Boards* (Jossey Bass 2013) and the second edition of *Govern More, Manage Less* (BoardSource 2010). She is co-author with R. Barbara Gitenstein of *What Board Members Need to Know about Faculty* (Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities, 2013), and she has written several articles for the AGB's *Trusteeship* magazine—most recently “Flipping the Boardroom for Trustee Engagement: Why and How” (March/April 2015).

Formerly Research Director at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Trower studied academic leadership, shared governance, faculty work life, employment issues, policies, and practices including the experiences of faculty through a generational lens, women in STEM disciplines, and underrepresented minorities for sixteen years. Prior to Harvard, Cathy served as a senior-level administrator of business degree programs at Johns Hopkins University; she has also been a faculty member and department chair at a liberal arts college. Trower has published an edited volume on faculty policies, dozens of book chapters, articles, and case studies. Cathy's latest book about faculty work life and policies is called *Success on the Tenure-Track: Five Keys to Faculty Satisfaction* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012).

Cathy serves on three nonprofit boards: Wheaton College (MA), BoardSource (Washington, DC), and RiverWoods (a continuing care retirement community in Exeter, NH). Cathy is a popular, energetic, and dynamic conference speaker. She has a BBA (1981) and an MBA (1985) from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. (1996) in higher education administration and leadership from the University of Maryland, College Park.