### Summary and **Call to Action**

Meg Blair **Founding President Marketing Accountability Foundation** August 2012 Chicago



Marketing Accountability Standards Board of the Marketing Accountability Foundation

# It would be great if there were conflict in the boardroom between marketing and finance...



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# ...but that requires everyone to actually be in the boardroom

#### Finance...



We lowered our interest expense and improved our cash flows by refinancing our debt obligations.

Operations...



We improved productivity by cutting direct labor and sourcing direct materials at a lower price.





"We could use you in our next ideation."

Sales...



We closed that sale by reducing the price and providing volume discounts.

Marketing...

We drove brand awareness and really connected with our core demographic.

All too often finance and operations executives just aren't buying the marketing value proposition, and marketers are the odd ones out.

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#### Numbers are there, but Finance doesn't buy them

#### While Finance is satisfied with spend tracking:

	Yes	No
Is there an adequate audit trail for your companies marketing spend?	80.0	19.2

#### They simply don't believe the numbers that come from marketing:

	Yes	No
Given that marketing forecasts are often input to financial guidance, do you believe these forecasts are audit-ready?		60.0
Do you believe marketing has adequate understanding of financial controls?	35.4	63.1
Leading the Marketing Community  Mirque: EVP ANA (ANA/FEI Su	rvey)	7

#### And so they're not incorporated into decisions

	Yes	No
Does your company use marketing inputs and forecasts for financial guidance or public disclosure?	30.8%	69.2%

### And it's not impacting budget changes

Going into your annual budgeting cycle, what do you use to set the marketing budget?	Yes	No
Marketing ROI Metrics	10.0%	90.0%
Predetermined percent of revenues, or simply make adjustments from last year's budget.	63.8%	36.2%



#### **A CFO Perspective**

Without the matching principle (tying \$\$ spent to Revenue and/or Profit stream) marketing will continue to be treated as discretionary expense, like travel or office supplies.

Achieving the matching principle will place the CMO at the C-Table as a strategic partner, helping the CFO smooth growth/the P&L over time.

Tying \$\$ spent to short term revenue/profits in a reliably predictable fashion will justify the expense, and doing so for the long term will place those costs on the balance sheet.

You can step up, become partners, take control of your own destiny (by setting the controls, measurement & process standards)...or we'll do it for you.

Who will get there first?

Lyn Benton: Former CFO Lotus

## Let's Team...Get There Together!



Marketing & Finance across Industry & Domain

**Creating Value in 21st Century** 



#### (when finance & marketing align on measurement...)

#### Finance...



We lowered our interest expense and improved our cash flows by refinancing our debt obligations.

#### Operations...



We improved productivity by cutting direct labor and sourcing direct materials at a lower price.

#### Sales...



We closed that sale by reducing the price and providing volume discounts. Marketing...



We drove profitable growth and cash flows by increasing the value of our brands in hearts, minds & hands (choices) of customers.

(...all will embrace the marketing value proposition)

## **Summary & Opportunity**

- Balanced mix of Marketing & Finance input over time
- But not enough Finance <u>direct</u> involvement
  - To help us get there (understand financial metrics/goals)
  - To help with funding (general management budget)

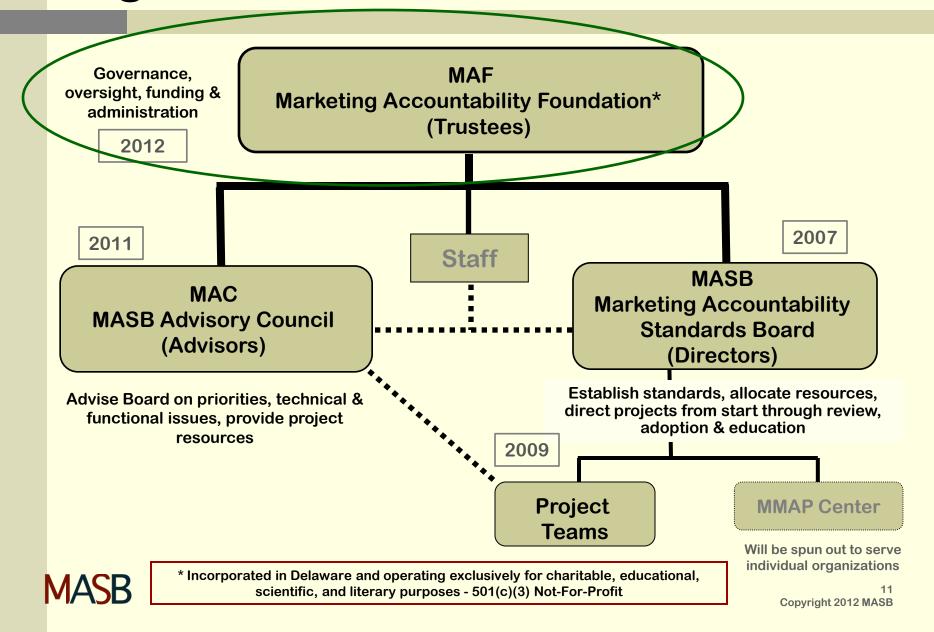


## **Call to Action**

- Finance partners...jump on/help lay the track
  - Foundation (Trustee)



## **Organizational Structure**



### Foundation Trustees (Stewardship)



Blair 04 MAF/MASB



Barns 04 Nielsen



Sirkin 04 SMG



Plummer 06 Columbia



Tisor 07 At Large



Liodice 11 ANA



Bane 12 K-C



Schaffner 12 TWC



Frito Lay



Scaramuzzi 12 ConAgra



XXX 12 GM



YYY 12 Hershey



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- Balanced mix of Practitioners & Academics doing good work
- But not yet enough Marketers
  - To disseminate the work
  - To lead the way to acceptance

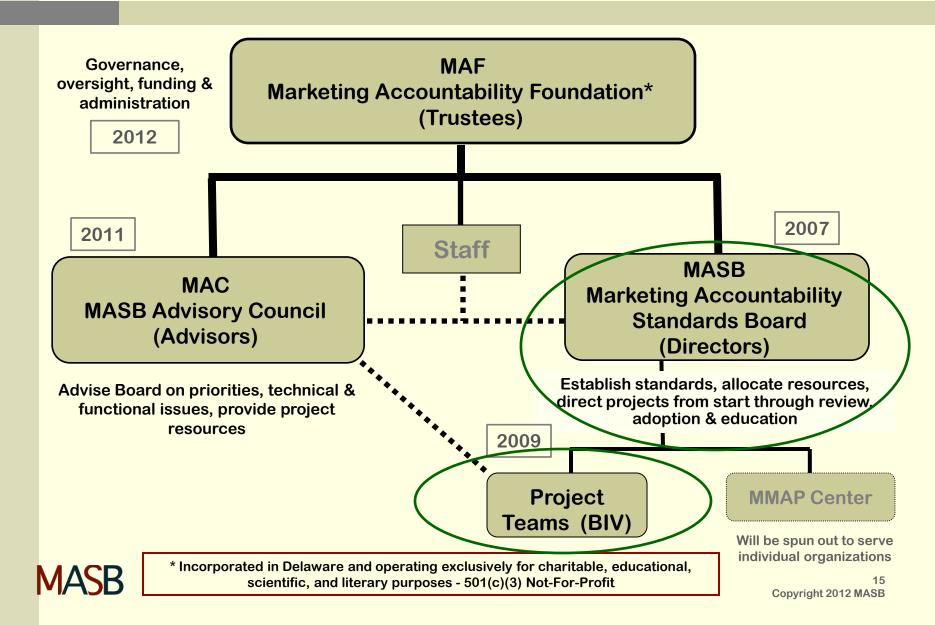


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- Finance partners...jump on/help lay the track
  - Foundation (Trustee)
- Marketers...jump on/help drive the train
  - MASB Board (Director)
  - Join/Assign to BIV Project Team



## **Organizational Structure**



### **MASB Directors (Operating Leadership)**





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- Balanced mix of Practitioners & Academics doing good work
- But not yet enough Marketers
  - To disseminate the work
  - To lead the way to acceptance
- Marketing & Finance "pairs" are working together within firm
- But not yet effectively across industry
  - To benchmark and learn from each other
  - To network with like minded "pairs"



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  - Foundation (Trustee)
- Marketers...jump on/help drive the train
  - MASB Board (Director)
  - Join/Assign to BIV Project Team
- Marketing & Finance "pairs"...jump on the MASB train
  - The forum where marketing & finance align
  - On measurement for creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Value



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  - Foundation (Trustee)
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  - Join/Assign to BIV Project Team
- Marketing & Finance "pairs"...jump on the MASB train
  - The forum where marketing & finance align
  - On measurement for creating 21st Century Value
- Get measurement partners/providers involved
  - Undergo MMAP process & training
  - Tie all marketing measurement to financial return



### The Vision (CFO Perspective)

We'll have great partners & support in the Boardroom as marketing eliminates the ambiguity surrounding their role as forecasters & achievers of consistent growth.

We'll have sustained credibility w/The Street as our projections & expectations are in line w/performance, consistently - particularly when performance is based on organic growth at the top line.

We'll understand the true "balance sheet" value of our brands as they can be leveraged across categories, boarders & time... to produce future revenues, earnings & cash flows.

Company silos will disappear & we'll have better communications & performance across discipline & division...speaking the same language of accountability...tied to financial results.

And we'll be home for dinner at Quarter & Annual Close because everyone will have met their commitments to the plan and to expectations!

Source: Blair 2007



### The Vision (CMO Perspective)

We'll no longer be concerned about data reliability, predictive validity, causality, or alignment among disparate sources.

We'll be seeing over dashboards & beyond rear-view mirrors, acting quickly & more confidently given the marketing opportunities & threats that lie ahead.

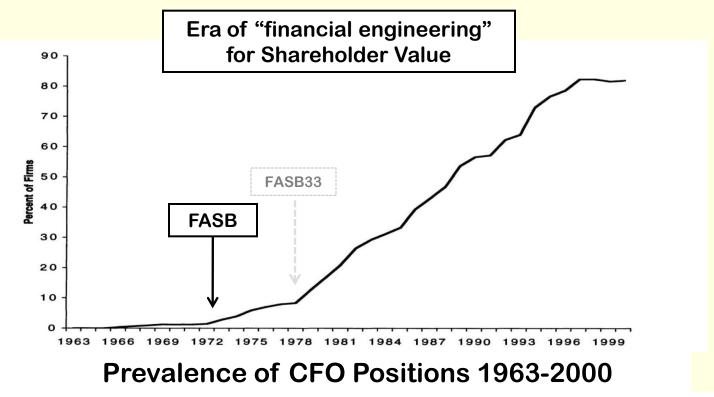
We'll be out of the black hole of discretionary spending, clearly understanding & able to predict how our work today is impacting the financial results of our brands and businesses tomorrow.

The CFO will be our greatest ally...we'll have removed ambiguity & become true business partners, delivering consistent growth quarter-to-quarter and year-to-year.

And we'll be less disruptive to spouse & the kids as our tenure will be measured in decades, not months.



#### Rise of the CFO

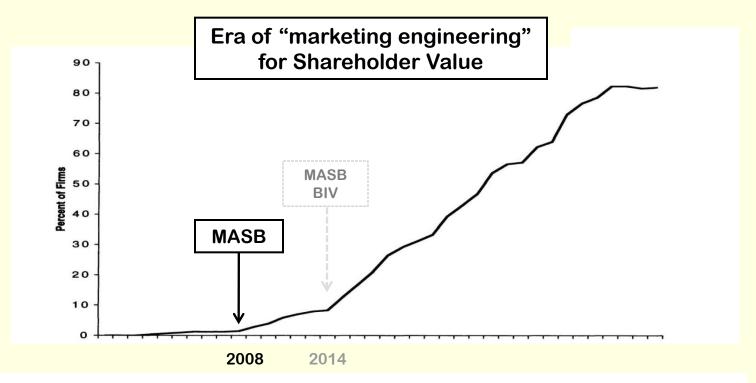


Source: Zorn, Dirk M. "Here a Chief, There a Chief: The Rise of the CFO in the American Firm", American Sociological Review (Jun 2004)

FASB set standards for the rise of the CFO... then "financial engineering" delivered shareholder value.



#### Rise of the Accountable CMO?



CMO on Board; Marketing Committee at Board Level

MASB is setting the standards for the rise of the accountable CMO... when "marketing engineering" will deliver shareholder value\*.



## **Creating Value in 21st Century**



**MASB** 

Where marketing & finance are aligning on measurement...



# Thank-you!

For your support of MASB and a better future for all who follow

