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## SHRM Appoints Mark C. Thompson as Chief Executive of CEO Academy

**CEO Academy adds former CEOs to its Advisory Board: SHRM CEO Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., former Lockheed CEO Marillyn Hewson, Vanguard CEO Bill McNabb, former Ford CEO Alan Mulally and author Ram Charan**

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – CEO Academy, a SHRM company, announced the appointment of Mark C. Thompson as its new chief executive officer and advisory board member. Thompson currently serves as chairman of the Chief Executive Alliance, a CEO community for C-level peer coaching and leadership development. CEO Academy is an exclusive, intensive learning and networking experience for CEOs and Board Members focusing on key issues that drive great growth companies and high performance teams. The Academy is the World’s Leading CEO Accelerator powered by Wharton and McKinsey, and was founded by Korn Ferry Vice Chairman Dennis Carey. [www.CEO-Academy.com](http://www.CEO-Academy.com)

“We are thrilled to welcome Mark as the new Chief Executive Officer of CEO Academy”, said Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., SHRM-SCP, President and CEO of SHRM. “His extensive experience in executive coaching and scaling companies globally makes him the ideal leader to guide SHRM’s CEO Academy as the best in class in thought leadership and on the critical issues affecting our global community of influential Fortune 500 leaders today.”

An expert in C-Suite leadership, Thompson has over three decades of experience leading teams and coaching executives in world-class organizations—from Pinterest cofounder Evan Sharp and World Bank CEO Dr. Jim Yong Kim to founders Richard Branson, Charles Schwab and Steve Jobs. Long ranked the world’s #1 CEO Coach, he was in 2023 inducted into the *Coaching Legends* Hall of Fame by the Thinkers50, considered the Oscars of Management. Thompson previously served as Schwab’s chief of staff, chief customer experience officer and CEO of Schwab.com. He was a cofounding board member of Esurance, acquired by Allstate, and Interwoven, acquired by Hewlett Packard. He was Chairman of Integration Semiconductor, acquired by SiliconLabs and Chairman of Rioport, which pioneered the mp3 player for Apple’s iPod. Forbes Magazine listed Thompson as a top 100 ‘Midas Touch’ investor. ‘He was cofounding advisor to the Stanford Realtime Venture Design Lab, where he served as a visiting scholar and faculty at his alma mater, Stanford University. Thompson is also adjunct faculty at the World Economic Forum, World Business Forum, John F. Kennedy University, and has cochaired the Institute of Coaching at Harvard. He has edited 20 books and coauthored business classic, *Success Built to Last: Creating a Life That Matters*; and the New York Times bestseller, *Admired*.

“I’m honored to lead the CEO Academy,” said Thompson. “For 24 years, CEO Academy has amplified the impact of current CEOs, accelerated the leadership development of aspiring new CEOs, and enriched the opportunities for board members to build great companies and better workplaces. I’m excited to partner

with Academy Founder, Dennis Carey, Vice Chairman of Korn Ferry; visionary SHRM CEO Johnny Taylor, legendary management scientist Ram Charan; and an extraordinary Academy Advisory Board.”

In addition to its new Chief Executive Officer, CEO Academy welcomes three new additions to its Advisory Board: Marillyn Hewson, CEO of Lockheed Martin, CEO Bill McNabb of Vanguard Group, and Johnny C. Taylor, Jr. of SHRM.

[Marillyn Hewson](#) is the former chairman, president, and CEO of Lockheed Martin Corporation. During her career, she held leadership positions across the corporation, including president and CEO; executive vice president of Lockheed Martin’s Electronic Systems business area; president of Lockheed Martin Systems Integration; and executive vice president of Global Sustainment for Lockheed Martin Aeronautics. Ms. Hewson currently serves on the board of directors of Johnson & Johnson, Chevron, and Nexii Building Solutions Inc. Hewson will serve as CEO Academy’s new Council Chair.

[Bill McNabb](#) is the former chairman and CEO of The Vanguard Group, Inc., the world’s largest mutual fund manager. He served as CEO for nine years, retiring in 2017, and continued as chairman until 2018. Bill is also a board member of IBM, UnitedHealth Group, and Axiom.

[Johnny C. Taylor, Jr.](#) is president and CEO of the SHRM. Recently named one of the “Most Influential People Shaping Public Policy” in our nation’s Capital by the Washingtonian Magazine, Mr. Taylor’s career spans more than 20 years as a lawyer and an executive, serving at IAC, Paramount Pictures, Blockbuster Entertainment Group and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, among other organizations. He is a Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees at his alma mater, the University of Miami; a member of the United Way Worldwide Board of Trustees; Independent Director of the Flores & Associates corporate board and a member of the corporate boards of Guild Education, and XPO Logistics (NYSE: XPO).

Continuing board members include:

- Erika James - Dean of The Wharton School
- Maggie Wilderotter - Chairwoman of DocuSign and Board Member of Costco
- Alan Mulally - Former Chairman & CEO of The Ford Motor Company

### **About CEO Academy**

Established in 1999 and acquired by SHRM in October 2022, CEO Academy is an intensive learning and networking experience for current and aspiring CEOs and board leaders. This program, created in collaboration with the Wharton School, offers an exclusive experience for influential leaders to discuss challenges facing businesses, the workplace, and workers, today. Learn more at [ceo-academy.com](http://ceo-academy.com).

### **About SHRM**

SHRM creates better workplaces where employers and employees thrive together. As the voice of all things work, workers and the workplace, SHRM is the foremost expert, convener and thought leader on issues impacting today’s evolving workplaces. With nearly 325,000 members in 165 countries, SHRM impacts the lives of more than 235 million workers and families globally. Learn more at [SHRM.org](http://SHRM.org).