

Indra Nooyi Citation

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Indra Nooyi

Doctor of Commercial Science

One of the most powerful businesswomen in the United States, you, Indra Nooyi, are a role model for those who seek to better themselves through international, academic, and professional experiences.

You were no ordinary person growing up. At a time when girls were supposed to be helping their mothers cook and clean, you were also playing in an all-girl rock band and enthusiastically participating on a women's cricket team.

After graduating from Madras Christian College in India with a combined degree in chemistry, physics, and mathematics, you earned a master's degree in finance and marketing from the Indian Institute of Management in Calcutta. Then, at a time when it was unheard of for a South Indian Brahmin girl to leave her country for a business school in the United States, you enrolled in Yale University's School of Management.

You once told the Financial Times, "When I was growing up in India, we tended to draw conclusions too quickly and it was all in black and white. The thing I learned in my time at Yale was that shades of grey predominate. You need to think about an issue in its full glory and richness before you jump to a conclusion, so I came an intelligent person and left an educated person."

Your career includes influential positions as senior vice president of strategy and strategic marketing for Asea Brown Boveri, and vice president and director of corporate strategy and planning at Motorola. Now, as president and chief financial officer of PepsiCo, Inc., you oversee all of PepsiCo's corporate functions, including finance, strategy, supply chain, business process optimization, corporate platforms, insights and innovation, procurement, investor relations, and information technology. Prior to assuming your current position, you were chief financial officer and senior vice president of corporate strategy and development.

In addition to being a member of the board of directors of PepsiCo, Inc., you serve as successor fellow at Yale Corporation, as a member of the boards of Motorola, the International Rescue Committee, and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. You also serve as a member of the Trilateral Commission and on the advisory boards of Yale School of Management, PlaNet Finance, and Greenwich Breast Cancer Alliance as well as on the board of trustees of Eisenhower Fellowships and the Asia Society. Earlier this year you were elected to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

For your many professional accomplishments, your strong belief in lifelong learning, and your advocacy of women in business, Pace University is honored to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Commercial Science, honoris causa, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereunto.

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