



**DIANA L. NELSON  
CHAIR**

Diana L. Nelson serves as chair of Carlson, a global hospitality and travel company. She is the third person to serve in this capacity in the company's more than 75 year history. She is preceded as chair by her mother, Marilyn Carlson Nelson, and her grandfather, company founder Curtis L. Carlson.



Nelson has extensive board governance and leadership experience through her work with multiple for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. In addition to her role on the Carlson board, she serves on the board of governors of Carlson Holdings, Inc., as well as on the board of directors for the Carlson Family Foundation and the World Childhood Foundation. She is the vice-chair of the Harvard Board of Overseers and the vice-chair of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. She also serves on the advisory board of Prime Group, a San Francisco-based real estate equity, debt, investment and operating platform

Raised in Minnesota, Nelson graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College, where she currently serves on the Harvard University Board of Overseers and on the executive committee. In 2008, she led the Dean's Task Force on the Undergraduate Experience and inaugurated the Women and Leadership Task Force. A passionate and committed fundraiser, she was the first woman and youngest person to chair the Harvard College Fund (2002-2003). Nelson is also a committed advocate for education reform and has worked to expand Teach for America and the KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program) charter school network.

In addition to her degree from Harvard, Nelson holds an MBA in marketing from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. After graduating from Northwestern, Nelson's career included work for Ogilvy and Mather Advertising and American Express Travel Related Services. She and her husband John Atwater reside in San Francisco with their five children.