

Biography and Photograph – Dr. Julie A. Shimer



Julie A. Shimer received her B.S. in Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her M.S. and Ph.D., in Electrical Engineering from Lehigh University.

Early in her career, she was an executive and inventor at AT&T Bell Laboratories, where she was named on a patent application, later granted, for a self-aligned rib-wavelength high power laser. See U.S. Patent Number 4615032. Dr. Shimer's subsequent leadership positions included being Vice President and General Manager of 3Com Corporation's networking products division, Vice President and General Manager of Motorola, Inc.'s paging division, and the Vice President of Motorola, Inc.'s semi-conductor products section. In 1999, *Wireless Week* magazine recognized Dr. Shimer as one of the most influential women in business.

Dr. Shimer later served as the Chief Executive Officer of Vocera Communications, a wireless communication company, from 2001 until 2007. During her tenure there, she successfully led the company in securing over \$29 million in capital funding and in deploying the first Vocera Communications System, which is now available in hospitals throughout the U.S. and Europe

Dr. Shimer then served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Innovation Officer at Welch Allyn, a global manufacturer of frontline medical equipment and solutions, with 2,500 employees and annual revenue of \$700 million, from 2007 until 2012. She was the first women CEO in the company's 95-year history. During Dr. Shimer's first two years as CEO, the company won "Best Places to Work" honors in Ireland and Mexico and broke ground on a \$30 Million expansion project at its global headquarters.

Dr. Shimer currently serves as a director for several publicly traded companies. She is a director of Avanos Medical, Inc. (NYSE: AVNS), f/k/a Halyard Health, Inc., a medical device manufacturer based in Alpharetta, with 4,000 employees and annual revenue of about \$650 million. Dr. Shimer has been a director of Avanos Medical and the chairwoman of the board's Compensation Committee since the company went public in 2014. Dr. Shimer is a director of Windstream Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: WIN), a Fortune 500 company that is a leading provider of advanced network communications and technology solutions for consumers, small businesses, and enterprise organizations. Windstream merged with EarthLink Holdings Corporation (NASDAQ: ELNK), an Atlanta-based company, in February 2017. Prior to the merger, Dr. Shimer was the chairwoman of the Earthlink's board, and the company had 14,500 employees and annual revenue of \$960 million. Dr. Shimer is also a director of Netgear, Inc. (NASDAQ: NTGR), a global networking company that delivers innovative products to consumers, businesses and service providers, with 1,000 employees and annual revenue of \$1.4 billion. She is the lead independent director of Netgear's board. And Dr. Shimer is also a director of Apollo Endosurgery, Inc.

(NASDAQ: APEN), a medical device company focused on less invasive therapies for the treatment of obesity, with 210 employees and annual revenue of \$64 million. She is the chairwoman of that board's Compensation Committee.

Dr. Shimer has devoted herself, throughout her career, to promoting the role of women in executive leadership and on for-profit boards such as through her work with: (i) WitsOn (Women in Technology Sharing Online), which connects undergraduates pursuing STEM degrees with female mentors from industry and academia, (ii) MentorNet, an online mentoring community designed to mentor women in the field of engineering and science, (iii) the Engineering Information Foundation, which seeks to improve worldwide engineering education and practice through information technology and the recruitment of women, (iv) the Society for Women Engineers, which seeks to inspire the next generation of female engineers, (v) Women in Technology International, which seeks to empower women worldwide to achieve unimagined possibilities and transformations through technology, leadership and economic prosperity, and (vi) The Ninety-Nines, an international organization of women pilots that promotes advancement of aviation among women through education, scholarships, and mutual support.

Dr. Shimer has also consistently promoted the advancement of women outside of the realm of corporate leadership. She serves on the Center for Women, Faith & Leadership Advisory Council at the Institute for Global Engagement, which supports women of faith to assume and advance in leadership roles and influence decision making in global affairs, with particular emphasis in areas where women are most affected yet have had the least influence, namely in the areas of religious freedom, conflict resolution, and peace-building.

Dr. Shimer is a private investor who serves on corporate and non-profit boards and in other leadership positions. She lives in New Mexico with her husband Jary Shimer. She and Jary have been married since 1973.