# Financial Reporting: Presentation of Group Readings

13th September 2021

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- High Quality Financial Reporting: The six legged stool by Zabihollah Rezaee
- Accounting in crisis: a story of auditing, accounting, corporate governance, and market failure by Prof Niamh Brennan

#### **Corporate Governance**

#### What we want

#### What we get



"Having audited your accounts, we can't find anything at all suspicious. Which makes us very suspicious."



"Yes! Our financial data is PERFECT; nobody touch ANYTHING until the auditors leave!"

- "Corporate governance refers to the system by which companies are directed and controlled.
- ... balance of power reflecting the rights of owners, managers, lenders and other stakeholders..."

## High Quality Financial Reporting: The Six-Legged Stool

By Zabihollah Rezaee (2003), Strategic Finance, 84(8): 1-4.

Board of Directors

Audit Committee Governing Bodies

Top Management Internal Auditors

External Auditors

Oversee management, Act independently Set tone Corporate governance, financial reporting, audit functions Rule financial reporting, audit functions, corporate governance.

Fair presentation of financial statements

Safeguard quality accounting and financial reporting

Reasonable confidence... financial statements.. free of material mis-statement

# Accounting in crisis: a story of auditing, accounting, corporate governance and market failures

By Brennan, Niamh (2003), Irish Banking Review, Summer: 2-17.

- "Just one perspective" & "reasonable assurance"
- Human weakness & subjectivity
- 3 (non)-safeguarding entities
- Analyst firms
- Recommended reforms

# Wrap Up

<u>Rezaee</u>	<u>Brennan</u>
Ideal structure of corporate governance to	Systemic challenge of human weakness
ensure good financial reporting	within corporate governance

#### Alternative article recommendations

- 1. Murray, J. and P. White. 2021. The corporate governance review: Ireland. *The Law Review*. <a href="https://thelawreviews.co.uk/title/the-corporate-governance-review/ireland">https://thelawreviews.co.uk/title/the-corporate-governance-review/ireland</a>.
- 2. Hilb M. 2020. Toward artificial governance? The role of artificial intelligence in shaping the future of corporate governance. *Journal of Management and Governance*. 24, 851–870.. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s10997-020-09519-9">https://doi.org/10.1007/s10997-020-09519-9</a>

### **Further Reading for Class**

- The UK Corporate Governance Code https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/88bd8c45-50ea-4841-95b0-d2f4f48069a2/2018-UK-Corporate-Governance-Code-FINAL.PDF
- Revisions Proposed to the UK Corporate Governance Code: An Overview and Comparison with Aspects of US Corporate Governance
   https://www.natlawreview.com/article/revisions-proposed-to-uk-corporate-governance-code-overview-and-comparison-aspects