



DR CLAUDELLE VON ECK

Professional Experience Portfolio



Brave Inflexions



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Governance Strategist | Ethical Leadership Architect | Culture Transformation Expert

“Turning complexity into coherence, I help boards lead with integrity, clarity, and the courage to act with foresight.”

Dr Claudelle von Eck is a governance and leadership strategist whose career spans corporate, public, academic, professional association, and non-profit arenas. With her ability to rebuild trust, shape ethical cultures, and integrate strategy with humanity, she has guided complex organisations through transformation and renewal. As a former CEO, a Non-Executive Director and Executive Coach, she brings a rare combination of analytical rigour, psychological insight, and deep systems thinking to every leadership table.

BOARD & OVERSIGHT EXPERIENCE

Across multiple governance structures — spanning energy, internal audit, international relations, academia, and ethics — Dr von Eck has contributed to the strengthening of public accountability, ethical culture, and sustainable governance systems.

- **Eskom Board:** Part of the Board that oversaw the turnaround of Eskom during 2022 – 2025. See detailed impact summary (crisis recovery, ethics reform, workforce transformation, and strategic sustainability).
- **Department of International Relations & Cooperation (DIRCO) Audit Committee (2020-2025):** Oversaw governance and internal-control systems for DIRCO, which has missions in over 190 countries and is

CORE BOARD COMPETENCIES

- Governance & Ethical Leadership
- Culture & Organisational Transformation
- Strategy Formulation & Stakeholder Stewardship
- Human Capital & Remuneration Oversight
- Board & Committee Leadership Dynamics
- Risk, Audit & Sustainability Oversight
- Public-Sector
- Governance & Policy Insight
- Ethical Leadership & Conscious Coaching



responsible for bi- and multilateral diplomacy, consular services and foreign-aid funding; strengthened transparency, risk management, and accountability frameworks.

- **Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA):** Supported the strengthening of governance oversight; contributed to thought leadership, remuneration governance, and strengthening people practices. (Current)
- **University of South Africa (UNISA):** Served on the Council and its Audit and Enterprise Risk Committee. While on Council, she also served as President of Convocation. Served on the Unisa School of Business Leadership Board and its Audit Committee, and as Chair of the SBL Alumni Committee, where she championed the strategy for the revival of the alumni community.
- **Inyani Corporation (US-based):** Chaired the Board, guiding corporate governance maturity and ethical business practice.
- **Gauteng Ethics Advisory Council:** Deputy Chair, advising the Premier's Office on ethics leadership and governance integrity across provincial departments and municipalities. (Current)
- **Gibs Centre for Business Ethics:** Member of the Advisory Board, providing guidance on the Centre's programmes aimed at increasing ethical behaviour in the business landscape. (Current)

EXECUTIVE CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Brave Inflexions (Pty) Ltd (2020 – Present)** – Founder & CEO of a leadership-advisory firm helping boards and executives navigate transformation through consciousness, ethics, and strategy. Trains Executive and Non-Executive leaders on governance and leadership; provides one-on-one and team coaching as a Level 2 Enneagram practitioner. Assists organisations through culture transformation journeys.
- **Institute of Internal Auditors South Africa (IIA SA) (2010 – 2019)** – CEO: Transformed the IIA SA into one of the most respected institutes globally (second-largest outside the USA, after the UK). Elevated the status of the profession in South Africa. Launched South Africa's first Governance Index. Established the Leadership Academy for Guardians of Governance. Strengthened credibility across both public and private sectors.



- **Chief Strategy Officer, Inyani Corporation (US-based – 2021-2023) – Guided corporate strategy, governance, and leadership alignment in a diversifying start-up organisation. Operated from South Africa.**

OTHER ROLES

SAICA Enquiry Panel – sat on the panel that conducted hearings on the allegations against the chartered accountants in KPMG who had been implicated in the Gupta-related scandals.

IRBA Accreditation Committee – Chaired the inaugural Committee that ultimately recommended the ACCA for accreditation, which marked a significant shift in the auditing landscape in South Africa and set new accreditation standards.

SAQA Professional Bodies Committee – served on the committee that recommended professional bodies and their designations for accreditation.

The Anti-Intimidation and Ethical Practices Forum – conceived, launched, and chaired the forum, which involved multiple professional bodies in South Africa.

King Committee – served on the committee representing the Institute of Internal Auditors.

University of Pretoria Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences – served on the Faculty's Advisory Board.

School for the Art & Science of Event Management – Serving as Patron of the School. (Current)

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Africa's Most Influential Woman in Business & Government (2016)
- Woman Leadership Award – World Women Leadership Congress (2019)
- Fellowship Award – Association of Association Executives (2019)



- DPhil (Leadership – Change Management) | University of Johannesburg
- Master's in business leadership (MBL) | UNISA Graduate School of Business Leadership
 - BA (Psychology) | University of the Witwatersrand
 - IAC Business Management Diploma
 - Certified Director and Fellow (IoDSA)
 - Executive Coaching Certification | University of Cape Town
 - Introduction to Neuroscience Coaching Enterprises University of Pretoria
 - Accredited Level 2 Enneagram Practitioner (Integrative 9 Solutions)

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP & FACULTY ROLES

- Faculty Member – IoDSA: trained boards on ethical leadership and culture transformation.
- Guest Lecturer – University of Pretoria (Master's Programme) & GIBS (Chief Audit Executives Programme).
- Frequent Keynote Speaker at governance, leadership, and energy-sector events across Africa and internationally.
- Published author and developer of the Brave Inflexions Leadership Series and governance toolkits.

ESKOM BOARD (OCTOBER 2022 – NOVEMBER 2025)

Independent Non-Executive Director | Chair: Human Capital & Remuneration Committee | Member: Audit; Social, Ethics & Sustainability; Governance & Strategy Committees

Played a key role in helping steer Eskom from crisis to recovery, balancing ethical stewardship with organisational renewal after years of instability. Through her board and committee participation, she was directly involved in:

- **Restoring governance integrity and assurance discipline** by strengthening internal control and anti-fraud frameworks that curbed losses from criminality and corruption.
- **Reinforcing ethics and accountability** through enhanced interventions and monitoring under the Social, Ethics & Sustainability Committee. Driving thinking around rehabilitation and restorative justice.
- **Contributing to the successful legal separation of the National Transmission Company of South Africa (NTCSA)** and initiation of a renewables-focused subsidiary as part of the ongoing unbundling and Just Energy Transition.



- **Shaping a long-term sustainability strategy** through the Governance & Strategy Committee, aligning financial recovery, operational stability, and national energy-transition objectives.
- **Revitalising the Eskom Academy of Learning**, reinstated talent boards, and relaunched leadership-development programmes to rebuild leadership pipelines and ensure continuity at executive and technical levels.
- **Guiding human-capital transformation** — repositioning HR for a digital, renewable-energy future and future-proofing the workforce through skills transition and technology integration. Increased focus on human capital related risks and mitigations resulting in an enhanced and more appropriate people strategy.
- **Introducing Eskom's first menopause strategy** - revolutionising, and strengthening inclusion and retention of women in leadership positions.
- **Reinstating short-term incentives (STIs)** after a multi-year freeze, re-energising performance and morale.

INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS SOUTH AFRICA (IIA SA)

Chief Executive Officer (2010 – 2019) | Chief Operating Officer (2006 – 2009)

Led the transformation of the IIA SA into one of the most respected institutes within the global IIA network — the second-largest outside the USA after the UK — and a recognised authority on governance and ethics in Africa.

- **Elevated global standing:** Represented South Africa on multiple IIA international committees and task teams, including the forum of CEOs of top-tier institutes, positioning the IIA SA as a global influencer in professional-body governance.
- **Cultural turnaround:** Re-engineered organisational culture and leadership cohesion, uniting siloed managers into an integrated executive team with shared accountability and strategic alignment.
- **Ethical-leadership innovation:** Conceived and founded the **Anti-Intimidation and Ethical Practices Forum (AEPF)** — a collaboration of professional bodies promoting ethical practice and protecting whistle-blowers.
- **Governance measurement:** Created the **South African Governance Index**, an annual national survey of Chief Audit Executives measuring adherence to governance principles, widely cited as an indicator of ethical climate in both corporate SA and the public sector.



- **Professional-body leadership:** Served on the **SAQA Committee for the Recognition of Professional Bodies and Designations**, shaping national standards for professional recognition.

- **Capability development:** Established the **Leadership Academy for Guardians of Governance**, building strategic and ethical-leadership capacity across boardrooms and internal-audit functions.

Led the Academy as acting CEO from inception until she left the Institute.

- **Institutional sustainability and credibility:** Drove membership growth, financial diversification, and strengthened trust in the IIA SA across both the public and private sectors, securing the Institute's long-term relevance and influence within South Africa's governance ecosystem.

BRAVE INFLEXIONS (PTY) LTD

Founder & Chief Executive Officer (2020 – Present)

Established Brave Inflexions as a leadership-advisory and consciousness-based coaching practice serving boards, executive teams, and senior leaders across Africa. The firm integrates behavioural science, ethics, and strategy to cultivate leadership that is self-aware, values-driven, and future-ready.

- **Governance & Leadership Training:** Designs and delivers bespoke programmes for **executive and non-executive leaders** on ethical governance, board dynamics, and strategic stewardship.
- **Executive & Team Coaching:** Provides one-on-one and group coaching that blends systems thinking, leadership psychology, and **Level 2 Enneagram** insights to build cohesive, high-performing teams.
- **Culture & Transformation:** Facilitates organisational-culture turnarounds linking values, behaviour, and performance outcomes.

MEET DR VON ECK - LINKS TO INTERVIEWS:

<https://youtu.be/EH1aQsmB5-8?si=Jl-xqShwqKvsV1SR>
<https://youtu.be/aQydUZWb-G4?si=qMs8bAhFlhnfDDn>
<https://youtu.be/FWz2VBub5yQ?si=Pq1B6EHGKi52UrC>
<https://youtu.be/ugTd2eZFYXl?si=hHDIHDOx0Ori7tdw>
https://youtu.be/CKnXYi8A79o?si=5C-ShHZR0Jaq_9t3

- **Ethics & Conscious Leadership Advisory:** Partners with boards to embed ethical decision-making and strengthen corporate conscience.
- **Thought Leadership:** Publishes and speaks widely on governance, ethical leadership, and self-leadership; developing the *Brave Inflexions Leadership Series* and digital toolkits for leaders.
- **Strategic Partnerships & Impact:** Collaborates with professional bodies, universities, and corporations; through its engagements, Brave Inflexions has reached leaders in multiple African countries, positioning ethical consciousness as a cornerstone of sustainable performance

