

Richard Mueller



In a career spanning over four decades, Richard Mueller helped build two multibillion-dollar financial services companies, a venture capital firm, and three internationally recognized research and consulting firms. He is a private investor, donor, board member, and advisor in both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors.

Since 2006, Richard has been president of Mueller Associates, Inc., a wireless and broadcast communications infrastructure company founded in 1957. He was a partner of Origo Social Enterprise Partners, a research and advisory organization focused on the creation and advancement of sustainable businesses in emerging markets. Prior to joining Origo in 2004, he was a principal of R.J. Rudden Associates, Inc. (now owned by Black & Veatch), a leading provider of strategic, economic and management consulting services to the world's energy markets. Before joining Rudden in 1998, Richard was a special situations consultant to CEOs and boards of public and private corporations, frequently serving in an interim managing capacity. From 1986 to 1991, he was managing director of Commercial Scientific Corporation, a venture capital firm with domestic and overseas investments in information services, technology, manufacturing, and science-based companies.

Richard's early work was in the financial services industry where he earned an international reputation as a pioneer in the application of computer technology to mature financial markets. In 1984, he joined the founding management team of First Deposit Corporation (now owned by JPMorgan Chase), a consumer banking and financial services company. Richard started working with financier Harvey Baskin in 1981 to build CDx, the first real-time computerized trading exchange for money market instruments, which achieved \$1 billion in annualized trading volume in its first eight months of operation.

Richard is deeply involved in the nonprofit sector and has guided several organizations through watersheds in their evolution. He serves on the board of directors of Benetech, the global edtech platform for people with learning differences or disabilities, including Bookshare, the most extensive library of accessible ebooks in the world — funded by the U.S Department of Education — that has delivered over 20 million books with assistive reading features to 1.5 million people that read differently. He also serves on the advisory board of Entrepreneur Futures Network, which empowers the next generation of entrepreneurs through its network of over 500 mentors that support a variety of global programs, including the Rice Business Plan Competition (co-founded with Rice University), the largest business plan competition in the world. He is senior advisor to Board Match, the nation's largest nonprofit board recruitment program — funded by major companies like Adobe, Google, JPMorgan Chase, KPMG, PayPal, and Wells Fargo — that has introduced 2,000 nonprofits to 20,000 board candidates in urban centers throughout the country. Richard was the founding chairman of the advisory board of the Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Enterprise at Colorado State University, whose core mission is to educate entrepreneurs, incubate their ventures, and develop sustainable enterprise solutions to global poverty. He was chairman of the board of Family Service Agency of San Francisco (now called the Felton Institute), the Bay Area's largest outpatient mental health provider, serving more than 60,000 people annually, across six counties.

Active in the field of business economics, Richard counsels U.S. and foreign government officials on a wide range of economic and public policy-related issues. He co-led the 1987 acquisition, merger and reorganization of Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates and Chase Econometrics to form the WEFA Group (now owned by S&P Global) as the world's largest economic forecasting firm and was senior advisor to WEFA's chairman for more than 10 years. Richard served on the board of directors of the National Association for Business Economics (NABE) in Washington, D.C., and was chairman of NABE's Corporate Planning Roundtable, and president of NABE's San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.