

Engagement Australia Awards 2020

Biographies of Judges

Kerry O'Neill (Chair)

Current Position: Board of Director, Engagement Australia and Director, Precincts Strategy and Development, Victoria University

Kerry O'Neill (Chair) is the Board of Director for Engagement Australia and the Director, Precincts Strategy and Development at Victoria University. As Associate Director, Engagement Initiatives and manager of the Footscray University Town initiative, Kerry was responsible for fostering collaborations and partnerships with local government, industry and community organisations, extending Victoria University's outward focus and engagement in Melbourne's west. Kerry has extensive cross sector experience related to community and stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning, in state and local government, university and community contexts.

Kerry holds a Master of Urban Policy and Planning from RMIT, a Bachelor of Education from La Trobe University and a Bachelor of Arts (Politics and History) from the University of Melbourne.

Professor Marie Wilson

Current Position: Chief Academic Services Officer, University of South Australia

Professor Marie Wilson is Chief Academic Services Officer for the University of South Australia. Professor Wilson is a member of the Executive Leadership Team of the University, with responsibility for student services, student administration, student equity and engagement, and UniSA International.

Professor Wilson has a track record of delivering in both industry and university leadership. In her former role as leader of the UniSA Business School, the University received national and international awards for innovation and student services and was repeatedly commended for its enterprising service culture.

Professor Wilson has studied and worked across the globe and has been a senior manager in strategy and HRM for seven public companies, including one of the world's largest IT firms. Professor Wilson's specialities include the management of performance (with a focus on professionals and knowledge work), and judgment and decision-making in professional settings. Her most recent work has established new insights into clinical decision-making and the intersection of commercialisation and researcher careers.

Professor Wilson holds a Juris Doctor in contract and employment law, and a PhD in management, and has over twenty years of university leadership experience, including senior roles at Griffith University and the University of Auckland. She also has extensive experience in high technology ventures and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Professor Wilson is also a member of the State Advisory Council (SA/NT) of the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) and sponsor of CEDA's Women and Leadership program for over ten years.

Jane Ward

Current Position: Former Vice President (Engagement), Swinburne University of Technology

Jane Ward was the Vice President (Engagement), Swinburne University of Technology, until December 2019. Her portfolio included alumni, philanthropy, government affairs, multicultural engagement, indigenous matters and Reconciliation, management of external partnerships, work integrated learning placements, workforce training for industry clients and on-campus life. Prior to joining Swinburne in 2011, Ms Ward was a Director of Deloitte's Government Liaison Practice and has experience in economic development and international investment attraction with the Victorian Government. She is currently a member of the College of Law Victorian Chapter Board and has previously held board positions with not-for-profit industry organisations, including Aviation/Aerospace Australia, and the South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance. Ms Ward holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree from Monash University and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Professor Martin Betts

Current Position: Professor Emeritus, Griffith University

Professor Martin Betts is a Professor Emeritus at Griffith University. With more than 40 years working in Universities in 3 continents, Professor Betts has seen the transformational impact universities can have on individual lives, partners in industry and business, precincts of which they are part, and communities they serve. As Deputy Vice Chancellor (Engagement) at Griffith University, Professor Betts was responsible for the University's marketing and communications and its recruitment of future students and the development and alumni activities of the University. He also lead allover external engagement activities which embraced engagement with industry, communities, government, schools and other external organisations. In this role, he also had oversight responsibility for the South Bank campus which embraced Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, the Queensland College of Art and the Griffith Film School. From their footprint on the South Bank precinct, each are key partners as cultural institutions to the world class creative arts and innovation in performance and business that is a hallmark of South Bank in Brisbane.

Chris Robinson

Current Position: Co-Founder and Director, Capire Consulting

Chris Robinson is the Co-Founder and Director of Capire Consulting. Chris has over 25 years' experience in stakeholder engagement and execution, partnership development and planning/management for complex infrastructure, urban development, community and business initiatives.

Prior to co-founding Capire in 2007, Chris was General Manager at Lend Lease's not for profit Hornery Institute. For over 11 years Chris was senior management / planning consultant and shareholder at GHD Pty Ltd. During this time, he founded and then for 3 years was Service Line Leader for GHD's new global Sustainability Consulting practice. Earlier in his career, Chris worked as a strategic planner / urban designer and led multidisciplinary projects as diverse regional sustainable development plans in Borneo (Sarawak, Malaysia); coastal reserve masterplans in Tasmania; airfield masterplans for the Australian Defence Force; post war reconstruction initiatives in Bosnia; Tokyo river renewal projects in Japan and sustainability software tool development in California USA. In 2018 Chris also created www.yourmantime.com, a global movement for men and their supporters dedicated to providing inspiration, support and tools to get men physically and mentally healthier by sharing ideas, stories and tips about getting busy on their own healthy 'man time'.

Chris has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Planning) with Distinction from RMIT, Strategic Planning from Monash Mt Eliza Business School, Master of Planning Design (Urban Design) from University of Melbourne and a Master of Science (Environmental Impact Assessment & Management) from Oxford Brookes University and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Leadership

Victoria. He is a member of the Institute of Management Consultants, Australian Institute of Company Directors and the International Association of Public Participation.

Professor Cobie Rudd

Current Position: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Partnerships and Vice-President, Edith Cowan University)

Professor Cobie Rudd is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Partnerships) and Vice-President at Edith Cowan University (ECU) with key responsibilities to enhance external relations and higher education sector partnerships, to lead institutional accreditations in a number of areas of social responsibility such as gender equality and sustainability, and to oversee professional accreditations. Under her leadership, ECU achieved the Athena SWAN Bronze Institutional Award in December 2018 and ECU has also achieved the Workplace Gender Equality Agency's Employer of Choice for Gender Equality for successive years. Previously, she was ECU's Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Health Advancement), Professor of Mental Health and one of five National Teaching Fellows appointed by the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching in 2011; the first in simulation in healthcare.

Professor Rudd has experience across all sectors and has led a diverse range of capacity-building and research projects on a national scale, and also held senior policy research and advisory roles for both state and commonwealth governments. She has served as a Non-Executive Director on over 13 boards of governance; she currently holds a Government of Western Australia Cabinet-endorsed appointment to the State Training Board and was appointed to the Board of the Cancer Council WA in May 2018.

Professor Rudd holds the degrees of Bachelor of Health Science in Nursing from the University of New England, Master of Public Health from Queensland University of Technology, and Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Western Australia. Additionally, she is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Dr Stephen Rodda

Current Position: Executive Director, Innovation & Commercial Partners at University of Adelaide

Dr Stephen Rodda has 16+ years of experience in the areas of scientific research, research management, technology commercialisation, investment management and corporate governance. He is passionate about the successful translation of research into outcomes that deliver social and economic benefit to our communities. Educated at the University of Adelaide, he gained a first-class honours degree, a PhD in Biochemistry and was awarded the University Medal. Subsequently he was awarded the prestigious CJ Martin and Arthritis Foundation fellowships for post-doctoral training at Harvard University. Dr Rodda holds an MBA, is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has undertaken the Advanced Management Program (AMP) at the Harvard Business School. He is also Chair of Cost-Bry Pty Ltd (trading as BiomeBank) and The Hospital Research Foundation Board.

Collette Rogers

Current Position: Partner, National Education Sector Lead, Deloitte

Collette Rogers is a Deloitte Partner and their National Education Sector Lead as well as a member of the Committee for Melbourne's Future Skills Steering Committee. Ms Rogers has worked with Universities and TAFE institutes on a range of complex programs and initiatives in response to strategic change and policy reform impacting the sector. She has led the redesign and implementation of service delivery models that have enhanced the customer experience and improved the efficiency of operational processes and supporting structures including governance arrangements. Ms Rogers holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Public Administration, both from the University of Melbourne.

Dr Asmi Wood

Current Position: Interim Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies, Australian National University

Dr Asmi Wood is a Professor at the ANU College of Law. He was named 2020 ANU Indigenous Alumnus of the Year, made a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in 2017, was the recipient of the OLT Australian Award for University Teaching: Neville Bonner Award for Indigenous Education in 2015, and also the ANU Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence in 2010. Dr Wood completed his PhD in 2011 and examined the legality or otherwise of the use of force by non-state actors under international law and in domestic Australian law. His current research is in the areas of constitutional recognition of Indigenous people, and Indigenous participation in higher education.

Jane Sydenham-Clarke

Current Position: Chief Executive Officer of Skyline Education Foundation Australia

Jane Sydenham-Clarke has been the inaugural CEO of Skyline Education Foundation. She has held leadership and management positions in government, commercial and not-for-profit settings and has experience and comprehensive relationships with the philanthropic, not-for-profit, and community sectors across Victoria and Australia. Jane was previously CEO at Freemasons Victoria, and has held senior roles at Fed Square, Southgate Arts and Leisure Precinct, Kidney Health Australia and VicHealth.

Jane originally trained as a Registered Nurse and in Post Graduate Psychiatry and has Masters and Honours degrees from Monash University and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Leadership Victoria. She has been appointed to various community leadership positions including as Vice Chair of the Victorian Tourism Awards Judges Panel; and has contributed on Boards and Committees, currently as Chair of Tradeswomen Australia and a non-executive director of Urban Camp.

Genevieve Reid

Current Position: Director Industry and Government Partnerships Deakin Research

Prior to joining Deakin Research Genevieve was Vice President industry Engagement RMIT University, her sales and relationship management expertise spans more than 25 years working in the technology and services sectors and has taken her to North America, Europe and APAC.

She has a strong track record of creating positive and lasting stakeholder and industry engagement across a range of markets and technologies having enjoyed leadership roles with Oracle Corporation, and Australian tech companies Computershare and Aconex; Ms Reid earlier worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Genevieve is part of a growing tech community of women dedicated to establishing and maintaining professional contacts seeking to ensure women and girls expand their knowledge of industry trends and build the confidence and leadership skills needed for career success in the tech sector.

Ms Reid has worked extensively in the non-profit sector as non-executive director of philanthropic organisations ShareGift Australia and Chair of arts institution Craft Victoria. She is a member of the Public Relations Institute of Australia (PRIA) and the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). Ms Reid holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree from Monash University and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Clare Russell

Current Position: Director, Research Partnerships & Initiatives, RMIT

Clare Russell is the Director, Research Partnerships & Initiatives at RMIT. With more than 12 years' experience in the higher education sector, Clare is passionate about the changing role of universities to the economy and community, and supports strategic university-industry engagement collaboration, acting as a partnership broker and leader to create environments and collaborations for industry, community, researchers and government. Collaborating across sectors and complex organisations, Clare brings together the right people, strategy and resources to create impact.

Dr Michelle Evans

Current Position: Associate Professor of Leadership, Management and Marketing, University of Melbourne

Dr Michelle Evans holds an Associate Professorship in Leadership at the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Melbourne, specialising in the areas of Indigenous leadership and entrepreneurship. As a leader in Indigenous business entrepreneurship and engagement, Dr Evans is the co-Founder and Program Director of the award winning MURRA Indigenous Business Masterclass Program, based at Melbourne Business School.

Dr Evans has been awarded three Australian Research Council competitive grants and a Fulbright Scholarship and is widely published in this space. She teaches predominantly at senior executive and postgraduate levels. Prior to academia, Dr Evans was Founder of the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development at the Victorian College of Arts. Together with her research, this provides a unique combination of professional experience in management, community engagement and facilitation in Indigenous leadership and policy development. She has been consulted by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, OECD and other public institutions as well as leading Australian organisations in development of their Reconciliation Action Plans. Dr Evans believes that the path to Indigenous self-determination is economic independence. In addition to establishing MURRA, Dr Evans has also established other initiatives designed to support Indigenous entrepreneurship including Walan Mayingu Indigenous entrepreneurship pop-up Hub, Indigenous Business Month and collaborated on the Native Title Operations and Management Training Program with the National Native Title Council.

Dr Evans has also supported the development of Australia's first Indigenous opera Pecan Summer; is the founder of the Accelerate program (British Council, Australia Council, and Virgin Atlantic); and is the station manager of the community radio station that became 3 Kool N Deadly (Melbourne's Indigenous Radio Station).

Dr Evans has a Bachelor of Arts from Charles Sturt University, a Graduate Diploma from the Victoria College of the Arts, a Master of Arts from the University of Melbourne and a PhD from the University of Melbourne Business School.

Rodney Williams

Current Position: CEO, CareerTracker

Rodney Williams is the CEO of CareerTrackers, a national program that works with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander university students linking them with employers for paid, multi-year internships. Rodney joined CareerTrackers as CEO in January 2020 with more than 20 years' professional experience across the private, public and non-profit sectors where he has held board, senior executive and management roles and worked extensively with Indigenous communities across Australia. He has a background in management consulting, banking and finance, Indigenous economic development, Indigenous employment and training, and creative industries.

Rodney is an Aboriginal man from the Guwa people of central west Queensland and has family connections to the Aboriginal communities of Cherbourg and Brisbane in south-east Queensland. He holds an MBA from Melbourne Business School, a Bachelor of Built Environment (Industrial Design) from Queensland University of Technology and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).