Mr David GONSKI AC (Chairman)  
BCom, LLB (UNSW), FAICD (Life), FCPA, Hon. LLD (UOW)  

David Gonski is Chancellor of the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney).  

David is also Chairman of the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd and President of the Art Gallery of NSW Trust. He is also a member of the Sydney Airport Corporation board, the ASIC External Advisory Panel and the board of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, a Patron of the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation and Raise Foundation and a Founding Panel Member of Adara Partners.  

He was previously Chair of the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools for the Commonwealth Government of Australia, a member of the Takeovers Panel, Director of Singapore Airlines Limited, the Westfield Group and Singapore Telecommunications Limited, Chairman of Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd, the Australian Securities Exchange Ltd, the Sydney Theatre Company, the Guardians of the Future Fund, the Australia Council for the Arts, the Board of Trustees of Sydney Grammar School and Investec Bank (Australia) Ltd.

---

Mr Richard ALCOCK AO  
BCom, LLB (UNSW)  

Richard Alcock is the Vice Chairman, Global Banking & Markets, Bank of America Merrill Lynch. He is also Chairman of Western Sydney Local Health District and a member of the Board of Art Exhibitions Australia.  

Richard was previously the Deputy Chairman of the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (Randwick and Westmead), Chairman of UNSW Law Faculty Advisory Board, and a member of the Australian Indonesia Institute, among other roles.  

Prior to joining Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Richard was a Senior Partner and Chairman of the Ethics Committee of Allens Arthur Robinson, lawyers.  

Richard holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Bachelor of Laws, both from UNSW.
Dr Raji AMBIKAIRAJAH
BE (UNSW)

Dr Raji Ambikairajah holds a PhD in electrical engineering from UNSW and has spent most of her career in the technology start-up and venture capital sectors. As the Chief Executive Officer of the tech start-up, Folo, she has led the launch of a new profit-for-purpose ecommerce platform which has attracted thousands of users and democratises philanthropy.

Prior to this, Raji was the Chief Operating Officer of Women in Banking and Finance where she accelerated the organisation's growth over a 24-month period to span four cities in Australia.

Raji is an Ambassador for Room to Read, a global non-profit organisation that provides children in low-income communities with access to education. Before this, Raji was Room to Read’s Sydney Chapter Leader for seven years. Under her leadership, the chapter reached 116,480 children, grew to be the biggest in the world in terms of number of volunteers and was in the top five globally for fundraising.

Raji is an experienced board director and is currently a Non-Executive Director across a range of boards including the Sydney School of Entrepreneurship, the NSW State Library Foundation and the NSW Circular Economy Innovation Network. In 2018, Raji was awarded the NSW Woman of the Year Award in the Community Hero category.

Ms Vera BOYARSKY
BA (UNSW)

Vera Boyarsky is the Executive Director/Owner of Anka Property Group and has over forty years of experience in the development industry.

Vera brings a unique blend of experience, innovation and entrepreneurship to her role at Anka and oversees the Group’s residential, retail, hospitality and commercial projects spanning across the globe. Anka Property Group projects have won awards in NSW Australia and overseas.

Vera’s training and experience have had a major influence on Anka projects, and she oversees the Group’s design, financial strategy, projects and acquisitions, development and sales, and its dealings with government bodies. Vera is constantly pursuing excellence in her field by keeping abreast of the latest trends in the development industry.

Vera is the winner of the UDIA Women in Leadership Award for excellence, a UNSW Foundation Board member and sits on the Sir John Monash Scholarship Selection Panel. She provides scholarships for undergraduates and graduate students at UNSW in the Built Environment and AGSM, and mentors young people, particularly women, who wish to pursue careers in engineering and other male dominated professions.

The Boyarsky family are active philanthropists and support several organisations who assist children and adults in need locally and internationally. The family are patrons of UNSW, the Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, and supporters of medical research at The Garvan Institute and UTS. They are also involved in The Choice Foundation and The Giving Circle in order to make a difference to those in the greatest need.

Vera is an alumna of UNSW and the School of Design at Harvard University.
Dr Robert CAMERON AO
BE (Hons), MBA, GradDip Geoscience, HonDEng, FAusIMM, FAIM, FAICD

Bob is the founder of Centennial Coal Company Limited and previous Chairman (Non-Executive Director) until 1 April 2017, as well as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer until 30 June 2011.

Bob’s other roles include Chairman of County International Limited, Pacific Smiles Group and Hunter Valley Training Company Limited. He is a former Trustee of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, and a member of The Library Council of NSW.

Bob is a member of the Deans Industrial Steering Committee and the Minerals and Energy Resources Engineering Industry Advisory Committee for the UNSW Faculty of Engineering.

Mr Mark DORNEY
BCom LLB (UNSW), FFin, FAICD

Mark is Managing Director and Head of Corporate Finance & Capital Markets in Australia & New Zealand for CITIC CLSA Capital Markets, the largest Asian-headquartered investment bank by market capitalisation.

Mark’s previous roles include as an Executive Director of Macquarie and CEO of Southern Cross Austereo (then known as Macquarie Media Group) an ASX 200 listed media group comprising subscription television, free-to-air television, commercial radio and print media across Australia, Greater China and the United States with revenues of $594Mln, 2,900 staff, 31,500 advertising clients and over 10 million listeners, viewers and readers.

Prior to Macquarie, Mark was Managing Director and Head of Equity Capital Markets for Australia & New Zealand at N.M. Rothschild & Sons where (amongst other things) he was project leader for the landmark $14.3bn and $16bn privatisations of Telstra 1 and 2 respectively by the Commonwealth Government of Australia, Telstra 1 alone being the largest initial public offering ever conducted in Australia.

Mark is a former Director of House With No Steps (and Chair of its Asset Management Review Committee) and currently Vice Chairman of the Australia Taiwan Business Council.
Dr Holly FORSYTH  
BA (UQ), PhD (UNSW)

Dr Holly Kerr Forsyth has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Queensland, graduated from the Ryde College of Horticulture, Sydney, and has a PhD in History from the University of New South Wales.

As well as writing for a range of mainstream and academic publications, until May 2016 her writing on gardens, landscape, environment and social geography was found each Saturday in The Weekend Australian. Holly’s doctoral thesis – titled ‘From the British Pastoral to the Australian Arcadia: Women, Transferred Vision and the Reconstruction of Landscape’ - addresses the ways in which colonial and post-colonial women in European-settled Australia reconstructed the landscape they found into their vision of an English Arcadia.

The author of eleven books on gardens and gardening, Holly is in demand for speaking engagements around Australia, and overseas, presenting illustrated lectures on her books and on garden history. Prior to her writing she had founded and run her own PR agency for some 20 years.

Dr Daniel GAUCHAT  
BCom (UNSW), MBA (INSEAD), HonDuniv (UNSW), AICD

Daniel Gauchat is a Founding Partner of The Adelante Group, which provides CEO and Senior Executive leadership development mentoring services.

Until the end of 2006, he was a Senior Client Partner and Head of Global Consumer/Life Sciences Markets, Australasia in the Sydney office of Korn/Ferry International. Dr Gauchat joined the firm in 1999, previously having been an Equity Partner with another major search firm AMROP International. In 1995, Dr Gauchat became Vice-Chairman of the company’s international Board and Executive Committee, and in 1997, he was appointed Chairman for a two-year period.

Prior to his career in the executive search industry, Dr Gauchat held several senior management positions at Société Generale de Surveillance (SGS), including Senior Vice President and Director of the SGS Group in Switzerland, Chief Executive Officer of SGS Spain, SGS Thailand and SGS Indonesia, as well as General Manager of SGS in Japan. Before joining SGS, Dr Gauchat worked for Grace Industrial Chemicals in Europe and as Operations Manager for the Coca-Cola Export Corporation in Australia.

Dr Gauchat has an MBA from INSEAD, a Bachelor of Commerce (Merit) from UNSW, and an AICD Diploma (Merit). He has been awarded a Doctor of UNSW for services to the community and the University.

Dr Gauchat was the President of the Australasian Advisory Council of INSEAD for 10 years and is a company member of Winifred West Schools. He was the founding Chairman of the UNSW Medicine Advisory Council and is a member of the Dean’s Circle. He is also a member of the UNSW Risk Committee.
Mr Nicholas GRAY
BCom, LLB (UNSW)

Nicholas Gray is Managing Director of The Australian, NSW & Prestige Titles. He was appointed CEO of The Australian in 2013 and has been responsible for top and bottom line improvements fuelled by digital subscription growth and an expanded focus on digital products. His role expanded to include the Prestige Titles (Vogue, Vogue Living and GQ) in 2018 and all NSW titles (The Daily Telegraph, The Sunday Telegraph and Community titles such as The Wentworth Courier) in 2019. He first joined News Corp in 2012 following the acquisition of Business Spectator, of which he was GM and Publisher.

Before this Nicholas was CFO / Strategy Director and then National Sales Director at ninemsn. Prior to this, Nicholas worked on corporate strategy at Lion Nathan and was an investment banker at Citigroup in London and Tokyo and Macquarie in Sydney.

Nicholas is Chairman of Medium Rare and a non-executive director of Society One and the Community Newspaper Group. He has also previously held non-executive director positions at the Interactive Advertising Bureau (IAB), iSelect and 3P Learning (Mathletics).

Nicholas graduated from UNSW in 1997 with a BCom / LLB and remains involved with the University as a non-executive director of the UNSW Foundation board and Campaign Cabinet, and a Business School Alumni Leader.

Dr Catherine HARRIS AO PSM
BCom (UNSW), HonDBus (UNSW), FAICD

Catherine Harris is the Chairperson of Harris Farm Markets Pty Ltd. She is on the Board of Australia’s newest Bank -Tyro Payments, The Australian Ballet and the Australian School of Business UNSW.

Previous roles have included: - Deputy Chancellor UNSW, Trustee of the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust, Director of The National Gallery of Australia, The Australian Defence Force Academy, The MCA, St Margaret’s Public Hospital and the Australia Japan Foundation.

Catherine is an Officer in the Order of Australia and was awarded the Australian Public Service Medal, The Centenary Medal and has an Honorary Doctorate from UNSW.
Professor Ian Jacobs is a doctor, researcher, charity worker, business entrepreneur and academic leader with an interest in bringing together people from diverse backgrounds to have a positive impact on society.

He has been President and Vice-Chancellor of UNSW Australia since February 2015. UNSW located in Sydney is a member of the Australian Group of 8 universities, in the world top 100 universities, with over 50,000 students. Since taking up his post Professor Jacobs has led the development of an ambitious 'UNSW 2025 Strategy' combining academic excellence in research and education, with equal priorities in social engagement, equality, diversity, thought leadership, knowledge transfer and global impact.

Prior to his role at UNSW he was Dean of the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences at UCL from 2009-11, Director of the Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre at UCLH/UCL (2006-10), Research Director UCL Partners Academic Health Science System (2009-11) and Director of the UCL Institute for Women’s Health from 2004-9. He moved to be Vice President of the University of Manchester, Dean of the Faculty of Medical/Human Sciences and Director of MAHSC (Manchester Academic Health Science Centre) from 2011-15 before commencing his post at UNSW in Sydney.

Alongside his leadership roles, he directs a laboratory and clinical research team focused on genetics, proteomics, imaging and biomarkers in detection and screening for gynaecological cancers and has held research awards in the UK of >£30m from Medical Research Council, Cancer Research UK and the National Institute of Health Research. As a researcher he has led several large multicentre clinical trials including the UK Collaborative Trial of Ovarian Cancer Screening (UKCTOCS) involving 202,000 participants in 13 collaborating UK centres and the UK Familial Ovarian Cancer Screening Study (UKFOCSS). He is co-inventor of the patented Risk of Ovarian Cancer Algorithm (ROCA) for ovarian cancer screening. He has an H-Index of 70, over 200 journal publications and over 400 publications in total, which have been cited 19,878 times overall and 9416 times in the last 5 years.

He qualified at Cambridge University and the Middlesex Hospital, obtained accreditation in obstetrics and gynaecology working at the Royal London and Rosie Maternity Cambridge and specialist accreditation as a surgical gynaecological oncologist at Bart’s and The Royal Marsden. He completed an MD Thesis at Queen Mary College, University of London, the Cancer Research UK McElwain Fellowship at Cambridge University and a Medical Research Council Travelling Fellowship at Duke University, North Carolina. Ian was head of Department of Gynaecological Oncology and then Obstetrics and Gynaecology at QMUL from 1996 to 2004 and set up and directed the UCL Institute for Women’s Health between 2004 and 2009.

Since joining UNSW in February 2015 Professor Jacobs has been made an Honorary Senior Principal Research Fellow of the Garvan Institute of Medical Research, a Director of Research Australia, the Chair of the Australian Conservation Foundation’s Leadership Forum for Energy Transition, a member of the Australian Research Council Impact and Engagement Steering Committee, Chair of the Sydney Partnership for Health Education, Research and Enterprise, he is currently Lead Universities Australia Vice-Chancellor on Equity and Diversity and Deputy Chair of the Group of 8 universities.
Dr Grant KING  
BE (Civil) (UNSW), MMgt (UOW), FAICD

Grant King has extensive experience in the Australian energy industry. Grant was Managing Director of Origin Energy Limited from February 2000 until October 2016. Prior to Origin, Grant served as Managing Director of Boral Energy from 1994 to February 2000.

Prior to joining Boral, Grant was General Manager AGL Gas Companies, where he held a number of management positions over a 17-year period.

He is a Fellow of Australian Institute of Company Directors and President of the Business Council of Australia (BCA) and previously served as Chair of the BCA Infrastructure and Sustainability Committee. He is former Director of Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association Limited (APPEA), Envestra Limited, former Chairman of Energy Supply Association of Australia (ESAA) and former Chairman of Oil Company of Australia. Grant is also former Chairman of Contact Energy Limited.

Grant has a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from the University of New South Wales and a Master of Management from the University of Wollongong.

He completed the Advanced Management Program at Administrative Staff College, Mt Eliza (now the University of Melbourne Business School) in 1988.

Grant is married to Jennifer and has two sons and one daughter.

Ms Melanie KURZYDLO  
BIA (UNSW)

Melanie Kurzydlo is the Director, Strategy and Business Relations at Growthbuilt where she partners with CEO’s and executives to lead strong teams of industry professionals in the Property, Development and Construction Industry. Drawing upon her strong knowledge of multiple industry sectors, Melanie currently drives the effective implementation of Growthbuilt’s Business Development and Growth Strategy and has done so since early 2017 where she holds a leading role on the Senior Executive Team as the Director of Strategy and Business Relations.

Melanie’s passion and drive to support organisations that align with her own is key to her success. Melanie continually drives diversity and change within the industry and has been a member of the Property Council of Australia since 2015 and currently sits on the PCA Diversity Committee (since 2018). She is also a Committee member of the CoreNet Committee (since 2018) and has recently joined Interbuild, the first LGBTI+ property group to raise awareness of related topics within the industry. A strong advocate for educating the younger generation, Melanie participates in mentoring through both formal and informal programmes and prides herself on her authentic and genuine communication style which is credited by her ability to build strong and lasting relationships.

A winner of the 2019 NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction) Crystal Vision Award for the advancements of Women, Melanie continually aims to assist in driving diverse and inclusive initiatives for the property development and construction industry in areas of Women, LGBTI+, Reconciliation, Mental Health, Age and Culture and firmly believes is all starts and finishes with education.
Mrs Christine Margaret McNamEE
Liddy AO
BA (UNSW), FAICD

Christine McNamee Liddy is a former Board Member and Past President of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (South Eastern Section) and a Former National Vice-President of the RFDS. She is board member of the Australasian Gastro¬Intestinal Trials Group (GI Cancer Institute) and is also on the Board of the Gastro-Intestinal Cancer Institute of New Zealand. She is a Board Member of the Dame Pattie Menzies Foundation. Christine was the Founder of All Purpose Indoor Plant Hire, which she owned and ran for thirty seven years before selling to a multinational in 2010. She remains a Partner in Australian Plantscapes. She is also a Council Member of the Friends of the Sydney International Pianoforte Competition and an Advisory Board Member of the Mosman Art Gallery and Cultural Centre and a former member of the Capital Campaign Committee of the State Library of NSW. She is a member of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia Capital Campaign Committee (Friends of the RFDS) and a member of the UNSW Arts and Social Sciences Advisory Council.

Christine’s former roles include, Board Member Frontline Defence Services for the Australian Army and Air Force, Council Member of the Art Gallery Society of NSW (for twenty two years including an eight year period as the Honorary Secretary), Council Member of the Foundation for Classical Archaeology Sydney University, a member of the Aircraft Replacement Committee (Royal Flying Doctor Service). Christine is a former Chairman of St John’s College within the University of Sydney and she is a fellow of SJC and remains a member of Council.

Mrs Alison MirAMS

Alison Mirams is the founding Chief Executive Officer of boutique tier one construction company, Roberts Pizarotti. The company was founded in January 2017 and within the first two years had a workbook of $600m. Alison is deeply passionate about addressing the systemic issues that exist in the construction industry and attracting and retaining more women in the industry.

Alison has always worked in the construction industry. Prior to Roberts Pizarotti, Alison led the NSW/ACT regional business unit for Lendlease’s Building business for nearly three years. Prior to joining Lendlease, Alison enjoyed a successful sixteen-year career at Multiplex, rising from contracts administrator to regional director.

Alison chairs the Advisory Council for UNSW Faculty of the Built Environment. Alison’s former roles include Director of the Australian Steel Institute and a member of the Board of Advisors for Property Industry Foundation.

Alison received the Laing O’Rourke Business Woman of the Year award at the 2018 NAWIC NSW Awards for Excellence.

Alison holds a Bachelor of Building (Construction Economics) and a Graduate Diploma Urban Estate Management from UTS.
Mr Bruce MORGAN
BCom (UNSW), FCA, FAICD

Bruce Morgan is the Chairman of Sydney Water and is a Director of Origin Energy, Caltex Australia, European Australian Business Council (EABC) and Redkite.

Bruce was a partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) for 25 years. He was the Chairman of PwC Australia and a member of the PwC International Board. During his tenure with PwC, Bruce worked with the boards and senior executives of public companies and governments. As an audit partner, Bruce led some of the Firm’s most significant engagements focused on financial services, energy and mining sectors, leading source of the Firm’s most significant clients in Australia and Internationally. Bruce retired from PwC on 31 March 2013.

Bruce holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting and Finance) from the University of NSW. He is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).
Mr Tim Olsen
BEd (UNSW)

Tim Olsen is one of Australia’s most recognised and respected art identities and successful gallery owners. Son of Australia’s national living treasure, artist Dr John Olsen, A.O. O.B.E., Olsen was born into a life of modern and contemporary art, and through fortitude and adversity has forged his own path, successful career and has become a highly recognised Australian over the past three decades.

Tim Olsen has also worked in and managed many leading Art Galleries including Rex Irwin Art Gallery, Woollahra; Australian Galleries, Collingwood and Paddington; and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Paddington. He established his own Gallery in 1993, which has rapidly expanded over 25 years to become one of Sydney’s leading galleries today. He has also represented Australian art in countless art fairs around the world.

In 2017 Olsen launched Olsen Gruin Gallery in the Lower East Side of New York City alongside its two existing spaces in Sydney. Olsen not only has supported the careers of many of Australia’s leading established artists but also has nurtured the creative lives of many emerging artists who can presently include themselves as being very much part of the eminent art establishment today. He has published books and produced short films to further the careers and understandings of artists.

Representing over 40 artists, Olsen has established himself as a leader in Modern and Contemporary Art, with a client base extending throughout Australia and internationally. He has been a foundation member of the AGNSW and on the board of UNSW Art & Design for over 15 years, representative of his broad interest and care for the University as a whole.

Tim Olsen is a major donor and benefactor to the MCA and is regularly invited as a guest speaker or judge for events that foster art education and creativity amongst the community. He has been a patron of the King’s School Art Prize for over 24 years and for over 18 years sponsored the annual Tim Olsen Drawing Prize at UNSW Art & Design. Tim has been strongly associated with many charities directly and is constantly donating the gallery itself for fundraising events that include the Royal Randwick Children’s Hospital, the St Vincent’s Hospital Curran Foundation through to Oxfam, Barnardo’s Australia and the Australian Opera to name a few. As a creative business visionary, he was recently invited to join EO (Entrepreneurs Organisation) a selected forum of leading entrepreneurs.

Mr Jon Paparsenos

Jon Paparsenos is the Vice President Philanthropy and CEO UNSW Foundation, appointed in 2016. He brings to the role more than 12 years’ experience from one of the world’s most sophisticated philanthropic nations - the USA. Jon has extensive experience in the planning and execution of fundraising campaigns. Prior to joining UNSW, he served in the position of Executive Director of Development, Academic Divisions and Regions for Caltech (the California Institute of Technology) and with Marquette University in Wisconsin and Community Counselling Co, LLC in New York.

Jon came to Philanthropy following an eight-year service with the US Marine Corps. Jon holds a BA from Seton Hall University. He is a fluent Greek speaker and emigrated from Greece at the age of 18 to the US. In 2016, Jon immigrated to Australia with his wife and two children to take up his current position with UNSW.
Mr Simon POIDEVIN AM OAM
BSc (Hons) (UNSW)

Simon Poidevin is Managing Director – Corporate Stockbroking at Bell Potter Securities Limited, a leading Australian full service broking and financial advisory firm. Prior to joining Bell Potter, Simon was an executive director at Bizzell Capital Partners, and executive director at Pengana Capital, an Australian based Absolute Return funds management company.

Simon has worked in Global Financial Markets for over 33 years, spending 14 years with Citigroup, culminating in heading the firm’s Corporate Equity Broking division in Australia.

Simon represented Australia in Rugby Union from 1980 to 1991, captaining the Wallabies in 1986 and 1987 and becoming the first Wallaby to play 50 test matches. In total he played 59 test matches including 21 against the New Zealand All Blacks; a record for an Australian forward. In 1991 Simon was a member of the first Wallaby team to win the Rugby World Cup. Simon is currently the President of the Classic Wallabies, the living heritage of Australian Rugby and encompasses all players who have been selected to play for the Wallabies.

Simon was awarded an OAM in 1988, The Centenary Medal in 2003 and was awarded the Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2018. He was inducted into the Australian Hall of Fame in 1991 and into the Australian Rugby Hall of Fame in 2014. Simon is also an emeritus member of the Ben Lexcen Sports Scholarship Committee and co-founded the establishment of the “Lexcen Scholarships” in 1988. The “Ben Lexcen Sports Scholarships” program has supported over 220 UNSW Elite Athletes since its creation.

He holds a Blue in Rugby Union from UNSW, and is a member of both the UNSW Sporting Hall of Fame and the UNSW Faculty of Science Hall of Fame. He received the UNSW Alumni Award in 1990 for his captanicy of the Australian Rugby team in 1986 and 1987, his Chairmanship of the University’s Establishment Committee of the Sports Scholarship Scheme, and his Presidency of the Ben Lexcen Scholarship Board.
Professor Laura POOLE-WARREN  
BSc(Hons) UNSW, PhD UNSW, FBSE, FAIMBE, FTSE  

Laura Poole-Warren is a Professor of Biomedical Engineering and leads a research group in biomaterials and tissue Engineering at UNSW Sydney. Laura was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering in 2017, the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering in 2015, and the International Union of Biomaterials Science and Engineering in 2012.

Laura has extensive experience with both Government and industry. During her decade-long membership of the Australian Commonwealth Statutory Advisory Committee on Medical Devices up to 2013, she advised the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration on safety of medical devices. Laura has also worked in the biomedical industry, spending 2 years as a preclinical scientist in the USA from 1999 to 2001 in a start-up focussed on development of implantable devices including wound dressings and embolic agents for cancer treatment.

Laura is an Associate Editor of the journal Biomaterials, on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Neural Engineering and is also Secretary for the Biomaterials Science and Engineering College of Fellows. Laura has broad leadership experience through her past roles as Pro Vice-Chancellor at UNSW, Chair of the Group of Eight Deans of Graduate Research and Convenor of the Australian Council of Graduate Research. Laura also led the team responsible for reporting on the university’s plans for achieving gender balance in STEMM which culminated in 2018, in UNSW receiving an Athena SWAN Bronze award.

Laura is an alumna of UNSW, having been awarded with both a Bachelor of Science (Hons) and a PhD degree from the institution.

Mr Julian REYNOLDS  
BCom (Hons) (UNSW), MBA (Stanford), MSAA  

Julian Reynolds is a founder and Director of Reynolds Securities Pty Ltd - a member firm of the Morgans Stockbroking and Financial Planning Group.

He has been actively involved in the Australian securities industry for the past 49 years and specialises in private client investment advice. During this time Julian has served on the Boards of both Public Companies and Charitable organisations.

Julian has been a UNSW Business School Alumni Leader at UNSW since 2005. He was previously a Governor on the UNSW Alumni Association Board 2000-2010.
Dr Emery SEVERIN
BSc (Hons) (UNSW), D Phil (Oxford), MAICD

Emery Severin has recently retired as CEO and Executive Director of Nuplex Industries, a leading global manufacturer of polymer resins used in paints, coatings and structural materials following its sale in late 2016.

Emery has over 25 years’ experience in senior management roles in the steel, building and construction and chemicals industries. During his career Emery has managed businesses globally and has been located in Australia, SE Asia and the USA. In his early career he was an Officer in the Australian Army and is a graduate of the Royal Military College Duntroon. While completing his undergraduate studies at Duntroon through UNSW, Emery was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship from South Australia and went onto study physical chemistry at Oxford University.

Emery has a passion for science and innovation and has previously served as Chairman of the CRC for Asthma Research and a member of the Science Foundation for Physics at the University of Sydney.

Dr Shane SIMPSON AM
LLB (Hons) (Auckland), MJur (Auckland)

Shane Simpson is Chairman of Studio A (a supported studio for artists with intellectual disability), the Prelude Project (a national network of composer residences) and an independent director on several private foundations.

He was formerly chair of the Advisory Council of the Faculty of Art and Design, UNSW, the Bundanon Trust, the NSW Film and Television Office and Museums and Galleries NSW and a non-executive director on numerous boards in the cultural industries including the Australian Maritime Museum the New Zealand Film Commission, the Australian National Academy of Music, the National Association for the Visual Arts, the Crafts Council of Australia, the Music Council of Australia and the Copyright Agency.


He was appointed Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for “services to the law and to the arts through leading roles in intellectual property and entertainment law, and as a contributor to a range of cultural organisations.”
Emeritus Professor Alec TZANNES AM
BSc (Arch) BArch (Sydney),
MS Arch + UD (Hon) (Columbia),
AIA (Hon), MRAIC (Hon), FNZIA, FAIB,
LFRAIA Architect 4174

Alec Tzannes is the founding Director of TZANNES, an Architecture and Urban Design practice. He has served as Dean of UNSW Built Environment, retiring from this role in February 2016 and is now an Emeritus Professor (Practice).
TZANNES has been honoured with more than 100 local, state, national and international architecture, urban design and industrial design awards.

In 2017, the UNSW honoured Alec’s achievements with the degree of Doctor of the University honoris causa. At UNSW his considerable achievements are hallmarks of a watershed time for design education at the University.

In 2018 he was awarded Australian architecture’s highest honour, the Australian Institute of Architects’ Gold Medal. The Gold Medal recognises distinguished service by architects who have designed or executed buildings of high merit, produced work of great distinction resulting in the advancement of architecture or endowed the profession of architecture in a distinguished manner.

Ms Nicola WAKEFIELD EVANS
BJuris (UNSW)

Nicola Wakefield Evans is an experienced independent Non-Executive Director and is currently on the boards of the Lendlease Group, Macquarie Group, Macquarie Bank, the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Chief Executive Women, MetLife Insurance Limited, MetLife General Insurance Limited and Goodes O’Loughlin Foundation Limited. Ms Wakefield Evans was appointed by the Turnbull Government as a member of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) and serves as a member of the Takeovers Panel and previously served as Director of Toll Holdings, BUPA Australia & New Zealand, Asialink, and Asialink Business.

Ms Wakefield Evans is a lawyer and spent nearly 30 years at King & Wood Mallesons where she was a partner for 20 years. She has extensive experience as an equity capital markets and M&A lawyer, has been involved in several significant and ground-breaking M&A transactions and has advised some of the largest companies in Australia, Asia and globally. Ms Wakefield Evans had several management roles at King & Wood Mallesons and is well known in Asia where she was the Managing Partner, International at King & Wood Mallesons, Hong Kong.

In 2009, Nicola was selected as a member of Advance Asia 50 (a group of the most influential Australians living & working in Asia) and was selected in 2011 as a member of Advance Global 50 (a group of leading Australian women working outside Australia). In October 2012, Ms Wakefield Evans was included in the Australian Financial Review and Westpac Group’s inaugural list of ‘Australia’s 100 Women of Influence.’ She is a member of Chief Executive Women.

Ms Wakefield Evans holds a Bachelor of Jurisprudence and Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of New South Wales and is a qualified lawyer in Australia, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.
Professor George Williams AO is Dean at UNSW Law.

George has written and edited 36 books on human rights and constitutional law and has appeared as a barrister in the High Court in many human rights cases.

He chaired the inquiry that brought about the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and is a columnist for The Australian.

Originally from Hong Kong, Mr Wong has been involved in the investment banking and stockbroking industry for over 36 years. He had served on numerous boards including ASX listed Kyckr Limited where he was the founding chairman (retired November 2018). In 2016, he was engaged as a consultant to China’s Nanshan Group and was instrumental in its negotiation and ultimate acquisition of a strategic 20% equity stake in Virgin Australia.

His philanthropic activities include serving on the UNSW Foundation board since 1998, he is a Director of The Children’s Medical Research Institute, past President and Honorary Life Governor of the Physics Foundation at the University of Sydney (retired September 2018) and Director of the Australian Museum Foundation. More recently, he has commissioned and co-written a book on the role played by the Chinese Anzacs and Chinese Labour Corps in The Great War and lobbying both State and Federal Governments to support awareness of this little-known chapter in Australian history.

Tobias Yao has worked in the financial services industry since 2008 and currently works as a Portfolio Manager at Wilson Asset Management focusing on investing in Australian listed companies. Previously, Tobias spent five years as an investment analyst at Pengana Capital where he worked in both the Australian Equities Fund as well as the Asian Equities Fund. In his career to date, Tobias also had stints with Ernst & Young and Goldman Sachs. Tobias holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of New South Wales and was a recipient of the UNSW Co-operative Scholarship for Accounting. Tobias is a CFA charterholder.