UNSW Foundation Ltd – Board of Directors

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

David is Chancellor of the University of New South Wales, President of the Art Gallery of NSW Trust, Non-Executive Chairman of Barrenjoey Capital Partners Group Holdings Pty Limited, and Chairman of the UNSW Foundation Ltd. He is a member of the Board of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, a non-executive Member of LeapFrog Investment’s Global Leadership Council, a Patron of the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation and Raise Foundation and a Founding Panel Member of Adara Partners.

He was previously Chairman of the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd, Chair of the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools for the Commonwealth Government of Australia. He was also a member of the Takeovers Panel, the ASIC External Advisory Panel and 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. 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, 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. In 2021, Richard was awarded a Doctorate of the University (Honoris Causa) for eminent service to the community.

Dr Raji AMBIKAIRAJAH
BE (UNSW), PhD (UNSW)

Dr Raji Ambikairajah holds a PhD in electrical engineering from UNSW and is a member of UNSW Council. She has spent most
of her career in the technology start-up and venture capital sectors. As the former Chief Executive Officer of the tech start-up, Folo, she led the launch of a new profit-for-purpose e-commerce platform which attracted thousands of users and democratised 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 NSW State Library Foundation and the Belvoir Theatre. Raji was awarded the 2018 NSW Woman of the Year Award in the Community Hero category. In 2019, Raji won the Chief Executive Women scholarship to study strategic innovation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

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**Professor Eileen Baldry**  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor Equity Diversity and Inclusion

Eileen Baldry AO FASSA FRSN (BA, DipEd [USyd] MWP, PhD [UNSW]) is Deputy Vice-Chancellor Equity Diversity and Inclusion and Professor of Criminology at UNSW Sydney. Professor Baldry has held senior positions in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, serving as Interim Dean, Associate Dean Education and Deputy Dean and is appointed the first female Deputy Vice-Chancellor at UNSW. In 2021 Eileen was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for “distinguished service to tertiary education, to criminology and social welfare policy, and as an advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion.

Professor Baldry has taught social policy, social development and criminology over the past 30 years. Her research and publications focus on social justice and include mental health and cognitive disability in the criminal justice system; criminalised women and Indigenous Australian women and youth; education, training and employment for prisoners and ex-prisoners; homelessness and transition from prison; Indigenous justice; Indigenous social work; community development and social housing; and disability services. Professor Baldry has been and is a Chief Investigator on numerous Australian Research Council (ARC), NH&MRC, AHURI and other grants over the past 25 years, contributes to Commissions and Inquiries and has published over 130 peer reviewed books, articles and reports.

She has been involved in a voluntary capacity with a number of development and justice community organisations and is currently a Director on the Board of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC). Professor Baldry has served as Chair of a number of homelessness and justice related committees, is currently
Chair of the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission’s Advisory Board.

During her time as Deputy Chair of the Disability Council NSW, Eileen advised the Minister and public authorities on emerging issues relating to people with disability. She was Co-Chair of Universities Australia Executive Women Group (UAEW) 2019-2020, a national group providing strategic advice and high-level guidance to Australian Universities on improving the representation of women, both academic and professional, at executive levels of university leadership and governance.

Professor Baldry is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and of the Royal Society of NSW, was awarded the NSW Justice Medal in 2009 and in 2016 was named in the AFR/Westpac 100 most influential women in Australia.

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 the winner of the UDIA Women in Leadership Award for excellence, a UNSW Foundation Board member, sits on the Sir John Monash Scholarship Selection Panel, a Board member for the Opera House Centre for Creativity and holds a position on the advisory panel for the Centre for Neuroscience and Regeneration Medicine. 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 that 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 to make a difference to those in the greatest need. Vera is an alumna of UNSW and the School of Design at Harvard University.
Attila is the Vice-Chancellor and President of UNSW Sydney. He was previously the Vice-Chancellor and President of University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research at UTS.

He is a distinguished academic and higher education leader with extensive experience in the government and corporate sectors. He has held senior roles with CSIRO and McKinsey & Company, and leadership roles and appointments including Chair of the Australian Technology Network of Universities and the NSW Vice-Chancellors’ Committee; and member of the Universities Australia Board, the Federal Government Sustainability Research Committee, the Committee for Sydney Board, the NSW Innovation and Productivity Council, and the Federal Government’s National University Precincts Advisory Committee.

In 2018, Attila was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Technology and Engineering for his research into heterogeneous catalysis and for his leadership in the higher education sector. He is a Rhodes Scholar with a Doctorate in Inorganic Chemistry from Oxford University and the University Medal in Industrial Chemistry from UNSW.

Attila is honoured to have returned to UNSW to lead the University in its mission to improve lives globally, through innovative research, transformative education and a commitment to a just society.

Bob Cameron 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 Hunter Valley Training Company Limited and County International Limited. He is a Trustee of the State Library Foundation and a Member of the State Library Council, on which he chairs the Audit and Risk Committee.

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. He is also on the Advisory Board of the John Monash Foundation Leadership Academy.

As Vice President, Fiona Docherty is responsible for UNSW’s
Vice President, External Engagement

Division of External Engagement which supports UNSW’s bold and ambitious 2025 strategy with communications, government relations, alumni engagement, and fundraising activities. Reporting directly to the Vice Chancellor, Fiona is a member of UNSW’s Management Board and is accountable for 145 staff and for raising $650M in donations.

Fiona is a board member of UNSW Global (the university’s education pathway provider), and over the last five years has sponsored major projects including: the Institute for Global Development, the Big Anxiety Festival, the Professional Women in Leadership program, UNSW’s COVID response plan, as well as serving on external boards and steering groups including the Australia India Institute and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities network. In 2019, she was named one of the Top 50 marketing leaders in Australia by CMO magazine for her sector-leading work. The work of the Division has also been recognised through major industry awards for events, social media, comms campaigns and for international partnership development.

Prior to UNSW, Fiona worked across the higher education, tourism and FMCG sectors in the UK in director roles advancing sales, marketing, and comms. One of her most formative leadership experiences was serving on the inaugural committee representing the tea trade in the UK, tasked with developing ethical sourcing standards to deal with systemic supply chain issues globally – standards that remain in place today. She is a proud alumna of the University of Glasgow, and a graduate of both the UK CAM Foundation and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Mr Mark DORNEY
BCom (with Merit) LLB (Hons. Equiv.) (UNSW), FAICD

Mark is Founder and Managing Director of Chevalier Capital. Prior to Chevalier, Mark was Head of Corporate Finance & Capital Markets in Australia & New Zealand for CITIC CLSA Capital Markets, the then 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 operating in Australia, Greater China and the United States with revenues of $594Mln, 2,900 staff, 31,500 advertising clients and over 10 million viewers, listeners 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 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 has been extensively involved in healthcare as a former Director of PRP Group (then Australia’s 5th largest diagnostic
imaging group), former Chair of the Asset Management Review of House With No Steps (serving >2,500 people with disabilities) and former Investment Committee member for Little Company of Mary Healthcare (founders of Calvary Healthcare).

Mr Stuart FULLER  
BCom, LLB (UNSW)

Stuart is Global Head of Legal Services for KPMG International and is also its Asia Pacific Regional Leader for Legal Services. In those roles, he leads a team of more than 2,400 legal professionals across 79 jurisdictions in KPMG’s global legal services network.

Prior to joining KPMG in March 2018, Stuart was the inaugural Global Managing Partner of King & Wood Mallesons, based in Hong Kong, having led the combination of those law firms in 2012. Stuart was a partner at King & Wood Mallesons for 20 years, first practising as a capital markets, securitisation and financial markets regulatory expert, and then holding a number of management and leadership roles across the firm and the capital markets industry in Australia.

Stuart is a director of the Asia Society Australia and a member of the UNSW Law Advisory Council. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of New South Wales.

Dr Daniel GAUCHAT AM  
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.
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.

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. 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 Grant KING  
HonDEng (UNSW), 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 board member of CoreNet Global Australia (since 2018), a Board member of the Giants (GWS) Foundation and a driving force of 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.

A winner of the 2019 NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction) Crystal Vision Award for the advancements of Women and other diverse groups. 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 progression and impactful change 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 Piano 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
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.

Alison Mirams is the founding Chief Executive Officer of Roberts Co, and is deeply passionate about addressing the systemic issues that exist in the construction industry. Throughout her 25 years of experience working in the construction industry, Alison has been constantly striving to attract and retain more women within the industry.

Before establishing Roberts Co, Alison led the NSW/ACT regional business unit for Lendlease’s building business, for nearly three years. And prior to joining Lendlease, Alison enjoyed a successful 16-year career at Multiplex, rising from Contracts Administrator to Regional Director.

Alison received the Laing O’Rourke Business Woman of the Year award at the 2018 NAWIC NSW Awards for Excellence. She is also a member of the NSW PCA NSW Division Council, and a member of the Advisory Board for Aero PM.

Bruce has extensive business experience as a Non-Executive Director, including in water, energy and transport fuel industries and from his executive career leading some of Pricewaterhouse Coopers’ (PwC) most significant clients in Australia and internationally.

Bruce was until 30 September 2021, Chair of Sydney Water, a position he had held for eight (8) years. He is the Chair of Transport Asset Holding Entity of New South Wales (TAHE), Deputy Chairman of the European Australian Business Council (EABC), a Director of Origin Energy and Redkite, and a former Director of Caltex.

Bruce was Chair of the PwC Australia Board for seven (7) years until 2012, a member of the PwC International Board and Managing Partner of PwC’s Sydney and Brisbane offices. Bruce holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting and Finance) from the University of Sydney and is a fellow of SJC.
University of NSW (UNSW) and is an Adjunct Professor at UNSW. 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 selective forum of leading entrepreneurs. Tim is also a long term contributor to the AGNSW Foundation Restoration Department. He is publishing his first memoir this year.

Mr Simon POIDEVIN AM OAM
BSc (Hons) (UNSW)

Simon is currently the President of Australia and New Zealand at Total Brain Limited. Simon has worked in Global Financial Markets for over 37 years, most recently at Australian full-service broking firm Bell Potter as Managing Director of Corporate Broking. Prior to Bell Potter, Simon was an Executive Director at Pengana Capital, an Australian based Absolute
Return Funds Management company. Simon worked 14 years with Citigroup, culminating in heading the firm’s Corporate Equity Broking division in Australia as a Managing Director. Simon was appointed to the Advisory Board of Wexted Advisors in April 2020, a Non-Executive Director for Stealth Global Holdings (ASX:SGI) in Oct 2021 and WAM Active (ASX:WAA) in Dec 2021.

Simon represented Australia in Rugby Union from 1980 to 1992, captaining the Wallabies in 1986 and 1987, 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 at the time for an Australian forward. In 1991 Simon was a member of the first Wallabby team to win the Rugby World Cup. Simon is currently the President of the Classic Wallabies, the living heritage of Australian Rugby which 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 co-founded the establishment of the “Lexcen Sports Scholarships” in 1988 - the first sports scholarship program introduced into an Australian University. The “Lexcen Sports Scholarships” program has supported over 225 UNSW Elite Athletes since its creation, 23 of whom have become Olympians.

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.

Simon was appointed as Chairman of the UNSW Sports Advisory Council in 2018.

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Professor Laura POOLE-WARREN AM PhD FTSE FRSN FBSE FAIMBE
BSc (Hons) UNSW, PhD UNSW

Laura Poole-Warren is a Professor of Biomedical Engineering and leads a research group in biomaterials and tissue engineering at UNSW Sydney. Laura was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2020, and was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of NSW in 2021, 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 focused 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 an elected member of the Executive team of 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. She 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.

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

Shane Simpson is on the Council of the National Library of Australia, Chairman of Studio A (a supported studio for artists with intellectual disability, 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 Peggy Glanville-Hicks Composers Trust, the Bundanon Trust, the NSW Film and Television Office and Museumsand 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 and is now an Emeritus Professor.

TZANNES is recognised by more than 130 local, state, national and international awards in architecture, urban design and industrial design.

Alec was made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to architecture, as a practitioner and educator and through professional organisations.

The UNSW honoured Alec’s achievements with the degree of Doctor of the University honoris causa, and in 2018 was awarded Australian Institute of Architect’s 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.

The Hellenic Union of Eptanisians honoured Alec for his contribution to architecture and academic endeavours. Hellenic Post issued a stamp in recognition of this honour.

Ms Nicola WAKEFIELD EVANS
BJuris LLB (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, MetLife Insurance Limited, MetLife General Insurance Limited, Viva Energy Limited and the Goodes O’Loughlin Foundation Limited.

Ms Wakefield Evans also 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. She is also the Chair of the 30% Club Australia and previously served as Director of Toll Holdings, BUPA Australia & New Zealand, Asialink, and Asialink Business and Chief Executive Women Limited.

Mr Albert Yue-Ling WONG AM
BCom (UNSW), FFin, FAICD

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 since 2013 and Non-Executive Director of the GWS Giants Foundation since 2018. Albert is past President and Honorary Life Governor of the Physics Foundation at the
University of Sydney (retired September 2018) and past Director of the Australian Museum Foundation (retired November 2020). 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.

Mr Tobias YAO  
BCom (UNSW)

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. Wilson Asset Management was founded in 1997 by Geoff Wilson AO and currently manage over $5 billion on behalf of 120,000 shareholders. 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 received the Best Fund Management Analyst award at the 2018 Australian Fund Manager Awards. 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.