2016 Women in Technology Awards finalists announced

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The 2016 cohort of WiT Awards finalists are ambitious, accomplished and achieving amazing feats in technology and life sciences.

The prestigious WiT annual awards now in their 19th year are about celebrating women who are leaders and experts in their fields, succeeding in traditionally male dominated technology and life science industries.

WiT president Fiona Hayes said this year's theme "the future is ours, together we stand" is all about being forward thinking and inclusive in the workplace.

The list of finalists includes 29 outstanding women making their mark and three inspiring organisations embracing diversity and providing an outstanding working environment for women.

"A recurring theme from this year's finalists is a real commitment to make the workplace better for future generations.

"Whether it's through mentoring or putting their hands up to be involved in committees and networks outside of their day to day job - these women are really making an impact," Fiona said.

This year's finalists are diverse from software engineers to data mining and web intelligence, program managers, bioengineering and nanotechnology, virtual worlds and game development, human bionics, entrepreneurship and more.

"Their work and research is helping to make the world a better place –pioneering medical research and driving technological innovation" Fiona said.

In 2016 there are 10 awards in total including two new awards for outstanding women making a recognised contribution to the field of Life Sciences or ICT in rural or remote areas and for an outstanding female teacher/educator having positive impact on students in Infotech or Life Sciences studies.

Winners will be announced at the Gala Awards dinner on Friday 2 September 2016 at the Royal International Convention Centre. Tickets are available at www.wit.org.au

WiT is proud to be supporting Bravehearts as their 2016 charity partner for the event.

Sponsors and supporters include the Queensland Government, Queensland University of Technology, The University of Queensland, Origin, QUT ihbi, GBST, Griffith University, Dimension Data, PwC & Datacom.

Media contact: Sarah Smith, Women in Technology**,** 0405 991 282

Finalists and WiT President Fiona Hayes are available for interviews. Full list of finalists and bios provided below

What is WiT?

Advance | Connect | Empower

WiT is the peak industry body for women in technology and life sciences within Queensland. WiT's vision is to advance, connect and empower women in technology and life sciences. WiT empowers, develops and celebrates women in technology and life sciences via relevant events, mentoring, programs, awards and networks. Founded in 1997 with the support of just 10 women WiT is now a strong network of more than 4500 subscribers, members and affiliates. WiT runs events, mentoring, programs and awards.

- ✓ Board Readiness – gaining the skills needed in the boardroom
- ✓ Mentoring – one-on-one support and guidance
- ✓ Step Up Program – getting ahead, moving up in your career

For more information go to www.wit.org.au

2016 WiT Awards: our finalists (bios on following pages)

Employer of Choice Award
Tatts Group
Griffith University
ASPL

Infotech Outstanding Achievement Award
Angela Tuffley, Director, RedBay Consulting Pty Ltd
Dr Richi Nayak, Associate Professor, Queensland University of Technology
Megan Cappelleri, Manager, Enterprise Information Management, Datacom

ICT Professional Award
Mai Nishitani, Senior Server Administrator, Queensland Health
Chantel Helmore, Program Manager, Queensland Government Chief Information Office
Mathilde Desselle, Program Coordinator, The University of Queensland

Life Sciences Outstanding Achievement Award
Susanne Schmidt, Professor, School of Agriculture and Food Science, The University of Queensland,
Dimity Dornan, Associate Professor, AO, Hear and Say, Human-Bionics Interface, Bionics SEQ
Kristen Radford, Principal Research Fellow, Mater Research Institute, The University of Queensland
Joanne MacDonald, Senior Lecturer, Molecular Engineering, University of the Sunshine Coast

Life Sciences/ ICT Research Award
Mia Woodruff, Associate Professor, Queensland University of Technology
Michele Burford, Executive Deputy Director, Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University
Kate Seib, NHMRC Career Development Fellow/Senior Research Fellow, Griffith University

Life Sciences/ ICT Rising Star Award
Indira Prasadam, Research Fellow, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology
Laura Bray, Research Fellow, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology
Nasim Amaralian, Advance Queensland Research Fellow, Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, The University of Queensland

Outstanding Educator
Raina Mason, Lecturer / Women in Technology Coordinator, Southern Cross University
Penny DeByl, Professor, Faculty of Society & Design, Bond University
Robyn Bull, Program Manager, Wonder of Science, The University of Queensland
Sarah Kirkland, Founder, Red Cat Science

PhD Career Start Award
Ludwika Nieradzik, PhD Candidate, The University of Queensland, Advanced Water Management Centre
Laura Fenlon, PhD Student, Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland
Chantel Lanctot, PhD Candidate, Central Queensland University
Natalie Lee, PhD student, The University of Queensland

Rural and Remote
Robyn Bull, Program Manager, Wonder of Science, The University of Queensland
Cara Beal, Senior Research Fellow, Smart Water Research Centre, Griffith University

Sue Wickenden Entrepreneurial Award
Dr Catherine Ball, CEO and Founder, Remote Research Ranges
Gemma Lloyd, Co-founder, Diverse City Careers
Tracey Kay, Managing Director, Axiomatic Technology

Employer of Choice Award
For the employer demonstrating commitment to providing an outstanding working environment for women

Tatts is a global leader in the wagering, lotteries and gaming industries with an operational footprint extending across every State and Territory of Australia, throughout New Zealand and into the United Kingdom. They are a major race wagering and sports betting operator generating sales in excess of $3.6 billion annually; a world leading lotteries operator with annual sales topping $4.3 billion; and experts in gaming and gaming systems - covering the full spectrum from gaming venue operation (including the development and supply of gaming products and services to hotels and clubs), to developing and operating regulated monitoring systems for governments. A 134-year heritage makes us one of the most established gambling operators in the world, and we own and operate a wide portfolio of brands including UBET, Tatts, NSW Lotteries, Golden Casket, Bytecraft, Talarius and Maxgaming. Tatts are an ASX listed company (ASX code: TTS) and are headquartered in Brisbane, Australia. Tatts Group employs 976 women and 1349 men across the organisation. 42% of their workforce are women and 58% are men. In executive level roles 50% are female and 50% are male. Over the last 12 months, 29% of all managerial appointments within technology have been female. Furthermore they have a female CIO and CTO.

Griffith University is a comprehensive, research-intensive university, ranking in the top 3% of universities worldwide. Their teaching and research spans five campuses in South East Queensland and all disciplines, while their network of more than 120,000 graduates extends around the world. They have a commitment to inclusion and equal opportunity, welcoming all individuals and seeking to reflect the diversity of the community that they serve – in the composition of their own community, curriculum, and in their approach to teaching and learning, research and community service. Griffith employees contribute to the development of knowledge and learning in an attractive environment which values excellence, continuous improvement and innovation, equity and diversity. The University is proud to have been consistently recognised as an Employer of Choice for Women and now Gender Equality since the inception of these citations in 2001 and continues to strengthen and enhance support for staff through initiatives such as the Women in Leadership Program, the Leneen Forde Future Leaders program and participation in the SAGE Athena Swan pilot program. The total employee headcount (includes fixed term, continuing and casual) at 31 March 2016 was 6484, made up of 3965 (61.15%) women and 2519 men (38.85%). The total headcount of staff at the University in Senior Management roles at 1 March 2016 was 76 women and 102 men, or 42.7% women.

ASPL is an Australian Professional Services and Recruitment firm focussed on delivering high-value outcomes and capabilities to provide solutions and innovation both within the public and private sectors. Through their four pillars being Consulting, Recruitment, Innovation and Solutions they focus on their clients and their people to ensure that they understand their needs and how to achieve successful outcomes. Their offering to the market is inspiring, energising and compelling due to their passion for making a difference in every aspect and also their commitment to

their people. They are a national company operating across 7 major cities: Brisbane, Canberra, Sydney, Adelaide, Darwin, Perth and Melbourne. Their major consulting clients within the Public Sector include; Federal and State, Telecommunications, Mining, Financial Services, Health, Infrastructure, Defence and Social Services. ASPL currently employs approximately 50 staff, with the ratio of women to men at 50-50. The majority of the women in the company are permanent staff in leadership, operational and management roles with only 2 out of 15 core team members being men. The Senior Management Team consists of 8 women and 3 men.

Infotech Outstanding Achievement Award

For women making a significant contribution to the growth and development of Queensland's ICT industry who serve as role models for others to aspire to. (15 years or more experience).

Angela Tuffley, Director, RedBay Consulting Pty Ltd (Redland Bay)

Angela is a senior contributing member of the software engineering community in Australia and internationally. She has combined a distinguished academic career (Senior Lecturer, now adjunct at Griffith University, Visiting Scientist for the Software Engineering Institute, Carnegie Mellon University) with a high-impact consultancy career (Director of RedBay Consulting) producing strategic innovations and consultancy for optimising software intensive systems. Angela is a co-author of the ground-breaking Schedule Compliance Risk Assessment Methodology (SCRAM) which has been successfully applied since 2008 to multiple Australian Department of Defence acquisition projects (e.g. Joint Strike Fighter) to identify the root causes of schedule slippage. SCRAM has derived significant benefit to the nation, saving the costs of project over-runs, with greater potential in future years. For 10 years, Angela convened and chaired major Systems and Software Engineering Conferences in Australia and Japan. She has delivered invited keynote addresses at the IEEE International Multi-Topic Conference (INMIC), Pakistan and Project Management Asia Conference, Singapore. Angela was a member of the Australian Federal Government Working Party for Software Quality Accreditation, providing ministerial support. Moreover, for six years she was an ISO/IEC working group member working to improve software development standards.

Dr Richi Nayak, Associate Professor, QUT, (Brisbane)

Dr Richi Nayak is Associate Professor of Computer Science in the Queensland University of Technology. She is an internationally recognised expert in Data Mining and Web Intelligence. She has combined knowledge in these areas very successfully with diverse disciplines such as Social Science, Science and Engineering, in order to technology transfer to real world problems to enhance or change their practices and methodologies. She has been successful in attaining over $1.5 million in competitive external research funding over the past five years in the area of data mining. Her research and scholarship has resulted in about 120 refereed publications. She is steering committee member of the Australasian Data Mining committee. She holds several editorial appointments, including the International Journal of Knowledge and Web Intelligence, the International Journal of Knowledge-Based & Intelligent Engineering Systems, the International Journal of Data Mining, Modelling and Management. She is regular reviewer of several International Conferences and Journals in the field of data mining and web intelligence. She has supervised twelve HDR students to completion in the area of data mining. She is founder and leader of the Applied Data Mining Research Group at QUT. Members of this group have a strong interaction with real world industries and work on the multidisciplinary projects. She has received a number of awards and nominations for teaching, research and service activities.

Megan Cappelleri, Manager Enterprise Information Management, Datacom (Gold Coast)

Megan Cappelleri is a practiced information management professional, with two decades of experience across the government, private and utilities sectors. Megan specialises in the establishment and disestablishment of information management capabilities in Greenfield environments as well as business transformation through the use of technology and process automation. Megan delivers outcomes that are specifically designed to address key business challenges with a strong focus on return on investment, convergence and innovation. Megan is a highly motivated, strategic thinker with extensive people management skills. Megan leads by example and is a mentor to both her peers and younger people entering the technology / information management field. Megan is an engaging speaker who has spoken both domestically and internationally to share her experiences and learnings and has won numerous awards including an Enterprise Information Management Champion Award in Orlando 2014. A very proud moment for a Gold Coast local. Megan currently holds the position of Vice President on the Records and Information Management Professionals Association of Australasia - Queensland Local Government and Corporations Chapter and has a passion for keeping a traditional industry relevant with evolving and changing technologies.

ICT Professional Award

For women with more than 7 years but less than 15 years industry experience.

Mai Nishitani, Senior Server Administrator, Queensland Health (Gold Coast)

Mai Nishitani is a self-confessed tech nerd and connoisseur of 90's rap and R&B. Currently, she works at the Gold Coast University Hospital, finding solutions to complex technical problems, keeping life-critical systems running smoothly, and blurting out the occasional cheesy dad joke. Technology and its applications has been a lifelong passion for Mai -- choosing to tinker with electronics over Barbie dolls, working at IBM for several years, and completing a Masters in Information Technology at the Queensland University of Technology. Mai strives to maintain a well-rounded lifestyle through yoga, body combat, and weekly twerking classes. When she's not at work or at the gym, she's spending quality time with her five year-old daughter, Akira.

Chantel Helmore, Program Manager, Queensland Government Chief Information Office

Chantel works in the Queensland Government Chief Information Office driving strategic ICT change at a whole of Government level. By working in such a small yet diverse team, Chantel has gained experience across a spectrum of subject areas and fields including information management, information security, ICT resources strategic planning, ICT project management, whole-of-government governance, ICT strategy, policy and standards. She is driven, outcome-oriented and seeks to inspire others around her to explore and achieve their potential. Chantel is motivated to build supportive, enthusiastic and passionate teams that enjoy working in a united way. She firmly believe people should enjoy coming to work and delivering value to their customers and adding value within their teams.

Mathilde Desselle, Program Coordinator, The University of Queensland (Brisbane)
Mathilde is an engagement professional in the space of science and technology. She is an experienced manager for biomedical research programs and facilities in the academic fields of genomics, bioinformatics and drug discovery, and is now the program coordinator - marketing and outreach for a global, award-winning, open-access, multi-million dollar antibiotics discovery program (CO-ADD) at The University of Queensland Centre for Superbug Solutions. She has been the life sciences director on the board of Women in Technology in 2014 and 2015, representing the life sciences membership on the board as Chair of the Life Science Chapter, and networking events, Queensland technology facilities tours and an annual technology showcase forum. She founded and ran the WiT Step Up Professional Development Program, and is now the director of sponsorship on the WiT board. In 2016, she joined the newly created board of the Tech Girls Movement, providing positive role models to school girls via the creation and distribution of 20,000 free books and a national app coding competition. Mathilde has a proven track record in delivering successful scientific programs through developing international partnerships, digital innovation, global outreach campaigns, and managing innovative products and research services portfolios. She is also an invited speaker on innovation technology, a passionate science communicator and an advocate for gender equity and open-access science. She enjoys the challenge of championing innovative initiatives, people and events driving transformational change and advancing scientific knowledge and technology solutions for future health.

Life Sciences Outstanding Achievement Award
For women making a significant contribution to the growth and development of Queensland's life sciences industry who serve as role models for others to aspire to (15 years or more experience).

Susanne Schmidt, Professor, The University of Queensland, School of Agriculture and Food Science Susanne completed a Bachelor in Agricultural Biology at the University of Hohenheim (Germany) and a PhD in Botany at The University of Queensland. A researcher, educator and mentor, she leads a vibrant research program at UQ across ecology, agriculture and biotechnology to develop bioproduction systems based on ecological principles. The intricate interface between plants, microbes and soil is where Susanne's research has been generating knowledge to improve nutrient efficient crop systems to avoid environmental penalties. She is developing novel NextGen fertilisers for Nutrient Stewardship to advance a circular nutrient economy without waste and pollution with repurposed wastes and novel biomaterials. Susanne is one of four initiators of the spinifex project that unites Indigenous entrepreneurs, material scientists and ecologists and that has led to the discovery of unparalleled material properties of abundant Australian desert grasses. Spinifex nanocellulose is now revolutionising material science with the thinnest ever condoms currently in the test phase. With an international standing at the cutting edge of life sciences, Susanne's vision is to foster cross-disciplinary research and development to advance sustainable bioproduction systems, the use and protection of native plants and ecosystems.

Dimity Dornan, Associate Professor, AO, Hear and Say, Human-Bionics Interface, Bionics SEQ Dimity Dornan AO is a Speech Pathologist and the Founder and Executive Director of Hear and Say,

which enables deaf children to listen and speak. Hear and Say provides services for over 670 children and families. Dimity also initiated Hear and Say Research and Innovation, and Hear and Say WorldWide global professional training. Dimity has started a number of other groups including the Queensland Hearing Nexus (a Queensland-based hearing research group); and Human-Bionics Interface Frontiers, linking professionals in the Human Bionics field globally. Dimity has been named Associate Professor at University of both Queensland and Griffith University, an Honorary Fellow of Macquarie University and has been granted a number of awards including: Member of the Order of Australia (1998); Fellow of Speech Pathology Australia (1999); Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary International, 1999; Australian Medical Association Award of Distinction for Services to Medicine (1999); Ernst and Young Australian Social Entrepreneur of the Year (2005); Suncorp Queenslander of the Year (2010-2011); University of Queensland Alumnus of the Year (2011); Telstra Business Woman of the Year for Queensland (2011); Queensland Greats award (2013); Dame of Honour, Order of St John of Jerusalem (Knights Hospitaller); Officer of the Order of Australia (2014) and received the Lord Mayor's Business Awards, Lifetime Achievement Award (October 2014). In 2015 she became a Board member of the Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics and received the McCullough Robertson Life Sciences Queensland Industry Excellence Award. 2014 • Member of the Key Scientist Advisory Group for the HEARing CRC 2015 • Awarded a 'Legend of Brisbane' by Lord Mayor Graeme Quirk • McCullough Robertson Life Sciences Queensland Industry Excellence Award • Appointed to Australian Board of the Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics (SBMT) • Appointed to AVUK (Auditory Verbal UK) Advisory Panel • Appointed Chair of Human-Bionics Interface Frontiers 2016 • Honorary Associate, Macquarie University

Kristen Radford Principal Research Fellow, Mater Research Institute, The University of Queensland

Kristen completed PhD in melanoma research with Peter Hersey in Newcastle, NSW followed by a postdoc at Cancer Research UK before joining Mater Research. She leads the Cancer Immunotherapies Group that is focussed on understanding human dendritic cell (DC) biology and translating findings into health benefits. These rare white leukocytes are crucial for generating immune responses to eradicate cancer and many pathogens but are poorly understood in humans. I have made seminal contributions to this field, with a major highlight being one of the first detailed characterisations of the rare human CD141+ DC subset which are now considered crucial for tumour and viral immune responses and are attractive targets for vaccine development. Kristen holds leadership positions at Mater Research, UQ, TRI and within the Immunology community and has established herself as an international leader in this field, with 33 research publications, significant funding from national and international sources ($6.3 million), including an NHMRC CDF2 Fellowship. She has received numerous awards, including NSW Young Australian of the Year and the Mater Research Sr Regis Mary Dunne Medal for Outstanding Research Contribution.

Joanne MacDonald, Senior Lecturer, Molecular Engineering, University of the Sunshine Coast

Having previously co-developed a computer from DNA molecules that can play tic-tac-toe interactively against a human opponent, Joanne is now developing biosensors that can display text without requiring electricity, because the molecules themselves power the device. This biosensor technology is being applied to the diagnosis of deadly pathogens, including Hendra and Ebola virus, as well as mosquito-transmitted pathogens such as Malaria and Dengue virus. This work has recently received recognition through funding from global health agencies. Joanne's research is also very closely linked with industry. Joanne co-invented an anti-cocaine therapeutic enzyme that was licensed to a pharmaceutical company and is now in Phase III clinical trials for treatment of cocaine overdose. In addition, she recently started a company, BioCifer Pty Ltd, for commercial development of rapid at-home diagnostic

devices able to detect multiple biomarkers on a single device. All of this research is based at the University of the Sunshine Coast (Queensland), where Joanne is a Senior Lecturer in Molecular Engineering. Joanne is also an adjunct Assistant Professor in Clinical Medical Sciences at Columbia University (New York, USA). The fundamental goal of her research is to engineer biomolecules beyond their natural functions to create solutions that protect and advance human, animal and environmental health.

Life Sciences and/or Infotech Research Award

For women making a recognised contribution to the field of ICT or Life Sciences research and development.

Mia Woodruff, Associate Professor, QUT

Associate Professor Mia Woodruff leads the Biofabrication and Tissue Morphology Group at QUT. She graduated with first class honours in Biomedical Materials Science followed by a PhD at the University of Nottingham, UK, (1998-2006) before joining the National University of Singapore for 2 years as a postdoctoral research fellow. Mia joined QUT in 2008 as a Vice Chancellor's Research fellow; following this she was awarded an ARC APDI fellowship. Since joining QUT she has independently established the nationally leading histology division and national resin histology centre at QUT (for large bone and metallic implant assessment) and has built a biofabrication laboratory supporting 20 reserachers. She works closely with researchers in regenerative medicine, biofabrication and pre-clinical testing of novel implant materials developed to treat large tissue loss. A major focus of her work is utilising advanced and customised 3D printing technologies in medical applications. Most recently she is featured in the advanced Queensland campaign 2015/2016 for her pioneering work in biofabrication and her vision is to have 3d printers in every hospital in the world, creating patient specific solutions for tissue loss and 3d models to assist clinicians in surgery and training.

Michele Burford, Executive Deputy Director, Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University

Prof Michele Burford is Executive Deputy Director at the Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University and an active researcher in the field of water quality. She works collaboratively with a wide range of government and industry groups, as well as national and international researchers to undertake ground-breaking research tackling the big environmental questions of our time. Michele also serves as a role model for early career researchers aspiring to be research leaders. She actively supports and mentors her colleagues and associates, regardless of their gender, position and affiliation.

Kate Seib, NHMRC Career Development Fellow / Senior Research Fellow, Griffith University

Dr Kate Seib is a Microbiologist dedicated to improving public health. After obtaining her PhD in Microbiology from the University of Queensland in 2004, she worked for 7 years at Novartis Vaccines in Siena Italy as a Postdoctoral Researcher and a Project Leader. During this time she was part of the team working on development of the serogroup B meningococcal vaccine (Bexsero™) that was recently licensed in Europe, Australia and the USA. She

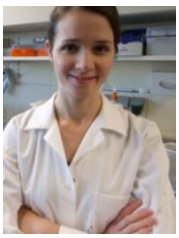
returned to Australia in 2012 and is currently a Group Leader and NHMRC Career Development Fellow at the Institute for Glycomics, Griffith University Gold Coast. Her current research is focused on studying vaccine candidates and the mechanisms of disease of human bacterial pathogens that cause significant human morbidity and mortality worldwide, including Neisseria meningitidis (causes sepsis and meningitis), Neisseria gonorrhoeae (causes gonorrhoea) and Moraxella catarrhalis (causes middle ear infections and exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease).

Life Sciences and/or Infotech Rising Star Award

For women with less than 7 years industry experience in ICT or Life Sciences.

Indira Prasadam, Research Fellow, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology

Dr Prasadam wears several hats herself. She is an early career scientist, business owner, mother, and accredited research student mentor. She leads cartilage development and osteoarthritis group at the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, QUT. Her research program from past 11 years is directed and dedicated towards understanding the complex pathophysiology of osteoarthritis and identifying new therapeutic strategies to counteract the destruction of the articular cartilage during osteoarthritis. She has published over 30 peer-reviewed articles in top tier journals, serves on a number of prestigious professional boards and ad-hoc reviewer for more than 8 top-ranking journals in the fields of rheumatology and for granting bodies including the NHMR&C and ARC. She has two-patents at the PCT stage. She has been awarded over $2 million in Category 1 funding, including one-ARC grants and one-co-investigator NHMRC in last 5 years, in addition to several other philanthropic grants. She received multiple prestigious awards including a 2016 finalist in the prestigious ASMR Queensland Health and Medical Research Awards, ATSE young scientist ambassador award, Fresh-Science state finalist award, Dean Commendation for PhD thesis, CASS Travel Award, Ian potter travel grant, QUT ECR Award, Arthritis Australia Grant-in-aid, ATSE Australia-China Young Scientist-Exchange travel award. A part from a successful research career she also manages a family owned retail business.



Laura Bray, Research Fellow, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology Laura grew up on the Sunshine Coast in QLD, Australia. In 2006, Laura graduated from the University of the Sunshine Coast in Buderim with a Bachelor of Science. Following this, in 2007, she worked as a research assistant in the group of Associate Professor Alison Rice at the Mater Medical Research Institute in South Brisbane. In 2008, Laura completed a Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) degree (Queensland University of Technology) in the same lab. From 2009-2012, Laura undertook her PhD in the group of Associate Professor Damien Harkin, Professor Dietmar Hutmacher and Professor Traian Chirila at the Queensland University of Technology. Dr Bray completed her PhD by publication in 2012. At the end of 2012, Dr Bray was awarded the inaugural Prime Minister's Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Postdoctoral Award which she accepted and joined the group of Professor Carsten Werner at the Leibniz Institute for Polymer Research in Dresden, Germany. After 3 years working in Dresden, from 2013-2016, Dr Bray received a National Breast Cancer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship and a Cure Cancer Australia project grant and moved her research to the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation at the Queensland University of Technology in Australia in March 2016.

Nasim Amaralian, Advance Queensland Research Fellow, Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, The University of Queensland

Dr Nasim Amiralian is an early career researcher in the area of nanomaterials engineering. She currently holds the position of Advance Queensland Research Fellow at the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, The University of Queensland. The focus of Nasim's research is processing and structure-property performance of novel materials, renewable-based polymers and nanocomposites. During her PhD, she discovered and patented a unique high quality cellulose nanofibre from spinifex, an Australian native arid grass, using simpler, cost effective, and more environmentally friendly methods. This patented spinifex-derived cellulose nanofibre technology is now at an early stage of commercialisation and validation for several commercial opportunities including ultra-thin and strong latex membrane for condom and glove applications, non-woven filtration media, and as a precursor for renewable carbon fibre. Nasim's research has also been instrumental in fostering linkages and delivering job opportunities for Indigenous Australians by developing remote harvesting production plants for the supply and primary processing of the spinifex grass-derived nanocellulose. While passionate about fundamental science and engineering, Nasim is strongly focused on pursuing commercial endeavours associated with spinifex-derived fibres. She is currently working with industry partners to advance and translate her technology into products that will benefit the economy and strengthen Australia's position in the global nanocellulose technology market.

Outstanding Educator working in the Life Sciences and/or Infotech Award **NEW

Outstanding female teacher/educator having positive impact on students in Infotech or Life Sciences studies.

Raina Mason, Lecturer / Women in Technology Coordinator, Southern Cross University

Raina is an educator in IT and early career researcher at Southern Cross University. She came late to the higher education space, having worked for many years in IT, primarily managing and completing software development contracts for small to medium-size businesses and government departments. Her passion for equity and diversity, and for making learning achievable in difficult topics brought her back to the education sphere and she has been teaching and researching in higher education for the last 12 years. Raina's doctoral study concerned strategies to make introductory programming courses both more accessible and more successful using cognitive load theory to inform instructional design. Her research interests also include factors that encourage or inhibit the uptake of careers in technology for women, learning environments, and the application of cognitive load theory to technical areas and STEM areas, particularly in higher education. Raina teaches first year programming, database systems and multimedia applications development, and coordinates the Women in Technology (WIT) program at SCU, as well as supervising research students. Her great joy is in seeing all students grow and mature into their potential.

Penny DeByl, Professor, Faculty of Society & Design, Bond University

Dr Penny de Byl teaches and researches in Games Development and Interactive Multimedia at Bond University, Australia. Prior to this she taught serious games theory in Breda, The Netherlands and computer science at the University of Southern Queensland. In 2007 she won a national award for her work in Virtual Worlds, in 2008 a national teaching excellence and research fellow award and in 2011 a citation for outstanding contributions to learning from the Australian Teaching and Learning Council. She has published widely in peer reviewed journals and is the author of four books on game development including the acclaimed "Holistic Game Development". Dr de Byl has coordinated research units and developed degree programs in the areas of computer games, multimedia and educational technology. Penny also has industry experience in research in formation systems, web design and development, computer games design and development. Her research interests include affective computing, educational technology and serious games. At Bond Penny teaches game development, animation and procedural art.

Robyn Bull, Program Manager - Wonder of Science, The University of Queensland

Robyn commenced her career in education as a middle school teacher and science curriculum coordinator in the QLD Government school system. She was the recipient of a Peter Doherty Award for Excellence in Middle School Science Teaching in 2005. She joined the PrimaryConnections project at the Australian Academy of Science in 2006, taking on a dual role as a curriculum developer and Indigenous Perspectives Coordinator. In 2007 Robyn led the successful pilot of PrimaryConnections incorporating Indigenous perspectives, and following that the Australian Government Department of Education provided funding for development of the PrimaryConnections Indigenous Perspectives website and publication of her research report: Small study - Big success story which highlighted the impact of the program on both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. Robyn returned to Queensland in 2010 as a regional manager in the state-wide Science Spark Initiative which involved professional learning for all years four to seven state school teachers. During this time Robyn provided leadership and advice for Queensland's implementation of the Australian Curriculum: Science. She then accepted a role in Australian Curriculum policy; before taking up her current position in 2014, as Wonder of Science Program Manager, at The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute.

Sarah Kirkland, Founder, Red Cat Science

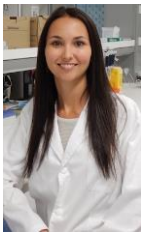
Sarah has always been passionate about science, a trait passed on to her from her father. Sarah started studying Chemical Engineering but changed course as she felt that she wanted to share her passion of science and that being a chemical engineer (as much as she loved the science) wouldn't reach the people that she wanted to. Sarah completed my course in Science Education in 1999 and won the award for teaching excellence. Sarah has been teaching ever since, in South Africa, London and Australia. After the birth of her daughter Sarah wanted to start her own business. Partly for the flexibility it would allow her and partly because she wanted to be a role model for her daughter – someone who follows their dreams. She knew she wanted to continue her passion – sharing my love of science with others. Sarah wanted to show kids that science CAN be exciting and fun before they get disillusioned with it. Too many students walked into Sarah's high school lab for the first time with a preconceived idea that science is boring or that they "can't do science". Sarah's mission is to ignite a love of science within the future generation.

PhD Career Start Award

For PhD students working in IT or life sciences. Student must be in final year of PhD or have submitted their PhD after 1 January 2016.

Ludwika Nieradzik, PhD Candidate, The University of Queensland, Advanced Water Management Centre Ludwika Nieradzik has been working and studying and working in the field of wastewater treatment and drinking water purification for the past 6 years. While studying Civil Engineering at the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany, Ludwika broadened her research interests in the biolab of the Department for Urban Waste and Wastewater Technology, as well as student exchange to Finland, international collaborations with Universities in the Netherlands and Australia, and pharmaceutical industry in Germany. After graduating with a Masters and her multiaward-winning thesis „Biofouling removal from RO-membranes“, she joined the German pharmaceutical and pesticide producer Bayer AG and managed the optimisation of wastewater treatment technologies in international production and formulation sites. In 2014, Ludwika started her PhD project “In-sewer biotransformation of micropollutants” at the Advanced Water Management Centre in Brisbane. Besides working on lab studies and modeling, Ludwika manages and chairs monthly meetings of two research groups, the homepage of the Sewer Research Group and well as homepage and submission system for UQ's EAIT postgraduate conference. In her free time, Ludwika enjoys travel, music and martial arts.

Laura Fenlon, PhD Student, Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland
Laura is a young and determined researcher currently undertaking a PhD at The Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland. Laura’s current research is focused around understanding how the brain forms connections during development. This research may provide particular insight into the basis of neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism and schizophrenia. During her PhD Laura has amassed six publications in some of the highest ranked international journals in the field of neuroscience. She has also won numerous living stipends and travel awards to present her research at international conferences and has been an invited speaker at three prestigious meetings. Laura has also been heavily involved in outreach activities such as the Australian and International Brain Bee Challenge, a competition that encourages high school students to get involved in neuroscience research. In the future Laura hopes to enjoy a career in academia where she can continue to investigate early brain formation and hopefully contribute to better prognoses and treatments for people with neurodevelopmental disorders.



Chantel Lanctot, PhD Candidate, Central Queensland University
Chantal is a highly motivated researcher with over seven years’ experience working at the forefront of aquatic toxicology. Her research has focused on applying innovative tools and technologies towards environmental science, and allowed her to address questions of international importance. Chantal was the recipient of a Coal Minesite Rehabilitation Trust Fund Postgraduate Scholarship and a CQUniversity Postgraduate Research Award to explore the

effects of coal mine wastewater on native wildlife. Through this research, Chantal helped establish new approaches for environmental monitoring based on the analysis of animal behaviours, and applied these techniques to examine effects in sensitive species native to intensive coal mining regions in Central Queensland. Chantal was part of a team recently awarded a start-up grant from the Australian Institute for Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE), which allowed her to work on the project at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO). This project gave Chantal the opportunity to explore new approaches to understand how toxic metals are taken-up by aquatic animals and subsequently accumulated in their tissues, which she hopes to continue as a post-doctoral researcher.

Natalie Lee, PhD student, The University of Queensland

Natalie is currently studying for her PhD at the Queensland Brain Institute at the University of Queensland. Her work focuses on investigating the role of neuronal axon guidance proteins in cortical development, providing further understanding of mechanisms known to be associated with neurodevelopmental disorders such as schizophrenia and autistic spectrum disorder. Natalie is also passionate with regards to public health project engagement. As part of her PhD degree, she works with CSIRO by assisting in the development and design of a mobile health platform technology for an Indigenous Australian population to facilitate chronic health self-management. Prior to starting her PhD, she acted as a lead trainer and instructor for military personnel on how to identify and treat traumatic brain injury during combat missions. She is passionate about women pursuing careers in STEM fields, and mentors a number of young women how best to achieve their goals in science. Specifically, her focus has been on bridging the gap between science in academia and how basic research can be applied toward industrial applications. She is also an International Postgraduate Research Award recipient.

Rural and Remote Life Sciences and/or Infotech Award **NEW

Outstanding women making a recognised contribution to the field of Life Sciences or ICT in rural or remote areas. (Based on non-metropolitan classified areas (M1/M2) per the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas (RRMA) classification, i.e. areas where the urban centre population is less than 100,000. Details found at aihw.gov.au)

Robyn Bull, Program Manager - Wonder of Science, The University of Queensland

Robyn commenced her career in education as a middle school teacher and science curriculum coordinator in the QLD Government school system. She was the recipient of a Peter Doherty Award for Excellence in Middle School Science Teaching in 2005. She joined the PrimaryConnections project at the Australian Academy of Science in 2006, taking on a dual role as a curriculum developer and Indigenous Perspectives Coordinator. In 2007 Robyn led the successful pilot of PrimaryConnections incorporating Indigenous perspectives, and following that the Australian Government Department of Education provided funding for development of the PrimaryConnections Indigenous Perspectives website and publication of her research report: Small study - Big success story which highlighted the impact of the program on both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. Robyn returned to Queensland in 2010 as a regional manager in the state-wide Science Spark Initiative which involved professional learning for all years four to seven state school teachers. During this time Robyn provided leadership and advice for Queensland's implementation of the Australian Curriculum: Science. She then accepted a role in Australian Curriculum policy; before taking up her current position in 2014, as Wonder of Science Program Manager, at The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute.

Cara Beal, Senior research fellow, Smart Water Research Centre, Griffith University

Dr Cara Beal is a Senior Research Fellow at the Smart Water Research Centre & School of Engineering, Griffith University. Her current research covers topics such as digital water network transformation & smart metering technology, behaviour change and water resource management, remote and regional water-energy efficiency, and smart asset management. Dr Beal has published over 60 peer-reviewed journal and conference papers. She is a member of the Qld Government Water Expert Panel and is a current recipient of a Qld Fellowship for her work on smart metering and demand management for sustainable water and energy use in remote Indigenous communities.

Sue Wickenden Entrepreneurial Award

For outstanding women whose vision, leadership and initiative have created their own enterprise.

Dr Catherine Ball, CEO and Founder, Remote Research Ranges

Dr. Catherine Ball is a global, independent, innovation, and environmental science consultant, with particular interests in multi-modal data processing, ecological surveys, infrastructure, agriculture, and the coastal and marine interface. Dr. Ball was the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) technical lead for an international consultancy, and led the delivery of the first Beyond Line of Sight RPAS project in Australia in 2013. As a sought after voice in industry, Dr. Ball is working across a diverse portfolio of projects including unmanned systems (aerial, terrestrial, and aquatic) for environmental monitoring. In particular, her most recent works include the provision of technical support for innovation and new technology within existing monitoring frameworks for the oil and gas industry, marine and environmental monitoring, international development, capacity building, business plan advisory, and data management practice improvement. Dr. Ball's big passion is working on Projects that have a humanitarian aspect, from use of RPAS for emergency response, to recording cultural heritage, and agricultural assessments. Dr. Ball has travelled and worked extensively in sub-Saharan Africa and Australia on some cutting edge projects that combine science, entrepreneurship, empowerment, and ongoing education.

Gemma Lloyd, Co-founder, Diverse City Careers

Gemma is co-founder of Diverse City Careers (DCC), Company Secretary of the Diversity Practitioners Association, and has served on two not-for-profit Boards' including IT Queensland (youngest ever board member appointed) and Females in Technology and Telecommunications. In 2015, Gemma was a finalist in the 2015 ARN Women in ICT Awards in the Innovation category. Gemma is a regular speaker at events such as DCC's 'Better Ways of Working' meetups, Women in Digital and XX in Tech. Gemma has also has delivered keynote speeches and sat on panels of events like Griffith University's "Leadership Engaging Diversity" and SOPAC 2016. After working in IT for nearly 10 years, Gemma co-founded DCC with the goal of helping women pursue rewarding careers across any industry, specialising in supporting women wanting to enter non-traditional industries. Since its conception, DCC has grown rapidly and is now regarded as one of Australia's leading authorities on gender diversity. The DCC jobs board is Australia's only exclusive jobs board, meaning employers must be pre-qualified before advertising to ensure they

support women's careers. DCC works with leading companies focused on diversity including Dropbox, Xero, Deloitte, AECOM and Accenture.

Tracey Kay, Managing Director, Axiomatic Technology

Tracey has been an entrepreneur for most of her professional life and in 2015 decided to take the next exciting step in that journey by starting Axiomatic Technology; a company that brings start-up culture and technologies to enterprise and government. Tracey's successful corporate career is built on an ability to articulate the business potential in emerging technology and build high-performing teams to deliver on that vision. This started simply with web developing in the 90's, strategy consulting and software delivery in the 00's and this decade's focus has been business transformation using agile, business intelligence, cloud and DevOps capabilities. Across her career, Tracey has pro-actively embraced new challenges involving emerging technologies. More often than not, these roles had no precedence and involved navigating uncharted waters. Last year Tracey left an executive role at Suncorp with the vision of building a company that would help enterprise and government to adopt cloud and related emerging technologies. Tracey has grown Axiomatic over the past 12 months to deliver consulting and technology solutions to her customers with plans to extend their customer base and service offerings in the coming year.