



WIT WIRE

February 2014



Hello Witty Women and welcome to 2014!

Hopefully you have had a great break, survived Christmas, saw the kids back to school and are now ready to think about what you would like to achieve this year.

At the end of 2013, I mentioned that as a result of our recent member survey WIT had been reviewing a number of important items such as membership, programs and even the structure and process of the Awards. We continue to be committed to supporting, promoting and recognising women working in technologies fields and constantly evolving to suit their needs.

Following our January WIT Board meeting, I am delighted to report a number of changes to support members:

MEMBERSHIP FEES - Annual individual membership fees have been reduced (yes reduced) to \$99 per year. **Effective from 1 March 2014.** We have recognised that budgets are tight and we want to make membership as affordable and accessible as possible.

STUDENT MEMBERS - A couple of years ago the WIT Board made the decision to offer free [2 year membership](#) to women studying technology as a way of encouraging them to build invaluable networks

early. This has been extremely popular and we are thrilled to advise that we are extending the free student membership to include the first year of employment (on a calendar basis).

MENTORING - Last year we surveyed the users of our Mentoring program to work out how WiT can improve the experience for both Mentors and Mentees. Thank you for your feedback. We've listened and are putting together an improved program - catering for everyone's mentoring preferences and time restraints and more effective at both bringing mentors and mentees together and creating best-practice mentoring relationships. We will announce these in the March newsletter. However, it was identified that there were some very accomplished mentors that have not participated in the program given their workload and at the same time there were a large number of members who would love to have a single session with suitable mentor to be able get advice and guidance with a specific issue, without the commitment to a long term mentoring relationship. So we are introducing..... **MENTOR FOR A MOMENT!** (details coming soon!)

As well as the above we again have some great events coming your way and some great initiatives and alliances we are working on to benefit our members.

Look out for further announcements for the Awards Program and if you are interested in our WiT Board Readiness Program now is the time to express your interest. Due to overwhelming demand we are scheduling a Board Readiness Program for late 2014. **[Express your interest now before you miss out!](#)** There are limited spaces available.

We are also looking forward to our upcoming February Board meeting with the Hon Ian Walker MP, Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts in attendance. We will be engaging him on the needs of women in the technology industries and calling for his commitment to support us and them.

Sue Johnston, President of WiT

"COURAGE is asking for TIME OUT, to shed a TEAR, to DUST yourself off and then getting BACK IN the ring, to FIGHT like you have NEVER fought before."

WiT EVENTS

March	7th - IWD AIM Debate
	9th - WiT Witty Women IWD Walk
	11th - Social Media Workshop SAVE THE DATE
	27th - Mentor for a Moment SAVE THE DATE

JOIN WiT TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The WiT Board and Chapters are actively supporting two events for International Women's Day for the 2014.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AIM GREAT DEBATE LUNCHEON

The first will be the AIM IWD Debate Luncheon held on Friday 7 March, 2013 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. WiT are currently putting together Corporate WiT tables for the event and would like our organisation and members to be strongly represented. We would love you to join us at the day at one of our corporate tables where six Queensland women will take a provocative look at the topic - **"That women need**

to lean in or miss out". Two teams of lively speakers will share some witty arguments, powerful management insights and a refreshingly raw look at the gender agenda in Australia.

The annual AIM International Women's Day Debate has become an institution within the local business community and sells out every year. Enjoy a delicious lunch, lots of laughs, unlimited networking and the chance to support deserving charities chosen by the debaters. If you would like to join our WiT tables please email your interest to secretariat@wit.org.au.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MATER FUN RUN - WiT Witty Women



The WiT ladies are also putting their legs to the tarmac and walking in the IWD Fun Run to be held on Sunday 9 March, 2013. WiT is putting together a corporate team of which we are already 13 strong. Daughters, sisters, mothers...all welcome.

Join us for the fantastic event raising money for The Mater Hospital. If you are interested in joining or supporting us by sponsoring our team click on the link below.

[Join our Team](#)

[Sponsor our Team](#)

WHAT'S GOOD FOR WOMEN IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS



Recently the [Shriver Report](#) launched a groundbreaking report, "[A Woman's Nation Pushes Back from the Brink](#)" which describes the tremendous challenges women face in the US workforce. It makes the case that despite promotion of high-profile women CEOs, there is still a significant wage and career gap for working women, leading to poverty, family crisis and education problems with our children.

In particular, Maria Shriver's personal essay, "[Powerful and Powerless](#)", ([video here](#)) makes a very compelling case. You may be surprised to learn, that 70% of low wage workers do not get sick leave and women make up two-thirds of this population. 63% of women are now breadwinners and more than 40% are sole breadwinners. These are often the women who serve us in restaurants, teach our children, work behind the counter, or work next to us in the office.

Much of the solution to this problem lies in the hands of employers.

[Read full article](#)

iAWARDS 2014 NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

It is time to nominate the most creative and innovative ICT projects, products or services for the 2014 iAwards program. The iAwards honour both organisations delivering high value and transformational outcomes using cutting edge technology as well as leading professionals across the ICT industry.

Whether you're an end user organisation, an ICT multinational, entrepreneurial Australian ICT firm or a leading individual, the iAwards 2014 are not to be missed!

Over the past 20 years, the iAwards has become the premier technology awards platform in Australia; delivering the most comprehensive awards program which recognises the achievements and innovation made in ICT across all facets of the economy.

As the only truly international ICT awards program in Australia, organisation winners of the iAwards 2014 will have the opportunity to compete with businesses from across the Asia Pacific region at the 2014 APICTA Awards (Asia Pacific ICT Awards).

To enter your organisation or an individual creator of an innovative ICT project, product or service, visit the [iAwards website](#). Alternatively, if you know an outstanding ICT innovator, you can nominate them for an individual achievement iAward.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE DIGITAL POLICY, ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION TEAM

The beginning of a new year always brings with it the promise of new opportunities. Here are three upcoming Digital Business opportunities to pencil into your calendar;

1. The first **Partners in Technology** briefing for 2014 will be held from 8.30 am - 10.00 am on Friday 14 February at The Edge, South Brisbane. For more information about this event, look out for your invitation which will be arriving in your inbox shortly.
2. Our next target industry **Partners in Digital Productivity** forum will focus on increasing digital productivity within the tourism sector. This forum is scheduled for 8.30 am - 12.00 pm on Friday 7 March 2014 at The Edge, South Brisbane.
3. The Queensland Government is proud to support Regional Development Australia, Brisbane to promote the upcoming **CLICK Digital Expo** to help small and medium-sized businesses and not-for-profits make the most of the digital marketplace. This free event will be held at Brisbane City Hall on 13 and 14 March 2014. The latest CLICK Digital Expo [eNewsletter](#) contains more information and details on how you can register for this important event.

We look forward to seeing you at these important Digital Business events.

OUR MEMBERS IN ACTION

At WiT we are always very proud of our Member's accomplishments and we thought it might be good to share these stories so you can be inspired and motivated by the great work going on by our Women in Technology. If you have any stories to share please email in to us at secretariat@wit.org.au, either about yourself or someone you know, we would love to hear them and share them with the group.

Member Judith Clements

Distinguished Professor Judith Clements and her team have identified enzymes that make ovarian cancer resistant to chemotherapy.



QUT scientists are making significant inroads into our understanding of the deadliest form of ovarian cancer after identifying two enzymes that make it resistant to chemotherapy.

Distinguished Professor Judith Clements said serous ovarian cancer spreads rapidly throughout the abdominal area and ultimately becomes resistant to chemotherapy treatment.

"This form of cancer is incredibly aggressive, moving quickly from the ovaries to the abdominal cavity where the tumour cells aggregate or clump, become embedded in the wall of the abdomen and then grow at quite a rapid pace," she said.

"While chemotherapy will often work initially, this form of cancer has found a way of beating the current chemotherapy drugs and quite quickly becomes immune to treatment.

"So our research is tackling the cancer on two fronts to better understand how cancer cells aggregate and survive in the ascites fluid that accumulates in the abdomen and why it is resistant to chemotherapy.

"Funding from Cancer Council Queensland is assisting with this research."

[Read more....](#)

AWARD WINNER PROFILE - SUE COLCLOUGH - Winner of the SUE WICKENDEN ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD

After the 2013 Awards we took some time to ask our amazing award winners the secrets to their success and plans and dreams for the future. We would like to thank Sue for her contribution to the industry and her support of Women in Technology. Congratulations Sue a well deserved win!



1. What is your background and your work and your career to date?

I started my IT career later than most. As a working mother I completed my IT degree & went from IT Project Management to managing a specialist IT & analyst business unit for a large professional services firm. I successfully bought out that part of the business and have been Managing Director of my own Information Analytics firm for nearly 2 years.

2. Describe how you felt when you were nominated for the award and when you won?

I felt honoured and humbled to be nominated for the award but immensely proud of my achievements. When I won I was very proud, not only because of where I have reached in my career but because I have always had such a great team and family that supported me and my ideas along the way.

3. Can you briefly describe why you were chosen for this award?

I think (measured) risk taking, innovation, responsiveness and a client focus have been a key part of why I have been successful and considered entrepreneurial. Going out on my own with InfoView was a calculated risk that paid off.

4. What do you feel are the qualities women need to succeed in the technology sectors?

Tenacity, courage, curiosity, good people skills, willingness to go above and beyond – and confidence in your own ideas, skills and knowledge. I knew where I wanted to be – and then simply worked back from that to work out my strategy.

5. Who are your role models and how have they contributed to your success?

My father always believed any of his children could do anything and there were 6 girls in my family so we never felt gender was a contributing factor to success. I am also a great admirer of Therese Rein and how she made her way confidently in her industry without losing her femininity.

6. What are the benefits of having an association such as WiT to support, acknowledge and recognize the outstanding?

WiT provides so many opportunities for networking that it would be impossible to miss meeting someone amazing at any one of them. I am constantly in admiration of the event presenters and other award winners and always go away from an event inspired.

7. If you had a magic wand to change one thing to make the world work better what would you do?

Tolerance and respect of all others and their needs and their differences – A more considered world might put others before their own needs and perhaps an improved culture of really caring for those we work with, mix with and love might impact so many other aspects of our lives like the measures of wealth & success, childcare, health, life balance and ultimately happiness.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR AGM NOMINATIONS

A number of positions will be up for nomination at the next WiT AGM to be held on 2 April, 2014. These positions include:

Vice President

Treasurer

Board Member Biotech

Board Member ICT

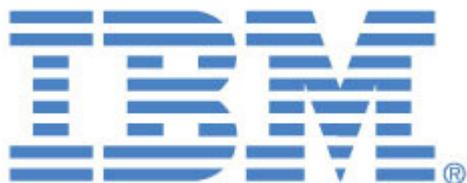
[Click Here to view all Position Descriptions](#)

Expressions of Interest or requests for more information regarding the positions or to apply, can be sent to secretariat@wit.org.au.

"Being involved with the WiT Chapter and board has been a wonderful and fulfilling experience for me. Coming from overseas with no network in Brisbane, I found the organisation was an easy way to build a substantial network quickly and efficiently. Getting involved has been very rewarding for me and also has developed my skills in many areas from event management to senior leadership skills. I would highly recommend donating your time to WiT as the payback is very worthwhile."

Jane Fitzpatrick, PhD
Group Operations Manager
Tissue Engineering and Microfluidics Group AIBN @ UQ

SPONSOR PROFILE - IBM EXITE CAMPS FOR GIRLS



The fast-paced global economy requires a diverse and versatile talent pool to keep up with the demands of constant change and to maintain competitiveness. The most successful companies in the world show that diversity in the workforce – and that includes gender diversity - is a defining tool for success.

EXITE (Exploring Interests in Technology & Engineering) Camps are one of IBM's diversity initiatives to help fuel young girls' interests in taking science and math classes throughout high school. The Camps are also designed to help girls understand how rewarding engineering and technology careers can be and how they offer opportunities to be creative, to become a leader and to give back to the community.

IBM Australia began holding EXITE Camps in 2001. The target audience for the Camps is high school girls aged 13 to 16. The Camps are now held annually in collaboration with State-based Departments of Education to encourage young women to pursue studies in engineering, IT and science. Camps have been held in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and the Gold Coast and Ballarat has hosted a Camp for Indigenous girls and boys.

The Camps are run by IBM volunteers who work together to deliver a wide range of activities for the students over a 3 to 4 day period. The activities can include; web-page design, computer chip design, laser optics, animation, robotics, and working with computer hardware and software. The Camps also have a mentoring component which matches the students with female IBM volunteers who serve as e-Mentors throughout the school year as part of IBM MentorPlace program.

[More Information...](#)

BROKER MEETS BIOTECH - AUSBIOTECH'S STATE INVESTMENT SERIES - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

Following the growing success of Broker Meets Biotech over the past three years in Perth, the event has expanded to include Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide in 2014. The format provides listed and IPO-ready companies opportunities to present to a captive audience of brokers and investors followed by networking drinks.

There are a limited number of presentations per event, so act now to reserve your place.

2014 SERIES DATES AND LOCATIONS

Thursday 17 April - Perth, Western Australia

Thursday 11 September - Brisbane, Queensland

Thursday 18 September - Perth, Western Australia

Thursday 25 September - Adelaide, South Australia

Cost to present: \$3,500 (ex GST) per event

Subject to availability, a 10% discount is available for multiple bookings. You must be an AusBiotech or a WiT member to present.

To register your interest, email Mel Nelson mnelson@ausbiotech.org indicating at which event(s) you would like to present. The final decision on presenting companies will be made by the Broker Meets Biotech selection panel. If you are selected a non-refundable 50% deposit is required to reserve your space. Full payment is required seven days prior to the presentation date.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR AUSTRALIA'S NEXT WOMAN PRIME MINISTER - EBOOK

Considerations for Australia's next Woman Prime Minister has just been published as an E-book to move the discussion forward so that Australia will have a woman Prime Minister sooner rather than later.

Underlined with a reflective, interpretive and explorative stance of Julia Gillard's Prime Ministership, it presents an analysis on issues to do with gender and leadership culminating in key considerations for the nation and for the next woman Prime Minister.

More information about the E-book is available at:

<http://www.leadershipforwomen.com.au/transform/activism/considerations-for-australia-s-next-woman-prime-minister>

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP - 2 YEARS ABSOLUTELY FREE AT WiT



Did you know that **Student Membership** to WiT is **FREE!**

At WiT we want to support the next generation of Women in Technology and create a strong network between women of all ages and levels of experience in the technology industries. ***It is very easy to apply!***

If you are or know anyone that would benefit from being a member of WiT go to www.wit.org.au/get_involved/Join_Us.

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

17-19 February 2014 - LSQ is Supporting BioAsia2014

Life Sciences Queensland Limited is supporting [BioAsia 2014 - Empowering Tomorrow by Fostering Innovations](#), which will be held from February 17-19, 2014, in Hyderabad, India. LSQ is pleased to offer LSQ Members a special discount for those who wish to attend BioAsia 2014. For more details on how to access this discount, please contact LSQ on marketing@lsq.com.au or phone +617 3331 3939.

20 February 2014 - Ausbiotech BioBeers & Bubbles

Meet the AusBiotech Queensland Branch Committee and catch up with members and other industry professionals in a relaxed setting. Proudly sponsored by Cook Medical, BioBeers & Bubbles gives AusBiotech members and non-members in the life sciences, therapeutics, medical technology (devices and diagnostics), food technology and agricultural, environmental and industrial sectors to get together in an informal setting to share ideas, build relationships and make new contacts. [Click here to register and for more information](#).

6 March 2014 - LSQ Industry Breakfast featuring Dr Noel Chambers

Through its new vision, NFMRI is looking to maximise potential benefits from early biomedical research. By "thinking differently and doing differently" the research and development of new drugs, diagnostics, vaccines and devices can be supported by philanthropy – which can boost funding and knowledge translation in the innovation pathway and help to advance early innovations, manage risk and facilitate collaborations between other scientific disciplines, industry and investors. [For more details, and to register, please click here](#).

1-2 April 2014 - AusMedtech 2014 Hilton on the Park Melbourne

AusMedtech in its 7th year will again return to Melbourne at the Hilton on the Park. The conference is growing year-on-year and 2014 will feature a comprehensive program, trade exhibition, networking events and AusPartnering, a networking and partnering platform allowing delegates to schedule 30-minute meetings with other attendees. For more information on the conference please visit the website: www.ausmedtech.com.au

2014 Ausbiotech Investment Series

4–6 June 2014 Asia Biotech Invest 2014, Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel & Towers, Hong Kong

20 June 2014 Australian Life Science Investment Showcase, San Francisco, USA

Late 2014 Australia Biotech Invest 2014, Melbourne, Australia

The first staging of Asia Biotech Invest in June 2013 was the biggest-ever biotech showcase to be held in Hong Kong, attracting more than 230 high-level delegates from across the life science community. The 2014 Asia Biotech Invest will build on the fruitful discussions initiated at this event. The showcase in San Francisco has been timed to precede BIO Chicago to involve delegates who are also travelling to that event. US investment bank Cowen Group, have signed on as our major partner, along with other supporting partners ASX, DLA Piper and Blueprint Life Science Group. This event will spotlight and celebrate the achievements and opportunities happening in the Australian biotech sector.

For general enquiries and information about sponsorship and presentation opportunities for the 2014 AusBiotech Investment Series, please contact AusBiotech's Investment Program Manager, Hayley Laing, tel. +613 9828 1400 or email hlaing@ausbiotech.org.

WiT JOBS BOARD

Call to all Sponsors and Corporate Members - if you have a position vacant to advertise, consider our WiT jobs board. Email secretariat@wit.org.au for more information.

Don't forget to ensure your WiT Membership is current moving in to 2014 and your contact details are up to date to ensure you do not miss out on the benefits available to Members Only! If you have any queries regarding your membership status don't hesitate to email secretariat@wit.org.au.

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Women in Technology

PO Box 1747 TOOWONG Q 4066

P | 0430 219 091

E | secretariat@wit.org.au

W | www.wit.org.au

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