

WiT Board Candidate Profile

Dr. Kylie Hewson

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I'm looking for new opportunities to help NFP and private organisations achieve improved value on investment in research through collaboration and leveraging of existing resources. I'm particularly passionate about seeing investments in research realised and have 5 years' experience managing research programs which include the need to negotiate collaborative projects between competitors for the benefit of the entire industry while avoiding anti-competitive behaviour. I have recently established my own company to support research funding agencies in improving value on investment, coupled with improving researchers' capacity to articulate their research outcomes, which is a key barrier to adoption of research outcomes.

Area of Expertise Summary

- >10 years working in the poultry industries in R,D&E and policy roles; 5 years in research program management (project design, leadership, monitoring and risk management)
- Extensive experience leading and developing policies and strategies to achieve positive outcomes particularly for complex, multi-faceted issues in the highly integrated and competitive chicken meat industry (e.g. biosecurity, food safety, animal welfare, antimicrobial resistance)
- Exceptional communication skills developed through years of on-site visits and relationship building and mentoring of different stakeholders in agriculture, government and the public which is demonstrated by numerous awards, successful negotiation of >50 research project contracts and my own research and report publications

Ability to communicate, negotiate and leverage effectively

- Establishing and coordinating several cross-livestock industry transformational initiatives in antimicrobial resistance (including reports, government engagement and a conference) to meet national and international requirements for judicious use of antibiotics in livestock which integrates industry, Federal Government and international OIE/FAO obligations
- Utilising extensive networks with stakeholders in the > 90% chicken meat industry; >60% commercial Australian egg industry; >90% Australian duck industry; >95% Australian turkey industry, numerous stakeholders in other livestock industries (pork, red meat, dairy), Australian federal and state agriculture and food safety/health departments and >95% Poultry Research R,D&E community
- >10 invited speaker presentations, >30 research and policy presentations
- Experience reviewing >50 research reports and >100 research proposals which were critically analysed against criteria, outcomes communicated to applicants and successful contracts

negotiated for >\$10 million in research funding in four years with an additional >\$2million negotiated contributions from other stakeholders

Outcomes-based strategically motivated

- Completely reworked the strategy for the AgriFutures Australia Chicken Meat R,D&E program which is now being implemented and includes greater flexibility to respond to industry priorities as they arise but also terminate projects as soon as they appear to be failing (fast to fail focus)
- Strategic focus across sectors developing pathways to improve biosecurity, antimicrobial resistance, animal welfare and food safety
- Member of three National R,D&E livestock strategic committees - Poultry Industries R,D&E strategy; National Animal Welfare R,D&E strategy; National Livestock Biosecurity R,D&E Strategy
- Experience developing molecular assays for a range of pathogens, including establishment of manufacturing SOPs and pathways in China

Board & Committees Positions

Current Board Experience:

- Australian Poultry Industries Association; Executive Officer (Deputy Executive Director)
- Australian Chicken Meat Federation; Executive Officer (Deputy Executive Director)
- Director, Sativus Pty Ltd

Chair of the following committees:

- Australian livestock AMS conference organising committee
- Australian livestock industry Antimicrobial stewardship group (initiator)
- National Biosecurity Manual for Chicken Growers committee

Awards:

- World Veterinary Poultry Association – Bart Rispen Award; for outstanding research contribution to the international field of avian pathology
- Poultry CRC industry internship award; industry position
- Australian Government Innovation and Science Award for Young Scientists
- Women in Leadership course scholarship
- Several speaker awards

Professional Qualifications

- PhD – Veterinary Science (Molecular Virology) 2012; Bach App Sci (Biotechnology)
- Women in leadership Program – Monash University
- Women in Technology Board Readiness course

Current Employment:

- Deputy Executive Director; Australian Chicken Meat Federation
- Program Development Officer; Chicken Meat Program / AgriFutures Australia
- Owner/Director; Sativus Pty Ltd. Empowering organisations and researchers to cultivate and translate scientific research outcomes for the benefit of all