 **25 September 2020**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FINALISTS ANNOUNCED**

**2020 WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY (WiT) AWARDS**

Forty-four outstanding women from across Queensland have been announced as finalists in the 2020 annual Women in Technology (WiT) Awards following a record 440 nominations.

For the first time, the prestigious WiT Awards have three new categories, including one specifically focused on celebrating the achievements of women living and working in Queensland’s regional, rural and remote locations.

Women in Technology (WiT) President Dr Claudia Giurgiuman said although 2020 had been a challenging year, ‘the show must go on’.

“This year has been a year of change for everyone, including WiT, so we decided to create an online celebration to champion the State’s remarkable women in science and technology,” she said.

“Our virtual 2020 WiT Awards on 9 October are set to be bigger and better than ever with the ABC’s celebrity scientist Joel Gilmore as the event’s MC, alongside our distinguished keynote Australia’s Chief Defence Scientist Professor Tanya Monro.

"With the devastating economic impact of COVID-19, harnessing our female talent and skill has never been more crucial, so this year, more than ever, the awards show must go on.

"Many women are doing amazing work and these awards are about giving them the recognition they deserve, building support for their work, and inspiring the next generation of leaders by showing what is possible."

Although the 2020 WiT Awards presentation is online this year, attendees are encouraged to dress to excess or extreme comfort as the event is brought live to their living rooms. Attendees will still have the same opportunity to network, mingle, and support the work done by these incredible finalists through the online event platform.

To see the full list of finalists, head to the WiT Awards website: [wit.org.au/page-1860760](https://wit.org.au/page-1860760)

Don't miss out on this phenomenal event! Tickets are still available. Secure your tickets here: [www.wit.org.au/event-3923277](http://www.wit.org.au/event-3923277)

**MEDIA NOTE** – To interview any of the finalists or WiT Board, contact WiT Media’s Deanna Nott on 0422 504540 or email media@wit.org.au

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**ABOUT WiT**

Women in Technology (WiT) is one of Australia’s most respected and active technology industry associations, dedicated to supporting, developing, recognising and promoting the achievements of women from all science and technology disciplines. The organisation delivers professional development, advocacy and networking, including exclusive mentoring and Board Readiness courses, and the prestigious annual WiT Awards.

WiT was founded in 1997 by a small group of Queensland women who came together to share their aspirations and find understanding and solutions for the unique challenges they faced as female pioneers in technology. The community now has 7600 members and affiliates and more than 24,500 supporters. To learn more about WiT visit wit.org.au.