

# THE-ICE Board of Directors



THE-ICE, a full member of



THE-ICE Board of Directors consists of leading academics and professionals from our global network. Representing the higher education and vocational training sectors the Directors provide strategic advice and guidance to THE-ICE with their extensive experience and expertise in the fields of tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts.

## **Prof (FH) Mag Eva Werner Chair & Director**

Appointed in 2010 as Director and Deputy Chair, Prof (FH) Mag Eva Werner has been Chair of THE-ICE Board since November 2013 and also remains an Auditor on the independent THE-ICE Assessment Panel.

Prof Werner holds a degree from the University of Vienna, and also studied in France and Canada. Her professional experience comprises lecturing at the College of Tourism, Vienna, full-time assistantship and teaching at the University of Business Administration Vienna and the Danube University Krems.

Prof Werner was one of the five Austrian Bologna Experts (the first in the field of Austrian Universities of Applied Sciences) and as such actively contributed to the implementation of the Bologna process. Her international commitment is highly recognised and was honoured in 2007 with the award of Honorary Professorship from the Moscow International Business School.

Prof Werner currently Chairs the International Committee of the National Conference of Universities of Applied Sciences, thus largely responsible for the representation of the Universities of Applied Sciences at an international level.

Prof Werner has been Rector of the IMC University of Applied Sciences Krems since 2010, the first female Rector of an Austrian University of Applied Sciences and responsible, among others, for the development and quality assurance of degree programmes on offer at IMC Krems.

## **A/Prof Laura Lawton Deputy Chair & Director**

A/Prof Laura Lawton is Deputy Head at Griffith University, Australia, Department of Tourism, Leisure, Hotel and Sport Management. Laura was formally Program Director for the Master of Business Programs. Previous appointments include the University of South Carolina and George Mason University.

Holding a Master of Arts degree (Geography) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours, Urban Planning) from the University of Western Ontario, Canada, in 2002 she was awarded a PhD from Griffith University.

A/Prof Lawton is well-published in protected areas, ecotourism, resident perceptions of tourism, and cruise ship tourism - in 2011 being recognised in the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research as one of 50 most prolific tourism researchers and one of the top 100 researchers published in tourism and hospitality management.

Laura co-authored tourism text *Tourism Management* and served for five years as Editor-in-Chief for *Tourism Review International*. Also sitting on the Board of four other academic journals, Laura was awarded a Griffith University Group Learning Teaching Citation in 2011.

As well as being an Auditor on the independent THE-ICE Assessment Panel, A/Prof Lawton has acted as Director on THE-ICE Board since 2010 and Deputy Chair since 2013.

For further information visit

[www.the-ice.org](http://www.the-ice.org)

The International Centre of Excellence in Tourism & Hospitality Education (THE-ICE)

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**Mr Alan Williams  
Treasurer & Director**

Mr Alan Williams is the Managing Director of the Australian School of Management in Western Australia and is an active member on several peak industry education bodies in Australia all having an interest in ensuring long term viability, sustainability and quality of the Australian education industry.

Mr Williams is also current President of the Asia Pacific Council of Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Education (APacCHRIE), formed in 2002 to promote academic and research exchanges among hospitality, food service and tourism educators and industry practitioners in Asia Pacific.

Being passionate about education, a number of innovative learning and teaching models have been adopted within his organisation, ensuring the best possible education outcomes are achieved for students and industry. Mr Williams has been a Director on THE-ICE Board since August 2008 and Treasurer since January 2012.



**Mr Nicholas Hunt  
Company Secretary & Director**

Appointed CEO of William Angliss Institute (WAI) in August 2007, Nick has focused on strategic planning, brand development, and strengthening of WAI's activities to support industry partners.

As Australia's largest specialist provider of foods, tourism, hospitality and events education and training, WAI empowers students with skills and education and inspires them to pursue their careers. WAI continue to develop educational delivery programs and partnerships both regionally, nationally and internationally.

Prior to WAI, Nick had previously been CEO of Tourism Alliance Victoria, CEO with the Country Victorian Tourism Council, and Executive Director for Tourism Training Victoria.

Nick also serves as: Director - TAFE Directors Australia, the national body representing public TAFE providers; Board Member - Victorian Tourism Industry Council; and Treasurer - Victorian TAFE Association.

Nick's qualifications include a Masters in Education Policy (International) University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) University of Tasmania, and also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

The International Centre of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education (THE-ICE) is an international accreditation body established in 2004. Its focus is on programme accreditation, benchmarking and the promotion of excellence for tourism, hospitality, events & culinary arts education. THE-ICE is a not-for-profit organisation governed by an elected Board of Directors. It supports its member institutions through a range of education development initiatives, and seeks to provide relevant information to future students about their study options.



**Mr Guy Bentley  
Director & Immediate Past Chair**

As well as being CEO of Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School (BMIHMS), Guy Bentley is also Chair of the BMIHMS Executive Group, Member of their Higher Education Board (HEB), HEB Representative to the BMIHMS Industry Advisory Board, Director of Torrens University Australia Governing Board, and Member of the Senior Executive Group Laureate Hospitality & Culinary of the Laureate International University Network.

Committed to the growing of a trusted quality higher education that is customer-focused, Guy mentors his executive team to operate effectively within a complex regulatory and corporate global environment. Having previously been a past College Director of the Western Sydney Institute of TAFE, Guy has extensive experience as a director of business in education, workplace training, outdoor recreation and tourism sectors.

Serving on THE-ICE Board as Director since 2008 and Chair (2010-2013), Mr Bentley is also an elected member of the National Committee of the Colleges of Private Higher Education (COPHE), the International Association of Hotel Schools (EUHOFA) Member and Past Chair of the Australian Association of Hotel Schools.

A published academic, Mr Bentley's research interests include: intellectual property; online marketing & distribution strategy; compliance & its impact on strategic business improvement; innovation in the hospitality sector; crisis planning, perception, attitudes & behaviour of Australian hotel managers. Recognised for his outstanding contributions to Australian tourism and training, Guy was awarded the 2006 National Training Legend Award, the 2004 & 2009 National Tourism Platinum Awards, and the 2011 Accommodation Association of Australia's Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award.

## Professor J. S. Perry Hobson Director

Professor Perry Hobson is the Pro Vice-Chancellor for Global Engagement at Taylor's University, Malaysia. He was the Director of THE-ICE from 2006-2011, and led the transformation of the organisation from being an initiative of the Australian Federal Government into being a not-for-profit international accreditation body. He has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2008.

Since 1999 Dr Hobson has been the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Vacation Marketing and was also the co-Editor of the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Education. In 2005, Perry was recognised in the Journal Tourism Management as being amongst the top 50 researchers in tourism and hospitality management over the previous two decades.

While he was the Head of the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management at SCU the School received the New South Wales (NSW) State Award for Excellence twice, and went onto win the National Australian Tourism Award for Education and Training.

Perry has also been a personal recipient of the Platinum Award for Tourism from the peak industry organization Tourism Training Australia (TTA) for his contribution to education. He has also twice been elected the Chair of the Council of Australian Universities for Tourism and Hospitality Education (CAUTHE) which is the national association of educators in Australia. Active in many international associations, Perry currently serves on the Boards of APacCHRIE and APTA, the two leading Asia-Pacific regional educators associations.

## Mr Ron Hilvert Director

Ron Hilvert, a graduate of the Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne, is the Founder and Managing Director of the Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management and has been a Director on THE-ICE Board since February 2012. Ron has over 40 years of professional experience in the hospitality industry and is recognized as the most experienced Human Resources Executive in the industry worldwide.

He has had professional and educational contact with all the major hotel schools and universities in North America, Europe, Asia and Australasia for over 30 years.

Ron has held the worldwide Corporate Human Resources position for Hyatt International, Hilton International and Jumeirah Group, and was an opening General Manager with Hyatt International Hotels. Ron has lectured at several major schools and universities, and has regularly been invited to speak at international conferences. A fellow of the Institute of Hospitality, he is fluent in four European languages

## Ms Jenny Jenkins Director

Jenny Jenkins graduated from Napier University in Edinburgh with a hospitality specialist qualification at Higher National Diploma level. She then travelled overland to New Zealand from Scotland and settled there.

Since completing an MBA through Massey University in 1997, Jenny has held senior management positions in a number of government education institutions in New Zealand specialising in the areas of hospitality, business, tourism and the arts, the introduction of competency based assessment, accrediting a Bachelor of Hotel Management and securing an international educational partner for a multi million Major Regional Initiative for the Wairarapa, north of Wellington, in the area of food and wine.

The involvement in the food and wine project inspired Jenny to secure a position overseas to expand her knowledge of the private international educational sector. She joined Think Education Group in 2007 as Head of College for William Blue College of Hospitality Management and retired in December 2013.

Jenny was elected as a Director on THE-ICE Board in November 2013 and is also Chair and Director of the Australian Association of Hotel Schools (AAHS).



## Our social responsibility partners:



For more info:  
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**MA Christina Aquino**  
Director

Christina Aquino is the Executive Director of Planning and Development, Lyceum of the Philippines University Manila, the LPU-Dusit Int'l Project Director and Deputy Quality Management Representative for Quality Assurance programs, former-Dean and current OIC of the College of Int'l Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Tina has extensive cross-sectorial teaching and executive experience with various peak bodies such Council of Hotel and Restaurant Educators of the Philippines (COHREP), Hotel and Restaurant Association of the Philippines (HRAP), Asia Pacific Council of Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education (APacCHRIE), Tourism Industry Board Foundation Inc (TIBFI).

Tina was appointed as Director on THE-ICE Board in 2013 and holds the qualifications BS HRA (cum laude), MA in Education, with a major in Educational Administration, and has completed all the academic requirements for a PhD in Education, specialising in Curriculum Studies, all through the University of the Philippines Diliman Quezon City.



**Dr Paul Whitelaw**  
Director

Dr Paul Whitelaw has been a Director on THE-ICE Board since 2012 and in 2014 joined the William Angliss Institute as Associate Director Higher Education and Quality. Prior to this Paul was a Senior Lecturer at the College of Business at Victoria University and the Centre for Tourism and Services Research, where he lectured in quantitative and computer based hospitality management systems.

Paul's areas of interest include harnessing modern technologies to improve guest experience, applying advanced analytical techniques to improve operating efficiency and the ongoing professionalisation of the hospitality industry, especially in the areas of career progression and development.

Paul has conducted extensive research in visitor experience and economic impacts of tourism investment and development in regional Australia, and government-funded projects investigating a range of teaching and learning issues such as Academic Integrity and setting national curriculum standards for tourism, hospitality and events undergraduate and postgraduate coursework programs.



**Mrs Veera Pardpattanapanich**  
Director

As well as being the Rector of Dusit Thani College, Veera serves on several committees including as Second Deputy Chairperson of the Association of Private Higher Education Institutes of Thailand.

After completing her Masters in 1982, Veera's hotel career included corporate accounts, marketing and sales where Veera implemented many strategies in the increasingly competitive market.

Veera was invited to join Dusit Thani College (DTC) in 1994 and has since worked tirelessly to enhance the excellence of hospitality education, repositioning the hotel school to become "the College" for Higher Education. DTC now offers bachelors and masters programmes to over 3,000 students.

Elected as Director on THE-ICE Board in 2014, Veera holds the Bachelor of Sciences (Medical Technology); Master in Business Administration; Higher Certificate in Politics and Governance in Democratic Systems for Executives; as well as nine training course completions from Cornell University.

**THE-ICE Strategic Partners:**



**THE-ICE Full Members:**



**Associates of THE-ICE:**



Please visit [www.the-ice.org](http://www.the-ice.org) for our full list of members  
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