

ANDREW WILLIAMSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VICTORIAN
TAFE ASSOCIATION (VTA)



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Andrew Williamson has worked in executive and leadership roles in Victorian TAFE, dual sector university, technical college and government. He joins the VTA from the Department of Education and Training, where he has been Acting Director of TAFE Governance and Performance Monitoring in the Higher Education and Skills Group.

Prior to his work in government, Andrew was an Associate Director at Victoria University, where his leadership responsibilities included industry liaison and innovation in the trades disciplines. As Chief Executive Officer and Principal of the Australian Technical College in Sunshine, Andrew established a strong network of stakeholders including local schools, TAFE providers and industry, to offer senior secondary certificate studies with a school-based apprenticeship in the traditional trades.

LIZ STAFFORD

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER,
REGULATORY STRATEGY,
GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE

VICTORIAN REGISTRATION AND
QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (VRQA)



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) is Australia's national regulator for vocational education and training (VET).

The role of the national regulator is primarily to make sure that students, employers, and the Australian community can have confidence in the quality of training. ASQA's functions include regulating courses and training providers to ensure that national quality standards are met.

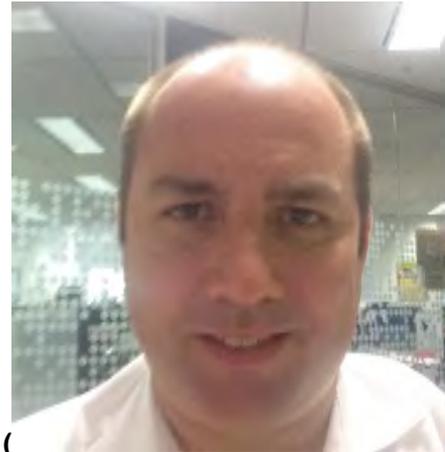
As the acting General Manager, Regulatory Strategy, Governance and Corporate Liz oversees a wide range of ASQA's strategic work, including liaison with government; the development of organisational business processes and quality management; and the risk intelligence process.

Liz is also responsible for oversight of ASQA's corporate functions, including communications and education and provides support to ASQA's Commissioner Risk Intelligence and Regulatory Support, Michael Lavarch.

CHRIS INGHAM

EXECUTIVE MANAGER,
APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

VICTORIAN REGISTRATION AND
QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (VRQA)



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Executive Manager of Apprenticeships and Traineeships at the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) since December 2012. Chris is in charge of regulation of the apprenticeship and traineeship system in Victoria.

In 2011-12 Chris was on secondment as Project Director, Market Reform at the then Department of Human Services, working on reform options for the \$3 billion+ government-funded service delivery market.

From 2006 to 2011 Chris was an executive in the (now called) Higher Education and Skills Group, with responsibility for vocational education and training policy, budget processes and youth transitions.

Chris has a particular passion for youth transitions: finding the best ways to help young people progress from senior secondary schooling to independent adult working life, via education and work. Chris' research led to the establishment of the Apprenticeship Support Officer program in Victoria, initially funded by the Commonwealth Government through a National Partnership. The program has run for five years and supports apprentices at the greatest risk of dropping out.

Chris spent three years in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Canberra, in the Social Policy Division, covering education, immigration, border protection and multiculturalism. Prior to the public sector Chris was as a consultant for a firm of migration agents and a University tutor.

Chris is a Spanish speaker with a strong interest in Australian-Latin American relations. In 2012 on behalf of the Department of Human Services he hosted a Paraguayan delegation of senior officials on an AusAID-funded trip to Australia.

Key Functions within the VRQA

Responsible for regulation of the apprenticeship and traineeship system in Victoria.

Regulation involves checking the compliance of employers, apprentices and trainees with the requirements of the training contract in accordance with section 5.5 of the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. Sanctions include cancelling training contracts and removing the authority of employers to employ apprentices/trainees.

Regulation is conducted by a network of Authorised Officers. Following a 2013 tender process, this activity is mostly undertaken by the non-profit organisation BUSY at Work under contract to the VRQA.

SARA CAPLAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS (PwC)



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Sara is Chief Executive Officer of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC's) Skills for Australia Skills Service Organisation and leads PwC Consulting's work on skills, vocational education and employment. Sara has over 25 years' experience in Vocational Education, training and skills.

Her recent work has focused on supporting government in delivering policy outcomes: designing and implementing innovative solutions to government priorities, including transforming skills systems, creating new vocational routes to professional careers and creating an environment for economic growth. She has worked with education departments, both Federal and state, and with a range of TAFEs and private RTOs in Australia.

Based in Sydney, Sara has been with PwC Australia since 2014, after having spent 6 years with PwC in the UK. Prior to working as a professional consulting leader, Sara spent 10 years in delivery and senior management roles in the Further Education and Skills sector.

In 2012 Sara was appointed by The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) in the UK as an Employer Ambassador for Higher Apprenticeships. She was a member of the Higher Education Commission and the Parliamentary Group on Skills.

She chaired the Professional and Business Services Council's Skills Taskforce, working with BIS and other employers on delivering the Industrial Strategy, and was a member of the London First Skills and Employment Board. In 2013, Sara and her team won the UK Management Consultancies Association People Award for their work on Apprenticeships.

MS LINDA CONDON

DIRECTOR, PROACTIVE
SUSTAINABILITY



Qualifications

Bachelor of Applied Science (RMIT)
A Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Science) Macquarie
University, Sydney
Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Linda is a director of Proactive Sustainability, a consultancy that works with government, business and the community to actively promote sustainable practice. Linda is also the founder of the National Centre for Sustainability at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne. More recently Linda was the Director for the International Green Skills Network on behalf of TAFE Directors Australia where she developed a network to promote green skills and Education for Sustainability.

Currently, Linda is working as a consultant for a number of organisations undertaking evaluations and promoting environmental sustainability.

In these roles, she is involved in a wide range of sustainability projects including provision of strategic advice to government, communities and industry on issues relating to sustainability. Linda's professional career has involved industry experience which spans 20 years in a range of environmental areas, including environmental audits and the development of sustainability strategies for organisations. Linda has been involved in judging of awards in particular the Banksia Environmental Awards, International Green Gown Awards, Savewater and the United Nations Environmental Awards and is engaged in promoting the uptake of sustainability in education and training. She has also provided strategic advice to the Department of Justice in Victoria on their sustainability policies and has worked on the Sustainable Environment Committee Reference Group for Port Phillip Council, in Victoria.

She has published the following most relevant papers focusing on issues relating to sustainability:

- Condon, L., *Sustainability and Small to Medium Sized Enterprises – How to engage them*, Australian Journal of Environmental Education vol.20(1), 2004
- Condon, L, Donlen J and Tourney A., *Measuring community engagement with sustainability: 'Living for our Future'*, Change in the 21st Century, November 2005
- 'Design for sustainability and the aging population' Lab Report 04 – The New Design Nexus: ICT, changing demographics and sustainability, Lyndon
- Anderson and Simon Jackson (Editors) Melbourne: Lab.3000, 2004

JAMES STAFFORD

MANAGER INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

James Stafford is the Manager for International Business Development at Box Hill Institute in Melbourne, Australia.

James has had over 25 years working in technical and vocational education and training. He is an experienced administrator having managed diverse areas including design, visual and performing arts, adult access programs and fashion.

James's key responsibility is in international business development and to manage the delivery of Australian national qualifications in the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, Iran, Kuwait and the UAE.

DAVID FOOTE

DIRECTOR

INDUSTRY SKILLS AND TRADES – (IST)
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, CIVIL
CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING, TIMBER STUDIES,
BUILDING DESIGN, WAREHOUSING, LOGISTICS,
TRANSPORT & MOTOR SPORTS TRAINING AUSTRALIA



WODONGA INSTITUTE OF TAFE

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Currently a director at Wodonga TAFE for the Institutes largest delivery department following some six years of service has come from a journey through the Vocational Education and Training sector spanning approximately sixteen years.

David started out his working life as a farm hand, left school at the end of year ten, soon realized the need to improve his career and employment prospects through seeking out a trade. Living in North East Victoria near Wangaratta, the largest employer at that time was a local textile manufacturer which provided the means for his first Vocational Education experience where he trained as a Mechanical Fitter and Machinist.

Having worked in the textile industry for six years, the opportunity arose to purchase a neighboring farm to his parent's property at Oxley. This was the beginning of a successful family farming enterprise partnership which lasted 12 years before taking over complete management of the mixed farming operation that had by then grown to incorporate a harvesting and fencing contracting business.

Over the next 14 years, the property and farming enterprise grew in size necessitating employment of staff including Agriculture Trainees. This along with training experience gained from a role as a senior officer in the local community run fire brigade (CFA) sparked an interest for involvement in Vocational Education and Training.

Being an active member for the local branch of United Dairy Farmers of Victoria led to representation on committees which planned and set curriculum for Victorian Agriculture Traineeships. Along this journey at every opportunity, there was training and qualifications gained to ultimately enable the capability for a career change into becoming a teacher – Agriculture coordinator for the local Wangaratta campus of Goulburn Ovens TAFE (GOTAFE).

This move resulted in many changing roles on a journey with GOTAFE and National Centre for Dairy Education for some nine years including periods of time working at Melbourne Universities Dookie Agricultural College and Ballarat University's Victorian Farm Safety Centre to write Farm Safety Guides for WorkSafe Victoria.

In May 2009, he joined Wodonga TAFE to build Agriculture into its programs which previously for the area focused mainly on Horticulture. Within twelve months the business had grown enough to employ additional trainers and the opportunity for him arose to secure the department Team Leader role. Within a short period

the department Manager position was applied for and gained which covered such Industry areas as Agriculture, Horticulture, Timber Studies and Building Design.

Following Wodonga TAFE taking over Driver Education Centre of Australia (DECA), the role changed again for him to become a Delivery Director with additional departments encompassing Engineering, Fabrication and Welding.

Over this period he placed significant effort into Wodonga TAFE forming quality Agriculture training relationships which resulted in securing some very successful partnerships that still endure today. These partnerships involve amongst others major stock and station agents who have branches all across Australia.

From the 2009 beginning at Wodonga TAFE with what was then the smallest department to the present day, the department Director tenure has gained what was formerly the National Centre for Industrial Skills and Training encompassing areas of Civil Construction, Transport, Warehousing, Logistics and Motor Sport which combined all together with his existing departments are collectively now the largest delivery department at Wodonga TAFE. This area has combined to make a significant contribution toward Wodonga TAFE winning 2015 Large Training Provider of the Year Award for Victoria and being placed as a runner up for the Australian Large Training Provider of the Year Award.

A significant success has been the management of staff, networks and partnerships which encourage responsibilities that flow from tapping into team member's strengths. These attributes have helped bring effective financial success to all departments within his tenure over a period when most Vocational and Education providers have struggled. The Wodonga TAFE Agriculture delivery area has to the end of 2015 resulted in becoming one of the largest in Australia having trained approximately six hundred Trainees. The future looks bright!

CAROL ELLIOT



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Carol Elliot has been involved with the Education Sector in Australia for forty (40) years. During this time Carol has taught in the secondary schooling system, the vocational education and training sector (TVET) and in the higher education (university) sector. This depth of knowledge and experience across three tiers of education in Australia has provided Carol with an understanding of how the sectors can interlink providing lifelong learning pathways for students. The challenges of retaining students in secondary school and developing pathways into further education and/or employment, formed a major part of Carol's work in Queensland in her role as Regional Director. In the vocational education and training (TVET) sector, she has held a number of senior management and leadership positions. Carol was the Director (CEO) of a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) Institute in Queensland and spent seven (7) years at Central Gippsland Institute of TAFE/ Federation Training (Victoria) as Manager, Planning and Development and as an Executive Director responsible for International program delivery.

Carol's international experience includes co-delivery with Curtin University Sarawak (Malaysia) of diploma qualifications and specialised courses for organisations on the Malaysian Peninsula. Her most recent work overseas was to lead a project on behalf of the Government of the Province of San Luis, Argentina. This project focussed on the design and development of a qualifications framework meeting the needs of industry in the Province of San Luis, Argentina. Carol led a small team who designed qualifications, developed a governance framework for a technical university and supervised the design and construction of purpose built facilities for the delivery of VET training. The *Universidad Provincial de Oficias "Eva Peron" (UPrO)* was launched in May 2015 and has since graduated 859 students from courses. UPrO is now taking its next enrolment cohorts for 2016.

Sound and comprehensive knowledge of the Australian Qualifications Framework and compliance with the standards required by the National VET Regulator have formed an integral part of Carol's responsibilities.

During the 24 years Carol has worked in the VET sector, her relationships with industry sectors and employers have been a significant strength in achieving employment outcomes for students. Understanding the needs of industry also resulted in the provision of relevant training programs to ensure that graduates acquired the skills required by industry.

Carol's qualifications include: Bachelor of Arts, Diploma Australian Institute of Company Directors, Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, Certificate of Horticulture, Certificate of Teaching Secondary (Dux).

MERRILYN WOLF

OPERATIONS MANAGER EDUCATION, TRAINING & SUPPORT

QUALIFICATIONS

- Master of Education
- Graduate Diploma in Education (Special Education Disability) -
- Graduate Certificate in Industry Education
- Advanced Diploma of Business Management
- Diploma in Training and Assessment Systems

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Merrilyn has worked at Box Hill Institute since 2002. Merrilyn is a recognized leader of TVET and training development with broad experience across the sector including systems development, instructional design, teacher education and enterprise engagement. Merrilyn is a superior facilitator specialising in training focused on trainer development, educational systems, innovation and technology. She is an extremely experienced educational manager with a passion for quality and a meticulous eye for detail in implementation strategies and reporting requirements.

Merrilyn has worked closely with industry to develop practical solutions including assisting enterprises to transition to competency based training systems, as a trainer she also supports and encourages students to achieve competence through delivering work relevant projects.

Merrilyn also has in depth TVET policy and planning experience with involvement in senior policy and planning.

LEANNE SUMPTER

EXECUTIVE MANAGER WORKPLACE RELATIONS

QUALIFICATIONS

- Masters of Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Leanne has worked at BHI since May 2014. Prior to Box Hill Leanne worked at the Victorian TAFE Association as the Workforce Services Consultant providing workplace relations advices and assistance to the Victorian TAFE sector.

Leanne's area of expertise is in workplace relations where she holds a Masters of Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations.

DR SANDRA WALLS

DEAN, TEACHING AND LEARNING COLLEGE



QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctor of Education
Thesis: A curriculum inquiry into initial teacher education in the Victorian Technical and Further Education system
- Master of Education

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Dr Sandra Walls is the Dean of Teaching and Learning College at the Box Hill Institute Group.

Box Hill Institute is a Technical and Further Education Institute with approximately 40,000 student enrolments and over 800 staff. Sandra provides leadership across Box Hill Institute and the Centre of Adult Education (CAE) in the development and implementation of teaching strategies and programs designed to enhance teaching excellence, academic quality, discovery and innovation.

MARTIN POWELL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, VET
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Martin has held prominent positions in the VET sector, including executive roles with the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) and TVET Australia, as Director of the National VET Equity Advisory Council (NVEAC).

His experience extends to broader policy, project and program roles in public sector social policy in the areas of VET, health, corrections, youth services, mental health services, treasury and finance and industry.

CRAIG ROBERTSON

DEPUTY SECRETARY

HIGHER EDUCATION AND SKILLS GROUP

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND
TRAINING, VICTORIA



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Craig is Deputy Secretary, Higher Education and Skills Group, in the Victorian Department of Education and Training, appointed in early July 2015.

Prior to this appointment, Craig worked for over 25 years at the national level in education and training, including:

- schools data collection and IT development;
- corporate business improvement;
- schools funding policy;
- employment services; and
- vocational education and training.

At the national level Craig assisted in setting up new national training arrangements after the closure of Australian National Training Authority. He has also had responsibility for apprenticeships policy, VET regulation and quality, industry engagement as well as a range of funding schemes, including VET FEE-HELP.

Craig has also worked in the private sector project managing new ICT enabled business processes, and these skills have been applied to several public sector ICT projects.

His qualifications include a Bachelor of Education and a Masters in Public Administration from the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG).

DR XAVIER CSAR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TAFE AND
PARTICIPATION DIVISION

HIGHER EDUCATION AND SKILLS GROUP

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND
TRAINING, VICTORIA



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Xavier leads the TAFE and Participation Division which was created to deliver on the Government's ambitious TAFE and post-compulsory school education participation and training agenda.

Prior to his appointment at the Department of Education and Training DET, Xavier held senior regional development, investment, industry development and economic policy executive positions in the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments.

Before joining State Government, Xavier worked in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry in new company formation and technology development in both private sector and academic environments.

Xavier has a Doctorate in Biochemistry, a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Business Administration. He graduated from the Australia and New Zealand School of Government Executive Fellowship program in 2007.

LEO GREGORC

ePROJECTS MANAGER

VET DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Leo Gregorc is an academic with 14 years of educational experience. He has a passion for using digital technologies to enhance learning experiences and for the past 8 years has focused his attention on redesigning online delivery practices.

In 2011 he completed his Master of Education at the University of Melbourne, researching the ways that building online communities can inform policy and improve professional practice.

Leo works at the VET Development Manager as eProjects Manager. Currently he is implementing the newly developed Innovation in Learning Program –an adaptive professional development model focused on improving the understanding of how digital technologies can be an inclusive part of successful pedagogic practice within Victorian VET frameworks.