



Chief Executive Women

Women leaders enabling women leaders

Chief Executive Women invests \$350,000 in leadership scholarships

- **New award to study ethical leadership**
- **QEnergy's Kate Farrar wins \$60,000 scholarship to INSEAD in France**

Chief Executive Women today announced eight executive education scholarships for women leaders to attend the best executive education on offer in Australia, the US, France and Singapore.

The awards are the first part of CEW's 2015 program of 17 scholarships worth a total of \$350,000. The awards go to women who emerge from CEW's stringent selection process as leaders who will shape Australia's future. CEW's scholarship program aims to equip women to reach their potential and make decisions that have social impact which goes beyond an organisation's bottom line.

The 2015 awards include a new scholarship for ethical leadership, the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship at the Centre for Ethical Leadership, Ormond College, Melbourne University. The course is designed for leaders who are ready to leverage their leadership skills to influence and improve the ethical culture of their workplaces.

Diane Smith-Gander, CEW President, said: "Creating the female leaders of the future is a numbers game, and that's why CEW's scholarship program has supported more than 100 women at all levels of their careers. Leaders need to find a different way to lead."

Smith-Gander said CEW was ahead of the curve in offering a scholarship on ethical leadership. "The leadership roles of the future will centre on collaboration and redefined notions of holistic performance outcomes. Ethical leadership explores these already, so CEW scholars will be a step ahead in this arena," she said.

Jen Rufati, General Manager of Customer Service and Operations at TAL, is the winner of CEW's inaugural Vincent Fairfax Fellowship for ethical leadership. Rufati oversees a team of 200 people at the life insurer in Melbourne and Sydney, with some 600,000 calls a year handled in her call centres.

Rufati said: "I applied for this scholarship because ethical leadership is about making the right decisions every time – decisions that affect people's lives. I want to be strong about the debates we have to have in the life insurance industry – so I put on the table all the challenges we face around looking after the customer at the same time as looking after the business."

Among the eight scholarships announced today is the \$60,000 award for a senior leader to attend INSEAD's Advanced Management Program in France. **Kate Farrar**, Managing Director of QEnergy, has been awarded this scholarship for 2015. QEnergy is a Brisbane-based energy retailer specialising in servicing small businesses. Farrar has been a finalist in the



Chief Executive Women

Women leaders enabling women leaders

Telstra Business Women's Awards, and in the Entrepreneur of the Year awards. She is a director of Mater Health Services and a member of CEW.

Farrar said: "The world is changing so quickly at the moment, given the pace of technological innovation and globalisation, that if you take time out for whatever reason, you do really need a super-heated re-set on what business looks like today. Executive education is the most effective, most personalised and fastest way to do that. CEW is to be applauded for deliberately helping women into positions of leadership. It's the only way we can get to the 'tipping point' where it becomes a cultural norm for half the leadership team to be female."

Liz Dibbs, head of CEW's Scholarships program, said: "I am convinced that executive education is one of the most powerful tools to help women move ahead in their careers. Over the years I have seen scores of CEW scholars return from the world's leading business schools with confidence, an expanded outlook, new networks and the frameworks to take their leadership to another level."

In addition to the **Vincent Fairfax Fellowship** and the **INSEAD AMP scholarship**, the other six awards announced today are:

Harvard Business School, Women's Leadership Forum (Boston) Two scholarships awarded in partnership with the Women's Leadership Institute Australia <http://www.wlia.com.au>

- **Kate Gunn**, Chief Operating Officer, ARC Centre of Excellence for All-Sky Astrophysics (CAASTRO), University of Sydney
- **Julie Shuttleworth**, General Manager (Cloudbreak Mine), Fortescue Metals Group

INSEAD Negotiation Dynamics (Singapore)

- **Cheryl Chantry**, General Manager, Personal Insurance Customer Delivery, IAG
- **Clytie Dangar**, Global Account Manager, Orica Mining Services

AGSM Women In Leadership Program (Offered to women working part-time)

- **Jodi Keall**, Senior Manager, Strategic Policy, Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)
- **Kellie Wade**, Diversity Manager, People and Development Centre Manager, King & Wood Mallesons

Media contact

Amanda Wilson on 0418 391 201 | amanda@amandawilson.com.au

Find details of CEW's full scholarships program for 2015 here:

<http://www.cew.org.au/education/scholarships/scholarships-program-2015>

About Chief Executive Women

Chief Executive Women is the pre-eminent organisation representing more than 300 of Australia's most senior women from the corporate, public service, academic and not-for-profit sectors. Its mission is "women leaders enabling women leaders". www.cew.org.au