



Chief Executive Women

Women leaders enabling women leaders

MEDIA RELEASE

19 April 2017

2017 CEW Scholars: Leanne McDonald (Allianz Australia) and Jodie Haydon (Viva Energy Australia) head to MIT

Chief Executive Women (CEW) announces the winners of two CEW Scholarships to attend *Leading Change in Complex Organisations* at MIT Sloan in Cambridge, Massachusetts in May this year.

The scholarships are offered in partnership with Audrey Page & Associates and awarded to senior executive women working in functional HR roles.

Announcing the winner, Belinda Gibson, Chairman CEW Scholarships Committee, said "Effective leadership and implementation of organisational change is vital and increasingly complex in today's dynamic economy. CEW is delighted to provide these talented women with executive development in this crucial area.

"CEW scholarships enable accomplished women leaders to sharpen their leadership skills, enrich their experiences and advance their careers."

Jannine Fraser, Managing Director of The Career Insight Group (parent company of Audrey Page & Associates), said "We are proud to partner with CEW to provide these two exceptional HR executives with the opportunity to hone their leadership credentials. These scholarships are a wonderful way to honour the legacy of the late Audrey Page, and the incredible impact she made to so many women's careers. Audrey Page & Associates is proud to continue to foster the development of female executives."

The winners

Jodie Haydon

Jodie Haydon is General Manager Human Resources of Viva Energy Australia. As a member of the executive team, Jodie reports to the Viva Energy Australia CEO and is accountable for developing and implementing the people strategy. Viva Energy Australia was established in 2014 and is the exclusive licensee of the Shell brand in Australia, manufacturing and distributing fuel products, lubricants, chemicals and bitumen. Jodie has played a lead role in

the transition and transformation of Viva Energy into a stand-alone local Australian company.

Jodie expects the scholarship will deepen her ability to design and deliver improved outcomes for her organisation and its people. “Our company has undergone significant change and consolidation over the last two years as we have established a strong foundation for future growth. To continue to grow we will need to embrace innovation, new ways of thinking and delivering to our customers”

“I am particularly interested in the innovation focus of the program and the opportunity to learn with other human resources professionals from other sectors and countries will be invaluable,” said Jodie.

Leanne McDonald

Leanne McDonald is Group Manager, Organisational Capability at Allianz Australia. A member of the HR Executive team, Leanne is responsible for developing and driving Allianz’s ‘Future Workforce’ strategy which aims to build the workforce capability and diversity needed for Allianz to achieve its group-wide transformative change agenda.

Leanne has a Masters degree in Organisational Behaviour and expects the scholarship to MIT will build on her understanding of complex change, highlighting the latest developments in strategic change and organisational development, with particular emphasis on emerging areas of neuroscience.

“MIT’s condensed intensive format allows me to access world leading professional development that will accelerate my readiness for the next step in my career, and provide relevant insights that I can apply right now in my current role,” Leanne said.

“The HR executive of the future is an agile and resilient change leader who can effectively grasp complex organisational issues and understand how to navigate change in a dynamic and increasingly uncertain environment.”

The scholarship

The scholarship will enable Jodie and Leanne to study *Leading Change in Complex Organisations* at MIT Sloane in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 2017. The course is designed to help senior executives harness the leadership skills, political resources, and cultural understandings needed to guide successful organisational change.

The scholarship is part of the 2017 CEW Scholars program, which is providing 18 talented Australian women the opportunity to take their careers to the next level by supporting executive education at internationally acclaimed business schools.

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About CEW Scholars (www.cew.org.au/scholarships)

The CEW Scholars program enables women leaders by supporting them at critical junctures in their careers, from their first management roles to top executive positions. More than 120 women have been awarded scholarships to business schools in Australia and internationally since CEW commenced its executive program for women leaders in 1992.

CEW Scholars program is funded through the CEW annual dinner and the generosity of sponsors including:

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About Chief Executive Women (www.cew.org.au)

Chief Executive Women is the pre-eminent organisation representing more than 420 of Australia's most senior women from the corporate, public, academic and not-for-profit sectors. Its mission is "women leaders enabling women leaders". Through advocacy, targeted programs and scholarships, CEW works to remove the barriers to women's progression and ensure equal opportunity for prosperity. CEW offers innovative and substantive programs aimed at enabling women's participation and future leadership.

About Audrey Page & Associates (www.audreypage.com.au)

Audrey Page & Associates is widely acknowledged for setting the benchmark for quality and service in career management, with a rich heritage spanning more than three decades and the ability to provide support locally, nationally and internationally. Audrey Page & Associates support many of Australia's iconic organisations, institutions and agencies across the broadest range of industries. Their clients work at the forefront of innovative HR strategies and this means in partnership with them, Audrey Page & Associates develop and provide solutions that are leading edge and customised to meet the unique requirements of each client.

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