



Chief Executive Women

Women leaders enabling women leaders

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**28 August 2019**

## **2019 CEW Scholars: Maryanne Kelly, Jo-Anne Dudley and Alexa Morcombe headed to Wharton**

Chief Executive Women (CEW) announce the winners of three scholarships to attend the internationally acclaimed *Executive Development Program* at the Wharton School later this year.

The winners are:

- Maryanne Kelly, Deputy Under Treasurer at Queensland Treasury
- Jo-Anne Dudley, Chief Operating Officer at Turquoise Hill Resources
- Alexa Morcombe, General Manager, Ecuador and Colombia at Fortescue Metals Group.

CEW Scholarships Committee Chair, Colleen Harris, says: “We are delighted to support talented women, such as Maryanne, Jo-Anne and Alexa, take the next step in their already highly successful careers.

“CEW’s scholarship program supports women leaders by helping them reach the highest levels of leadership.

“Despite women graduating from university in record numbers and in greater numbers than men, women are significantly under-represented in senior roles in Australia.

“For example, less than 10% of CEOs of ASX200 companies are women.

“More diversity through female voices at every level of leadership will deliver better decisions and more equitable outcomes for Australia,” says Colleen.

### **The winners**

**Maryanne Kelly** is Deputy Under Treasurer at Queensland Treasury. She and her team are responsible for assessing the fiscal, economic and policy impacts of government programs. Her portfolios include health, education, justice and community services, over 70% of the Queensland Government’s \$60 billion budget.

Maryanne has held leadership roles for over 20 years in the Australian, United Kingdom and Queensland Governments, providing expert policy advice to governments, successfully negotiating national agreements and delivering high-profile programs for the community.

Maryanne says: “The program at Wharton will help me bolster my current skill set, expand my business acumen and deepen my understanding of organisational dynamics.

“I’m attracted to the way the program brings the minds, skills and experiences of people from all around the world to build knowledge, push our boundaries and expand our networks.”

**Jo-Anne Dudley** is Chief Operating Officer at Turquoise Hill Resources (TRQ: TSX, NYSE, NASDAQ), an international mining company focussed on the development of the world-scale Oyu Tolgoi copper-gold mine in Mongolia. Before her recent appointment to COO, Jo-Anne led Oyu Tolgoi’s 30-person Strategic Mine and Resources Planning unit.

A chartered professional engineer, Jo-Anne has 25 years of experience in the mining industry. In 2018 she was selected as the ‘2018 Exceptional Woman in Queensland Resources’ and was also named as one of the ‘WIM 2018 Global 100 Inspirational Women in Mining’.

Jo-Anne says: “Wharton has an excellent reputation. I’m looking forward to getting exposure to the best and latest global thinking in business strategy, marketing, leadership and more.

“I’m passionate about continuing to develop as a leader, and I see the Wharton program as being an important part of my leadership journey.”

**Alexa Morcombe** is General Manager, Ecuador and Colombia at Fortescue Metals Group and is responsible for the establishment and development of the company’s operations in those countries.

Alexa is an experienced manager with a focus on building strong relationships with communities and at all levels of Government. She has previously secured approvals for multibillion-dollar mining projects while delivering industry-leading training, employment, and business development programs to local indigenous communities.

Alexa says: “Our new businesses are growing quickly, so it’s a great time to reflect on my leadership style and acquire new skills.

“I’m particularly looking forward to deepening my knowledge of finance, organisational development and strategy at Wharton.”

## **The scholarship**

The scholarships enable Maryanne, Jo-Anne and Alexa to attend the *Executive Development Program* at The Wharton School in September and November this year.

The *Executive Development Program* is designed to increase the business skills and leadership capabilities of managers who lead key parts of the business and form the pool of future top leadership of the organisation. It uses a multidimensional approach of lectures, small/large group discussion, case study, role playing, campus networking opportunities and a strategy simulation to provide new insights and give participants the opportunities to apply them.

The scholarships are part of the 2019 CEW Scholars program, which is providing 20 talented Australian women with the opportunity to take their careers to the next level by supporting executive education at internationally acclaimed business schools.

## **ENDS**

### **About Chief Executive Women ([www.cew.org.au](http://www.cew.org.au))**

Chief Executive Women is the pre-eminent organisation representing more than 550 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.*

**About CEW Scholars** ([www.cew.org.au/scholarships](http://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 170 women have been awarded scholarships to business schools in Australia and internationally since CEW commenced its executive program for women leaders in 1992. In 2019, 20 scholarships will be offered for talented women to attend leadership courses at international business schools.*

**CEW Scholars program is funded through the CEW Annual Dinner and the generosity of sponsors including:** PLATINUM SPONSOR: KING & WOOD MALLESONS. OFFICIAL AIRLINE SPONSOR: QANTAS. PREMISES PARTNER: CBRE. GOLD SPONSORS: ANZ, BHP, KPMG, NAB, QBE, TELSTRA. SILVER SPONSORS: ALLENS LINKLATERS, AMP, ASHURST, BCG, COMMONWEALTH BANK, CELLARMASTERS, EGON ZEHNDER, EY, GILBERT + TOBIN, GPT, HARVEY NORMAN, HEIDRICK & STRUGGLES, IAG, LENDLEASE, MACQUARIE, MICROSOFT, MIRVAC, SPENCER STUART, SYDNEY AIRPORT, SUNCORP, WESFARMERS, WESTPAC GROUP and NINE ENTERTAINMENT

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