



Chief Executive Women

Women leaders enabling women leaders

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Chief Executive Women announces 2020 scholarships winners: Rachael Kay and Liz Westcott head to MIT Sloan

Wednesday 8 July 2020: Chief Executive Women is pleased to announce **Rachael Kay**, Central Adelaide Local Health Network and **Liz Westcott**, EnergyAustralia have won a CEW scholarship to study the art and science of leading during times of change.

Rachael and Liz will attend the *Leading Change in Complex Organisations* program at MIT Sloan, one of the world's leading business schools.

CEW Scholarships Committee Acting Chair, **Deidre Willmott**, says: "If ever there was a time to support women leaders who are navigating their organisations through turbulence – it is now."

"Both winners are leaders in complex and changing environments. In Rachael's case, the challenge is acute as the COVID-19 pandemic has required health services to adapt to new ways of working and service delivery. For Liz, it is about helping a major energy retailer transition to cleaner energy.

"These scholarships will help Rachael and Liz take their change leadership skills to the next level and rise to the challenges ahead.

"We know that diverse leadership delivers better decisions and more equitable outcomes for Australia, which the country needs now more than ever," says Deidre.

The Winners

Rachael Kay is Executive Director Capital Projects and Planning at Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN), an incorporated health network serving a community of more than 466,000 people.

Rachael leads a team that manages major capital projects, currently valued at more than \$350 million, and service planning across the organisation of over 11,000 employees.

"On top of the current COVID-19 pandemic, CALHN is in the middle of one of the most significant reforms the country has seen in healthcare.

"The course at MIT will help me apply learnings from the best examples of change leadership from around the world.

"I want to lead hearts and minds while executing the right business decisions for our organisation in the short and long term," says Rachael.

Liz Westcott is the Executive - Energy at EnergyAustralia, one of the country's leading energy retailers with around 1.7 million electricity and gas customers.

Liz is responsible for the operation and development of the company's generation portfolio, comprising around 5,000 MW of owned and contracted wind, solar, coal and gas power.

"Our opportunity is to remake the energy system so it provides not only reliable, affordable and cleaner power, but choice and control for people as well. It is an enormous and exciting change project with thousands of moving parts. I'm looking forward to applying the insights and perspectives gained from the MIT program" says Liz.

The Scholarship

The scholarships to MIT are part of the 2020 CEW Scholarships Program, which provides talented Australian women with the opportunity to take their careers to the next level by supporting executive education at internationally acclaimed business schools.

Rachael and Liz will attend the *Leading Change in Complex Organisations* program at MIT Sloan in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The program helps executives harness the leadership skills, political resources, and cultural understandings needed to guide successful organisational change. Participants learn advanced leadership skills through classroom conversations, exercises, group work, case studies and a software-based business simulation.

Rachael and Liz will follow eight previous CEW Scholars attending MIT's *Leading Change in Complex Organisations*:

- 2019: **Jackie Khoo**, NBN Co and **Sussanah Osborne**, BHP
- 2018: **Christine Went**, Ramsay Healthcare
- 2017: **Leanne McDonald**, Clean Energy Finance Corporation and **Jodie Haydon**, Viva Energy
- 2016: **Professor Julie Bernhardt AM**, Florey Institute; **Kristie Keast**, BlueScope; **Deanna Lomas**, Super Retail Group

ENDS

For more information: contact Susan Metcalf: 0491 217 564 or media@cew.org.au

About Chief Executive Women

Chief Executive Women is the pre-eminent organisation representing more than 650 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. www.cew.org.au

About CEW Scholarships

The CEW Scholarships Program enables women leaders by supporting them at critical junctures in their careers, from their first management roles to top executive positions. More than 200 women have been awarded scholarships to business schools in Australia and internationally since CEW commenced its executive program for women leaders in 1992. www.cew.org.au/scholarships

CEW Scholarships 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, BROADSPECTRUM, COMMONWEALTH BANK, DELOITTE, ENDEAVOUR DRINKS, EGON ZEHNDER, EY, GILBERT + TOBIN, GPT GROUP, HARVEY NORMAN, HEIDRICK & STRUGGLES, IAG, JP MORGAN, LENDLEASE, MACQUARIE GROUP, MICROSOFT, MIRVAC, RUSSELL REYNOLDS ASSOCIATES, SPENCER STUART, SUNCORP, SYDNEY AIRPORT, WESFARMERS, WESTPAC GROUP.