

## ACFE Board Members

The ACFE Board has 12 members, including a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. Members of the Board are appointed by the Governor-in-Council on the recommendation of the Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation. The composition of the Board reflects the breadth and diversity of adult education in the community and its links into government, industry and community sector activity.

### Chairperson



**Ms Rowena Allen** is contracted through Hudson Sales and Marketing to Skills Victoria as a Market Facilitator within the Hume region. She was formerly the CEO of UnitingCare - Cutting Edge (UCCE), a Uniting Church welfare agency she established eleven years ago in the Goulburn Valley. Rowena has a passion for social justice and social inclusion, which is reflected in UCCE's work over three regional locations with disengaged young people, sole parents, the long term unemployed, families of young people with disabilities, indigenous groups and refugees. Rowena has held positions in the area of community development and direct youth services with rural and metropolitan local governments. Rowena is a former chair of the Victorian Greens Skills Task Force, the Youth Affair Council of Victoria and prior to her appointment to the ACFE Board, Rowena had been Acting Chairperson of the Victorian Skills Commission for fifteen months. In 2009 Rowena was inducted into the Victorian Honor Role for Women and is also the recipient of a Centenary Award for services to the community.

### Deputy Chairperson



**Mr Bill Forrest** is the Advocacy Director for the Wyndham City Council and on the board of ECO-Buy Ltd, a not for profit sustainable purchasing organisation. His previous roles include being the CEO of ICLEI Oceania – Local Governments for Sustainability and five years as the CEO of Nillumbik Shire Council. He has extensive experience in operations, and policy and strategy development in local government and community based labour market programs settings.



**Ms Judith Klepner** is a Councillor in the City of Port Phillip and a board member of Inner South Community Health Service. She has a broad knowledge of local government, industry and the community sector and an understanding of communities from a culturally and linguistically diverse background. She has extensive networks, governance qualifications and experience on community sector and local government boards and committees.



**Ms Maree McPherson** is the Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Local Governance Association. She has extensive knowledge of the ACE sector, as well as a background and qualifications in welfare, business and skills development. Ms McPherson has over twenty-five years experience in community development work, with several years in senior management roles in Gippsland. Her governance experience includes numerous community organisations, as well as a term on an ACFE Regional Council.



**Dr Errol Muir** is an Adjunct Professor at RMIT's School of Management and a non-executive director at Conservation Volunteers Australia. He has extensive private sector management and financial expertise, particularly in the resources industry, and governance experience in both community organisations and Commonwealth Government statutory authorities.



**Ms Moira Schulze** is a consultant on vocation education and training national and state projects. She has an extensive practitioner and management background in vocational education and training in Victoria, including senior management and leadership roles in TAFE and as Chief Executive Officer of Adult Multicultural Education Services. Her governance experience includes high level public entity boards and the not-for-profit sector.



**Ms Sally Thompson** is Chief Executive Officer of Adult Learning Australia, the national peak body for adult and community education. She also has extensive not-for-profit governance experience. Ms Thompson's practitioner understanding of the sector has been developed through a range of work roles in the VET sector, including work with Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory, TAFE and the ACE sector in Victoria.



**Mr Stephen Ward** is Director of Government Relations in the ESH Group, a provider of welfare to work services across Australia and in the UK. Stephen has had an extensive career in each level of government, as well as the private and not for profit sectors, in developing and delivering employment and training initiatives for people with significant barriers to work. Most recently, in his previous role as Director Employment in the Victorian Government, he was a member of the Victorian Aboriginal Economic Development Advisory Group which recommended a number of major initiatives to the Victorian Government to close the gap in indigenous employment, economic opportunity and outcomes.



**Mr Ron Wilson** is Executive Director of VISTA, the Victorian Association of VET Professionals. He has over 20 years experience in the VET sector in Victoria including senior management, Indigenous education and corrections education in TAFE. Mr Wilson has worked as a consultant with a number of ACE organisations and supported their development of sustainable business models and operational systems.

When vacancies arise on the ACFE Board the Minister for Higher Education and Skills will call for expressions of interest.