

October @WiT

November 2016



A word from the President

Dear {Contact_First_Name}

Increasing optimism for women in technology industries

This month has been filled with optimism of how the conversation is progressing in more women starting a career in IT and also our future leaders.

It was wonderful to see so many participants in our board readiness course this year. We would encourage you all to look at their profiles and talk to your network, colleagues and organisations about opportunities that might be available for them to progress to their board careers.

I also had the pleasure of being part of a panel for the recent ACS Access#IT conference in Brisbane. This was a panel that was discussing what needed to be done to get more young women to start a career in IT. The conversation covered how to engage young girls in school to encourage them to study and stay at university. There was some interesting research that was covered including the need to educate parents and teachers in what a career in IT means today.

We are all part of the solution for the future and we would be interested to hear your thoughts on how you could be involved to part of the action plan.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Fiona Hayes
WiT President



Check this out!

WiT was incredibly proud to Sponsor the search for the next Tech Girl Superhero with a team from Clayfield College being announced finalists for their inspiring pitch of "STUDY BUDDY"...well done girls! Check out their pitch below:



Introducing our 2016 Board Readiness™ Graduates!

19 ambitious, accomplished achievers have graduated from the prestigious 2016 WiT Board Readiness™ program – ready to secure board positions.

WiT president Fiona Hayes said it's important that we equip women with the skills required to achieve board positions and even up the gender imbalance that still plagues many boards.

"We're so proud of our program and the talented women graduating – I have no doubt these women will make savvy and successful board directors" she said.

The WiT Board Readiness™ Program is offered in a small group format. The application process is competitive and based on an assessment of the applicant's skills and experience along with their suitability to take on Board roles in the near future.

"It's important that we equip women with the skills required to achieve board positions and even up the gender imbalance that still plagues many boards."

Participants are provided with the opportunity to showcase their skills to some of Queensland's highest profile organisations. It is designed for women who have the skills, experience and desire to become a successful non-executive director and aims to be a supplement to the company's directors courses offered by the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Support this great initiative by two WiT legends!

WiT legends Mia Woodruff - QUT Science and Engineering WiT Award Finalist and Dimity Dornan - Hear and Say and our 2016 WiT ICT Ambassador, together with their amazingly talented teams have teamed up to create 'FutureHear' to raise funds for a research study investigating 3D printing of prosthetic ears and future investigation of 3D printed biofabricated ears from the child's own skin and cartilage cells for kids with Microtia.



pictured (L-R) Chris McCarthy, Dimity Dornan, Maureen Ross, Mia Woodruff & Sean Powell

Imagine you are born without an ear, or with an underdeveloped ear (Microtia). Imagine the psycho social implications, bullying and hearing issues. Imagine being a parent wanting your child to live a normal life, the uncertainty and search for solutions.

FutureHear will provide life-like, removable ears to children born without them. Hear and Say working with QUT will develop cutting-edge 3D scanning, modelling and printing platforms to create child-specific ear prosthetics from the day they are born!

This exciting project will benefit future children and families, but they need your help! Support by donating so they reach their \$200,000 target and share with your colleagues, family and friends.



[Click here to donate](#)
[For More Information](#)



A full list of graduates and their professional profiles can be found [here](#)

WiT Stories

Welcome to WiT Stories...each month we bring you a personal story of how one of our events or programs has made a tangible difference to the lives of our WiT Members.

Sarah Kirkland - Award Yourself!

The second of our WiT Stories comes from Sarah Kirkland, creator of Red Cat Science and Winner of our Outstanding Educator Award 2016.

On receiving advice of her nomination for a WiT Award Sarah had a similar response to a lot of our nominees....."really.....me? On applying she found the application process beneficial in taking a step back and looking at herself and what she had achieved and not taking herself for granted. The result.....Sarah became winner of our first Outstanding Educator Award!....

If you have a similar story to tell we would love to hear it! Email secretariat@wit.org.au



see all our WiT Stories on

FUNDING GRANTS FOR WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In 2016 Women & Leadership Australia is administering a national initiative to support the development of female leaders across the all industry sectors. The

initiative will provide women in the finance sector with grants for leadership development.

Senior management and executive level women leaders \$8,000 part-scholarships to [Advanced Leadership Program](#)

Mid-level female managers and leaders \$4,000 part-scholarships to [Executive Ready Program](#)

Aspiring talent and emerging women managers \$3,000 part-scholarships to [Accelerated Leadership Performance Program](#).

Expressions of Interest - deadline 15/12/16
Download Expression of Interest form [here](#).

For more information contact Ian Johnson at the office of the National Industry Scholarship Program, Women and Leadership Australia on 03 9270 9016 or ijohnson@wla.edu.au.

INTERESTED IN WORKING ON YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION?

Style Liberation are holding group colour and style sessions on Sunday 13 November at The Office Group in the Valley. For details please refer to the links below;

Group colour session (10am-1pm)
details: <http://styleliberation.com.au/events/brisbane-group-colour-session/>

Group style session (2-5pm)
details: <http://styleliberation.com.au/events/brisbane-group-style-session/>



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