

International Education Forum 2023

Monday 30 October 2023, 8.30am for 9.00am – 12.00pm

Lower Town Hall, Sydney Town Hall. Entry via DrUITT Street entrance

Speakers

Official Opening and Welcome Address | 9.00am – 9.17am



Leigh Howard
CEO
Asialink Business

Leigh Howard has over two decades of experience representing Australian businesses in Asia, across corporate, government, start-up, and for-purpose sectors. As the CEO of Asialink Business, Leigh is focused on delivering services that empower Australian organisations and their people to seize the opportunities available in Asian markets.

Leigh was previously Deputy Commissioner to Southeast Asia for the State Government of Victoria; board member and Executive Director for TradingPost.com.au, one of Australia's biggest online classified portals, as well as the Director, South Asia for Talent2 International Ltd. Leigh is a Foundation Board Director of AustCham ASEAN, the peak body for all officially registered Australian chambers and business councils in Southeast Asia. He is also a long-standing board member and former Chairperson of the Malaysia Australia Business Council (MABC).



Councillor Robert Kok
Deputy Lord Mayor,
City of Sydney

Deputy Lord Mayor Robert Kok is a practicing lawyer and currently holds several positions within the Council. He serves as the Deputy Chair of the Corporate, Finance, Property & Tenders Committee and is also the deputy chair of the Multicultural Advisory Panel. He has been a member of the Council since 2008 and previously served as Deputy Lord Mayor from 2011-2012.

With his Malaysian background and Chinese heritage, Robert possesses a deep understanding of Asian culture and is a passionate advocate for cross-cultural awareness. He is dedicated to strengthening the relationship between the City and its Asian communities, both locally and internationally. Robert has a keen interest in international relations, fostering connections with Sydney's Consular Corps, and enhancing cultural relations in our diverse and multicultural City. He is also interested in promoting cultural exchange, business innovation, education, and urban planning. His support for the Haymarket precinct has contributed to its revitalization as a renowned attraction and business hub.



The Hon Anoulack Chanthivong MP
Minister for Better Regulations and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and Technology, Building and Corrections, NSW Government

After moving to Australia from Laos with his parents and brothers when he was just six, Anoulack attended Robert Townson Primary and Robert Townson High School in Raby. After graduation, Anoulack completed a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Sydney and later undertook postgraduate studies in economics and public administration at the University of Sydney and the London School of Economics.

Before entering Parliament, Anoulack worked as an economist for 13 years and served as a councillor and later as mayor on Campbelltown City Council.

After his election as Member for Macquarie Fields in 2015, he served as Shadow Minister for Finance and Shadow Minister for Industry and Trade between 2021 and 2022.

Following the election of the Minns Labor Government in March 2023, Anoulack was appointed Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building and Minister for Corrections.

Keynote Address - Building a Thriving and Skilled Australia: Planning the Next Decade in International Education | 9.17am – 9.45am



Professor Eric Knight
Executive Dean & Professor of
Strategic Management
Macquarie Business School

Eric Knight is Professor of Strategic Management and Executive Dean of Macquarie Business School, one of the four faculties of Macquarie University. Reporting to the Vice Chancellor, he serves on the University's Executive Group. He was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at Stanford University and completed his doctorate at the University of Oxford as an Australian Rhodes Scholar. He was previously Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research - Enterprise & Engagement) at the University of Sydney. He serves on the boards of Sydney Grammar School, the Universities Admissions Centre, and on the Business Council of Australia's Skills, Education and Labour Market Committee. He is a passionate advocate for the impact and technology agendas shaping universities, and the synergy between world-class research, real-world teaching, and long-term industry, government, and community partnerships.

Panel Discussion: The Untapped Talent Pool: Enabling Employment and Entrepreneurial Pathways Throughout International Education | 9.45am – 10.30am



Moderated by Paul Nicolaou
Executive Director
Business Sydney

Prior to Business Sydney, Paul was Director for the Business Leaders Council, Membership and Events for the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) for seven years. Paul is an Adjunct Professor at UBSS Australia and was awarded the Centenary Medal of Australia in 2001.

Paul sits on the Board of The Gut Foundation, The Estia Foundation, Australian Marketing Institute and as a Non-Executive Board Member of Group Colleges Australia. In addition, Paul is an ambassador of Start Up Australia and is a Member of the Association of Independent Schools of NSW Institute. Further Paul is a Non-Executive Director of Dymocks Children's Charities.

Paul's former roles have been Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Hotels Association of NSW (AHA); Executive Chairman of the Millennium Forum; NSW President of the Marketing Institute of Australia, member of the Council for ten years and is currently an Associate Fellow and Certified Practicing Marketer of the Marketing Institute of Australia.



Brad Chan
CEO, Banna Property Group |
Founder, HaymarketHQ

Brad is founder of HaymarketHQ, an innovation hub which opened in 2016 with a particular focus on helping startups grow into Asian markets. In 2022, he led a group of community organisations to successfully launch Neon Playground, a community festival to reactivate Sydney's Chinatown. Brad is also the CEO of Banna Property Group, a 3rd generation family business with a vision to transform its shopping centres into community hubs.

Brad was formerly board member of the Museum of Chinese in Australia; President of the Haymarket Chamber of Commerce for five years; sat for several years on the City of Sydney Chinese New Year Advisory Committee; and the first President of the Australian Asian Association of Bennelong. He was recently a Board Director of Northcross Limited, whilst also President of the school P&F. Brad is currently on the City of Sydney Business Advisory Panel; was a former board member of the DAWN Network a purpose-led business with a vision to build culturally diverse leaders in the future. In 2016, he established the Banna Foundation, the family group's philanthropy arm which currently supports a range of charities including the UTS Humanitarian Scholarship for the past 4 years.



Professor Suresh Cuganesan
Deputy Dean (Students & External Partnerships) & Professor of Strategy, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, University of Sydney Business School

Suresh is passionate about education that is fit-for-purpose and impactful given our changing society and work environments. He provides strategic oversight across the University of Sydney Business School's portfolio of education programs and work-integrated learning offerings, working closely with industry and government; liaises with the University on strategic recruitment approaches for the Business School; and, works to enhance the student experience and graduate employability. He has delivered executive education and post-graduate learning programs across countries in Europe as well in in Asia, with a particular focus on Singapore, Hong Kong and India. Education innovations that Suresh has led have been recognised internationally for their industry engagement and student impact, including the Global Education Award from QS ReImagined Education. A key initiative that Suresh is currently focused on involves harnessing the incredible multicultural diversity in Australia's higher education student communities to create stronger person-to-person ties to support and enhance closer connections across the Indo-Pacific region.



Selvy Gusni
Accountant
IVE Group

Selvy Gusni is an Indonesian international student graduate. She commenced her educational journey in 2015, pursuing a degree in accounting. Within six months, she transitioned into a career as an Accounts Officer and upon graduating she was promoted to an Accountant. Currently she has over seven years of accounting expertise within multinational corporations and recently attained a postgraduate degree in Business Analytics from Kaplan Business School, where she received the Dean's Award for her academic achievements and contributions to the community.

Beyond her academic and professional accomplishments, Selvy is a dedicated volunteer, actively advocating for international student causes, including mentoring peers and serving as a student ambassador. Her contributions also extend to project management and event organisation, highlighted by her past role as a project coordinator for City of Sydney, where she organised the Lord Mayor's Welcome for International Students in 2023.

Workshop: Integrating International Students in NSW Communities | 10.50 – 11.50am



Anouschka Inglis
Economic Strategy Advisor
City of Sydney

Anouschka has led the City’s international education portfolio for the past decade, including developing the City’s International Education Action Plan. She is a trusted source for strategic advice, guidance and insights on the economy and changes in the city showing leadership and advocacy to support long-term and sustainable growth. Anouschka was a member of the International Education Association of Australia (IEAA) Research Committee, which drives new research to influence government policy, informs institutional decision-making and provides evidence-based research to highlight emerging trends and enrich the sector’s knowledge base, and she was also an inaugural member of the IEAA Data Group.



Toshi Kawaguchi
Director, International
Education and Study NSW
NSW Department of Enterprise,
Investment and Trade

Toshi Kawaguchi is Director, International Education and Study NSW, at the NSW Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade. He is responsible for managing the Study NSW team and coordinating international education policy advice for the NSW Government. He joined Study NSW in October 2014, after a decade working at the Commonwealth-level in the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC).
At DFAT, Toshi served as the Secretary-General for the Australian National Commission for UNESCO, managing Australia’s engagement with the UN on education, science and cultural issues. He was also posted overseas in Solomon Islands with the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI), as well to the Australian Embassy in Rome with accreditation to Italy, Libya and San Marino.
At PMC, Toshi was a senior adviser with the COAG Reform Council, with responsibility for national reports to improve government service delivery under the COAG Reform Agenda.



Eve Ollerenshaw
Pro Vice Chancellor &
Executive General Manager
Group Quality, Accreditation
and Compliance
NextEd Group

Eve has over 40 years of education industry leadership and management experience with commercial, government and consulting roles. She has worked in executive leadership roles at a number of exclusive Sydney independent schools, Stratco QLD, Australian Technical College, Carrick Education, Think Colleges, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the Australian government funded Workforce Futures program, Scentia and now at NextEd. She is recognised as a global leader in the area of ‘indigenous workforce development’. Eve has held a number of board appointments including Athletics NSW, LugeAustralia, the Queensland Studies Authority, and Independent Higher Education Australia (IHEA), along with several not-for-profits.
Currently, Eve is the convenor of IHEAs International Provider Network and its Student Safety and Wellbeing CoP. Eve also contributes to a range of sector and government committees, working groups, advisory activities, and consortia, and in her spare time provides support on a voluntary basis for various international student organisations in NSW.