



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Communications  
and Media Authority**

Australia's regulator for broadcasting, the internet, radiocommunications and telecommunications

[www.acma.gov.au](http://www.acma.gov.au)



# Speaker Biographies

Australian National Maritime Museum

[www.acma.gov.au/radcomms09](http://www.acma.gov.au/radcomms09)

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April**



## Chris Althaus

Chief Executive Officer, Australian Mobile  
Telecommunications Association

Chris Althaus is the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA). Chris was appointed to this role in December 2005.

AMTA is the peak national body representing Australia's mobile telecommunications industry and operates programs covering telecommunications policy, infrastructure, health/safety, recycling and law enforcement / national security. AMTA represents mobile Carriage Service Providers, handset manufacturers, network equipment suppliers, retail chains and other suppliers to the industry.

Before joining AMTA Chris was the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Trucking Association for 5 years. The ATA is the peak industry organization representing all aspects of Australia's \$30b road transport sector responsible for moving over 80% of Australia's land based freight.

Prior to joining the ATA Chris spent 15 years in the forests sector in roles such as; Executive Director of Timber Communities Australia and Director of Market Development for the National Association of Forest Industries.

Chris has a Bachelor of Science from the Australian National University; a Graduate Diploma in Economics from the University of Canberra; and a Business Administration Diploma from Georgetown University, Washington, DC.



## David Ball

Vice President,  
Asia Pacific, Intelsat

David Ball became Intelsat's Vice President, Asia Pacific in July 2006 when the company acquired PanAmSat. He held the same position with PanAmSat since January 2003. Mr. Ball is responsible for the management of Intelsat's sales and marketing activities throughout the Asia Pacific region. This includes overseeing Intelsat sales offices in Beijing, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Singapore, Sydney and Tokyo.

Prior to his current position, he held a variety of management positions with PanAmSat from 1995-2003, including those focused on sales, engineering and space-systems development.

Prior to joining PanAmSat in 1995, Mr. Ball served as a commissioned officer in the Royal Australian Air Force, specializing in communications system management.

He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communications Engineering from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia and a Graduate Diploma in Business Management from Australia's Deakin University.

Mr. Ball is a member of the Council of Governors of the Cable and Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CASBAA) and a Board Member of the Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council (APSCC). In 2007, he became the Chairman of the CASBAA Satellite Industry Committee.

Intelsat is the leading provider of fixed satellite services (FSS) worldwide and is the leading provider of these services to each of the media, network services and government customer sectors, enabling people and businesses everywhere constant access to information and entertainment. Intelsat offers customers a greater business potential by providing them access to unrivalled resources with ease of business and peace of mind. An extensive customer base, including some of the world's leading media and communications companies, multinational corporations, Internet service providers and government/military organizations, utilizes our services. Real-time, constant communication with people anywhere in the world is closer, by far.



## Keith Besgrove

First Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications,  
Network Regulation and Australia Post  
Division, Department of Broadband,  
Communications and the Digital Economy

Keith Besgrove is the First Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications, Network Regulation and Australia Post Division in the Department of Communications, Information Technology, and the Arts in Canberra, Australia.

Keith provides advice to the Australian Government on strategic, legal and regulatory issues relating to communications and the information economy. His responsibilities include spectrum policy and planning, domain names, spam, consumer issues and broadband. He has been involved in various international groups including the OECD, APEC and ITU, and is the current chair of the OECD Working Party on Information Security and Privacy (WPISP). In recent years, he has also been responsible for research into the impact of ICT in improving productivity in Australia.

Keith is fifty six years old, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Sydney and has two adult children. He is also a graduate of the Wharton School's Advanced Management program, and has completed an Australian Government Research Fellowship into innovation programs in Israel and Singapore.



## David Brumfield

Manager,

Digital Task Force, ACMA

David has 20 years experience in communications policy and implementation working on policies such as commercial television equalisation, the expansion of the community broadcasting sector in Australia and in a Parliamentary liaison capacity for a former Minister for Communications.

He was a key contributor to the development of a regulatory framework designed to limit electromagnetic interference (EMI) to radiocommunications which has culminated in Australia's EMC framework.

As the leader of the Australian Communication Authority's Spectrum Marketing Team, David ran three of Australia's most successful spectrum auctions, including sale of the spectrum now used for 3G mobile telephony.

David is currently acting as the Manager of the Digital Television Task Force within ACMA, which is responsible for assisting with the Government's digital television switchover and dividend plans.

David Holds a Master of Arts Degree from Sydney University, a diploma in Public Law from the Australian National University, and an MBA from the University of Canberra.



## Chris Chapman

Chairman, ACMA

Chris Chapman was appointed as the inaugural Chairman and CEO of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) on 27 February 2006.

Chris is a seasoned executive with experience in the media, broadcasting, internet, telecommunications, film, entertainment, infrastructure and finance development and sporting rights.

Before joining ACMA Chris was Chief Operating Officer, Specialist Funds Management Activities for Babcock and Brown Limited and before that Managing Director and Chief Executive, Babcock and Brown (formerly Prime Infrastructure Management Limited).

Chris has held a number of senior management positions including Chief Executive Officer, Optus Ltd joint venture – Excite@Home Australia Pty Limited; Chief Executive Officer, Stadium Australia Management Limited; Managing Director Channel 7 Sydney; Chief Operating Officer and Acting CEO Seven Network; Chairman, SportsVision Australia and Chairman, Film Australia Limited.

Chris commenced his career as Associate to the Chief Justice of Australia and then as a Senior Associate with Malleson Stephen Jacques which included a posting to New York.

Chris has a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of New South Wales.



## Chris Cheah

Acting Deputy Chairman, ACMA

Mr Chris Cheah is currently acting Deputy Chairman of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). ACMA commenced on 1 July 2005 and was formed by the merger of the previous Australian Broadcasting Authority and Australian Communications Authority.

Mr Cheah has had a wide range of roles in communications policy and strategy. These have included policy, research, regulatory and strategy roles with the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (DCITA), the National Office for the Information Economy (NOIE), AUSTEL and Telstra. Mr Cheah played a leading role in the development of telecommunications, broadcasting and online content legislation, including the Telecommunications Act 1991, the 1997 telecommunications reforms, and the online content provisions of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992. He also led a major research team in the early 1990s when he was research manager for the Communications Futures Project in the Bureau of Transport and Communications Economics. For six years he headed up the telecommunications and postal division in DCITA which advised successive communications ministers on telecommunications policy and legislative issues, as well as running a range of government funding programs.



## Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy

Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy was appointed to the position of Federal Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy in December 2007. He is also Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate.

Stephen has been actively involved in the communications sector for seven years, first as Senate Representative for shadow communications spokesman Lindsay Tanner and then as shadow communications minister until the November 2007 Federal election.

Stephen is passionate about the media and communications sector and engaging with industry to foster innovation and growth.

Stephen was appointed as a Senator for Victoria for the Australian Labor Party in 1996. Previously he was an industrial officer and superannuation officer for the Transport Workers Union Victorian Branch from 1992 to 1996; a ministerial adviser to the State Minister for Industry from 1990 to 1992 and an assistant adviser to the Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1988 to 1990.

From 1986 to 1987, Stephen was an electorate officer for the Federal Member for Canberra, consultant to the Minister for Science and Minister assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce and electorate officer for the Minister for Home Affairs. He worked for the Metal Trades Industry Association from 1984 to 1986.



## Dr Dave DeBoer

Project Leader,

Australian SKA Pathfinder Radio Telescope Project,  
CSIRO

David DeBoer is the Australian SKA Pathfinder radio telescope Project Director and is an Assistant Director at the CSIRO Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF). Prior to joining CSIRO, Dr De Boer was the Project Manager/Engineer for the Allen Telescope Array (ATA) in California, USA. Dr DeBoer has a bachelor's degree in Astrophysics from Harvard University and a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he also served as Assistant Professor prior to leaving for the ATA.

Dr DeBoer is well known in the radio astronomy community and is a member of various international SKA working groups and task forces, including being a member of the international SKA Science and Engineering Committee. His IEEE memberships (MTTS, APS, AESS, GRSS) and impressive list of publications demonstrates a wide range of engineering interests.



## Andrew Findlay

Managing Director, Vertical Telecoms Pty Ltd  
(Vertel)

Andrew Findlay joined Vertel in 1997 as the Business Development Manager for emerging markets / technologies. In 2000 he took on the role of Managing Director and set out to build Vertel as an organisation that holds as its values Partnering, Accountability, Innovation and Fun. With a well defined vision to be Australia's leading provider of the most innovatively delivered and cost effective wireless access sites, services and networks. Andrew and his team are working together to deliver solutions that make their customers more successful in their markets.



## Tony Gates

General Manager Operations,  
Government Chief Information Officer,  
Department of Commerce NSW

Tony Gates has over 30 years experience in Government and currently works for the Government Chief Information Office in the NSW Government. In that capacity, he has responsibility for the NSW Government Radio Network, one of the first government trunked radio networks in Australia. He was also involved in the formation of the National Coordinating Committee for Government Radio Communications and currently chairs that body. In 1994, he took a lead role in the management of the response to the NSW Bushfires and is well aware of the advantages and practical difficulties in organising and effecting large scale, multi agency and multi-jurisdictional operations. He received the Emergency Services Medal in the 2005 Queens Birthday Honours List for services to emergency management.



## David Goggin

Senior Engineer,

Spectrum Engineering Section, ACMA

David Goggin is currently part of the Wireless Access Service (WAS) Team in the Spectrum Engineering Section of ACMA. His current work involves the release of the 3.6 GHz band in regional and remote areas of Australia to WAS and he has involvement in numerous other issues dealing with WAS as they arise. David has made a significant contribution to previous WAS consultation processes which has involved gathering information from industry, summarising and determining outcomes as well as continuing investigations into evolving global trends.

David has a Bachelor of Engineering with honours, majoring in Telecommunications Systems, from the Australian National University in Canberra. He joined ACMA as part of the graduate program in 2006 and has been working at ACMA for the past three years.



## Prof. Alex Grant

Director, Institute for Telecommunications  
Research, University of South Australia

Alex Grant received the B.E. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of South Australia in 1993 and 1996 respectively. In 1997, he was a research fellow at the Laboratory for Signal and Information Processing, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich. Since March 1998 he has been with the Institute for Telecommunication Research, University of South Australia, where he is now Research Professor of Information Theory. Prof. Grant is Leader of the Coding and Information Theory Research Group at ITR and his research concentrates on the application of information theory to multiple user communications problems. He has made contributions in the areas of random matrix analysis and iterative decoding methods for multiple-access channels.

Prof. Grant is a member of the IEEE Information Theory and Communications Societies and served as Chairman for the Australian Chapter of the IEEE Information Theory Society (2000-2003). He served as Technical Program Chair for the 2001 IEEE Information Theory Workshop and is an organizing committee member for the Australian Communications Theory Workshop (founding member) and the 2004 IEEE International Symposium on Spread Spectrum Techniques and Applications. He is General Co-Chair for the 2005 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory, to be held in Adelaide.

Prof. Grant has published over one hundred technical papers and is supported by several Australian Research Council grants and industry-sponsored projects. Prof. Grant is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Melbourne and a Visiting Professor at the University of Alberta.



## Peter Hilly

Managing Director

Spectrum Engineering Australia Pty Ltd

Peter Hilly is an engineer and the Managing Director of Spectrum Engineering Australia Pty Limited.

Peter spent the early years of his professional engineering career working for Government, including a five year period with the then Department of Communications, Radio Frequency Management Division, eventually occupying the position of Head of the Spectrum Planning Group.

He resigned from the Department in 1986 to establish Spectrum Engineering Australia as the first independent provider of frequency management services in this country. In 1995 he became the first person to become "accredited" under the new Radiocommunications Act to issue frequency assignment certificates.

With a background of some 28 years of continuous "hands on" experience in spectrum management in Australia, and having been involved in this business on both sides of the fence Peter is well qualified to speak to us today.



## Andrew King

Network Manager, Spectrum and  
Transmission for Network Ten Pty Ltd

Andrew King is currently Network Manager, Spectrum and Transmission for Network Ten Pty Ltd. He has responsibility for network facilities that use spectrum, transmission to the viewers and represents Ten on various engineering standardisation bodies. He chairs several FreeTV Australia Project Groups including DTV Service Information and some Spectrum related groups. In the latter role he has led some Australian delegations to the ITU-R and remains active in ACMA's radiocommunications study groups. He is also Ten's representative on Standards Australia contributing to the development of the digital transmission, receiver and cabling standards.

Andrew started his working life as a trainee engineer at AWA Ltd in Sydney while attending the NSW Institute of Technology (now the University of Technology, Sydney), gaining a degree with honours in Electrical Engineering majoring in communications. At AWA he spent 12 years designing a variety of electronics varying from audio mixers for the broadcast industry to lines systems for Telecom. In 1984 he joined AUSSAT and devised the operating procedures for customers on the domestic satellite system, a role which led to him commissioning over 400 earth stations across Australia and New Zealand, including commissioning of remote area television services and network television contribution links. Later in 1989 with the deregulation of telecommunications in Australia he established the first public switched telephone system in competition to Telecom in a project in the Northern Territory providing services to remote communities for the first time via satellite. With the takeover by Optus in 1992 he moved to Canberra in a sales role to develop services for government clients.

Following other marketing and sales roles in Optus and an equipment supplier, Scientific Atlanta and developing innovative satellite tracking services, he joined Network Ten in 2000. His first task was to project manage the transition to digital transmission for the network and convert the links used within the network from analog on satellite to digital on fibre transmission. Following completion of these tasks he redesigned the network communications to centralise Ten's national playout from Sydney in preparation for efficient national broadcast of high definition television.

From his time at AWA, AUSSAT, Optus, Scientific-Atlanta and now Network Ten, Andrew has been involved in various roles in and around the broadcast industry.



## Malcolm Long

Part-time Member, ACMA

Malcolm Long has been a Part-time Member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority since 1 July 2005. Malcolm was until recently the Executive Director of the Australian Film Television and Radio School and previously a part-time member of the ABA. He was previously the Managing Director of the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS), and has held various roles with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, including Deputy Managing Director. He has also worked for several years as a communications consultant. Malcolm was also past chairman of the London-based International Institute of Communications.



## Geoff Luther

Part-time Member, ACMA

Appointed 1 July 2008 for five years

Geoff Luther has been a consultant in communications policy with CRA International and with his own consultancy business. Prior to this, he was a Member of the Authority at the Australian Communications Authority, and has extensive experience in communications regulation and spectrum management including spectrum auctions. He previously held senior positions at the Spectrum Management Agency and with the Department of Communications and the Arts.



## Jennifer McNeill

Part-time Member, ACMA

Jennifer McNeill joined the Australian Communications and Media Authority on 1 July 2008.

Jennifer holds degrees in Arts and Laws from the University of NSW. She is an accredited specialist in commercial litigation; a LEADR trained mediator; and a member of the both the Law Council of Australia (Business Law Division) and the Australian Compliance institute.

In addition to her ACMA role, Jennifer currently works part-time as a Special Counsel in the Government Law team of DLA Philips Fox.

Between 2002 and 2007 Jennifer was a member of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, serving under the chairmanships of both Alan Fels and Graeme Samuel. She had a particular interest in the Commission's enforcement activities and consumer protection remit.

Prior to her ACCC role, Jennifer was a litigation and dispute resolution partner in the national firm of Blake Dawson Waldron.



## Gabriel Phillips

Senior Engineer,

Policy and Research Section, ACMA

Gabriel Phillips is a senior radiofrequency engineer with ACMA based in Melbourne. Gabriel has over 10 years experience in the radiofrequency industry. He joined ACMA in December 2007.

Prior to joining ACMA, Gabriel worked as a consultant with Ovum specialising in regulatory and engineering principles in radiocommunications. As a consultant at Ovum, Gabriel worked on several projects including:

Forecasting of Australian WAS spectrum requirements

Analysis of international and domestic trends in FTTH and FTTN

Before joining Ovum, Gabriel worked for GS1 Australia where he was the EPC Network standards development coordinator for Radiofrequency Identification (RFID) technologies in the 900 MHz band. His role at GS1 Australia included conducting testing to determine the potential interference between RFID and GSM services.

Prior to his role with GS1 Australia, Gabriel worked for five years as a spectrum planning engineer for the ACA. During his time at the ACA Gabriel primarily worked on telecommunications spectrum issues including:

Spectrum Licensing for 3G services

Attended International Telecommunications Union (ITU) meetings

Assessment for future spectrum licensing

Analysis of trends of spectrum use

Gabriel has a BEng in Engineering (Electronics) with honours from La Trobe University and a MEngSci in Communications from The University of New South Wales.



## Johanna Plante

Part-time Member, ACMA

Johanna has been a Part-Time Member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority since 1 July 2005.

Johanna has worked in the telecommunications industry for about thirty years, and was the former, inaugural, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Communications Industry Forum, a company established in 1997 to implement and manage communications self-regulation in Australia.

She has held senior management positions with KPMG, Telstra, Coopers and Lybrand, and Pacific Star Communications as well as being an inaugural full-time Board Member of AUSTEL, a predecessor to ACMA, from 1989 to 1993, and an Associate Commissioner of the Trade Practices Commission.

Johanna was a Board Member of the Regional Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund, "Networking the Nation", and was also appointed to the Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council.

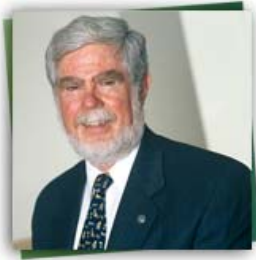
Johanna has a first class honours degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Western Australia.



## Richard Scheelings

Principal Economist,  
Economic Research Section, ACMA

Richard Scheelings is ACMA's Principal Economist. He has a PhD in economics from UCLA in Los Angeles and has worked as a solicitor and management consultant in Australia and Europe.



## Rod Shogren

Part-time Member, ACMA

Rod has been a Part-time Member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority since 1 July 2005.

He is a former Commissioner with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, with a role in telecommunications regulation. Rod has held a number of senior positions within the public sector and is a Consultant for Access Economics.



## Andrew Stewart

Acting Principal Engineer,  
Government Planning Section  
Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA

Andrew Stewart is a professional engineer with over 20 years experience in the radio field. He trained as a technical officer at the Australian Defence Force Academy while studying electronics and communications engineering. Andrew gained practical experience with land mobile radio working with the Australian Federal Police, prior to joining ACMA's predecessor, the ACA. Andrew's current interests are planning arrangements for land mobile radio, point-to-multipoint systems and radio astronomy. Andrew has also contributed to various equipment standards and participates in a number of committees dealing with government radio.



## Lynda Summers

Chair, NSW Regional Communities  
Consultative Council and Murray Regional  
Development Board

Lynda Summers is the chair of the NSW Regional Communities Consultative Council which reports to the NSW Premier and the Minister for Rural Affairs in the development of regional policy. A Trustee of the NSW Responsible Gambling Fund, Lynda has had an ongoing involvement in social justice and community development issues, with special interest in health. A former local government Councillor, she has a broad suite of experience in justice and public administration and her networking skills have led to extensive involvement in policy development and strategic planning in the government sphere. Lynda is principal partner of Galbraith and Company and the Australian partner of Civitium, the leading consultancy for municipalities creating digital communities in the USA. Lynda has a passion for harnessing technology and innovation to enable regional economic and social development. Currently on extended leave from Charles Sturt University, where she was visiting research fellow with the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, Lynda is currently engaged as executive consultant to the Murray Regional Development Board, working within the technology, energy savings and innovation projects.



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Communications  
and Media Authority**

## Giles Tanner

General Manager

Inputs to Industry Division ACMA

Giles Tanner is currently the General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, at the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). A lawyer by training, Mr Tanner has worked in the fields of broadcasting and communications law and policy for more than 20 years.

A former General Manager and A/g Member of the Australian Broadcasting Authority, Mr Tanner has also worked for Australia's competition regulator, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. For three years until 1997, he led the development and implementation of the ABA's public spectrum planning process for analog broadcasting services. Before that, he was a lawyer and investigator for the ABA and its predecessor, the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal.

The Inputs to Industry Division consists of four branches:

- Spectrum Planning Branch, responsible for radio frequency spectrum planning and space and international regulation.
- Pricing and Policy Branch, responsible for development of licensing frameworks for radiocommunications and telecommunications and associated regulatory policies; market-based reform of spectrum management; spectrum pricing and access issues; telecommunications numbering policy matters, universal service obligation funding and licence fees for broadcasting services.
- National Licensing & Allocations Branch, responsible for radiocommunications licensing and frequency assigning; broadcasting service planning and licensing; telecommunications numbering allocation, telecommunications licensing activities and installation permits.
- Regulation and Compliance Branch, responsible for radiocommunications and telecommunications standards development; radiocommunications compliance and enforcement policy; carrier powers and immunities and regional offices and operations centre activities.



## Tony Warren

Executive Director Regulator Affairs,  
Public Policy and Communications, Telstra

Dr Tony Warren is General Manager Regulatory Affairs for Telstra based in Canberra. In this role, Dr Warren leads a team of professionals with primary responsibility for managing Telstra's regulatory issues and public policy positioning. He has held this position since September 2005 and has been in Telstra since November 2001.

Prior to moving to Telstra, Dr Warren was a Director of the Network Economics Consulting Group (NECG). Dr Warren joined NECG in 1997 and helped build it into Australia's premier regulatory economics consulting firm, working closely with company's such as Telstra on all economic aspects of regulation, competition policy, trade practices, intellectual property and related issues. During his time at NECG, Dr Warren spent four months on secondment at the Oxford Economic Research Associates in the United Kingdom working on a series of projects.

Before joining NECG Dr Warren was a post-doctoral fellow in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, where he led a team of researchers developing methodologies for quantifying barriers to trade and investment in services. This project, which built upon Dr Warren's PhD dissertation on 'The Political Economy of Services Trade and Investment', has, for the first time, allowed for the systematic modelling of the economic effects of services liberalisation, including telecommunications.



## Joan Warner

Chief Executive Officer, Commercial  
Radio Australia

Joan Warner is the Chief Executive Officer of Commercial Radio Australia (formerly known as the Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters – FARB) which is the peak national industry body for commercial radio in Australia. Joan was appointed to the role in July 2001.

Joan is responsible for lobbying Federal and State Governments on issues such as media legislation – including digital radio policy - industry regulation, and, advertising codes which affect the radio industry. She is also responsible for radio industry education and training programs, the industry wide on-air radio Brand Campaign, the co-regulation of the Commercial Radio Codes of Practice, the negotiation of audience survey contracts and of industry wide copyright agreements with composer and music industry organisations, the planning and coordination of the commercial launch of digital radio in Australia, and, the running of annual National Commercial Radio Conference, the Siren Creative Awards and the Australian Commercial Radio Awards.

Joan has a broad array of experience in, and knowledge of, public, private and political sectors. Amongst other strategic responsibilities Joan has developed and implemented media and promotional strategies as a senior executive in political, public service, professional services and fast moving consumer goods sectors – and now, as CEO, from an industry body perspective.

Joan has worked for Phillips Fox Lawyers, Australian Centre for Global Finance, George Weston Foods, Telstra and for State and Federal Government Ministers in both Government and Opposition as Chief of Staff and Senior Adviser.