

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP DRIVING THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE INNOVATION

The annual BioMelbourne Network “Women in Leadership” Awards champion rising stars and outstanding leaders in biotechnology and medical technology who are driving the future of healthcare innovation.

The 2016 Awards are presented by the **Honourable Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria** at the annual Connecting Women Lunch at Mural Hall on Friday 20th May 2016. The 400 attendees include senior representatives from industry, Government and academia, including:

- Dr Leonie Walsh, Lead Scientist Victorian Government
- Ms Shelly Park, CEO, Australian Red Cross
- Claire Moore, Senator for Queensland, Shadow Minister for Women
- Dr Heather St John, COO, MIME, Monash University
- Dr Andrea Douglas, VP R&D Strategy, Portfolio & Licencing, CSL Limited
- Dr Jackie Watts, Councillor, City of Melbourne
- Sue MacLeman, CEO, Medical Technology and Pharmaceuticals Industry Innovation Growth Centre
- Dr Elaine Saunders, Managing Director, Blamey Saunders Hears
- Dr Jackie Fairley, CEO, Starpharma

There are also video message from the Honourable Karen Andrews MP, Assistant Minister for Science and the Honourable Lily D’Ambrosio MP, Minister for Industry

Key points:

- Innovation is a people-driven process that thrives on diverse thinking and views. To build a strong, resilient and successful innovation ecosystem, Australia needs to harness the talents of both men and women.
- In 2015 Australia was ranked 4th in the world for biotechnology innovation and 2016 is set to be even bigger.
- Much of this is due to the vibrant R&D ecosystem we have here in Victoria, the state that anchors Australia’s health innovation ecosystem.
- 2015 has seen an absolute record amount of investment flowing into the sector - last year the Australian biotechnology industry attracted record deals flows in excess of \$2 billion and capital raising at \$1.1 billion
- The biotech and medtech sectors are powered by women, who make up the majority of the workforce but are under- represented in senior leadership roles

MEDIA RELEASE

20 May 2016



- The National Innovation and Science Agenda is concerned with the lack of gender diversity in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) with men continuing to hold the majority of Australia's top leadership positions in science, research, innovation and business.
- The BioMelbourne Network 'Women in Leadership' Awards highlight the amazing stories of Australia's successful female innovators and entrepreneurs. There are 3 awards:
 - The *Women in Leadership Award* recognises senior corporate leadership and directorship.
 - The *Most Valuable Women in Leadership Award* celebrates leadership of teams, projects and initiatives.
 - The *Emerging Women in Leadership Award* acknowledges rising stars with high potential for future success.

Winners:

Winner of the 2016 Women in Leadership Award:

Dr Jackie Fairley, CEO, Starpharma

- 25 years of operational experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries
- Under her leadership the Company has advanced into ASX300, attracted significant new investment from global funds and developed several new and valuable commercial products based on Starpharma's proprietary polymer technology. These include Dual Protect - **the world's first antiviral condom** marketed by Ansell, VivaGel[®] for Bacterial Vaginosis (now approved in Europe) and DEP™ docetaxel and improved version of the leading cancer drug Taxotere
- In her time as CEO Starpharma has also signed numerous strategically important commercial deals with leading companies including AstraZeneca, GSK, Lilly, Okamoto, Ansell, Aspen and Adama. The company has also raised >A\$75m and significantly strengthened its institutional shareholder base attracting investment from major global funds including Prudential (M&G) and Fidelity.

Winner of the 2016 Most Valuable Women in Leadership Award:

Professor Sally McArthur, Director of the Innovation Precinct – Swinburne Institute of Technology

- The winner of this year's award is described as "outstanding teacher, supervisor, mentor, colleague and a friend, constantly seeking new opportunities and sharing her passion for multidisciplinary approaches to research and commercialisation."
- Sally played a pivotal role in establishing the new \$1.8M ARC Training Centre for Biodevices which opened in March 2015. The Centre is working closely with nine Melbourne-based medical technology companies to develop new products and services for healthcare markets. Sally has championed the training of the next generation of entrepreneurial and industry-ready PhD graduates for the medtech sector, through an innovative new PhD program that combines formal training in entrepreneurship and innovation with a design-led research philosophy.

MEDIA RELEASE

20 May 2016



- Sally was appointed the Founding Director of Swinburne’s Innovation Precinct in January 2016. The Innovation Precinct is a major University-wide initiative with a mission to connect the University’s students and researchers with industry and the entrepreneurial community.

Winner of the 2016 Emerging Women in Leadership Award:

Jacqueline Savage, Founder and Director of MedCorp Technologies

- Jacqueline Savage is the Founder of MedCorp Technologies, a medical device company developing wearable medical technologies for the healthcare industry.
- An engineer by training, Jacqueline’s personal experience of surviving cancer inspired her to develop new medical technologies and she has founded her own start-up to convert her ideas to reality. An inspiring female entrepreneur, she is passionate about improving outcomes for cancer patients.
- Jacqueline shadowed over 100 doctors and nurses whilst developing her wearable vest for remote monitoring of oncology patients. This shows her commitment to pursuing her ultimate goal and notably resulted in a technology that was developed in line with the needs and expectations of patients and healthcare providers, rather than in the back room of a research laboratory.

For further information, please contact

Andie Beattie
Communications Officer
BioMelbourne Network

M - 0437705332

E - abeattie@biomelbourne.org