

2021 BioMelbourne Network Women in Leadership AWARDS CEREMONY

Wednesday 12 May, 2021



@biomelb #biomelbwomen

BIOMELBOURNE NETWORK



Women in
Leadership
Awards 2021



**BioMelbourne
Network**
Progressing BioIndustry





About the awards

The BioMelbourne Network Women in Leadership Awards were launched in 2015 to recognise and champion women, at different stages of their careers, who have made outstanding contributions to advancing the biotechnology, medical technology and pharmaceutical sector, and inspire women to pursue leadership roles.

The awards recognise women who work in or support the health industry – including biotechnology, medical technology, pharmaceuticals and other health innovation areas – as executives, management, R&D practitioners, suppliers, service providers and other roles engaged with the sector.

Over the past year, Victoria's medical and scientific communities have played a significant role in Australia's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been impressed by the sheer talent of the sector, the spirit of collaboration and the determination to overcome the virus and minimise its impact across the world. This year, the BioMelbourne Network Board has introduced a special award to acknowledge extraordinary achievement during the pandemic.

The BioMelbourne Network Board of Directors Award for leadership and impact amidst the pandemic recognises a woman who has used her initiative to effectively take on a significant challenge which has had an outstanding impact in healthtech and healthcare. Their work has greatly benefited Australian communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Today's awardees join an esteemed group of dynamic women who have made outstanding contributions to Victoria's health industry.

BioMelbourne Network is a not-for-profit membership association for organisations engaged in biotechnology, medical technology, pharmaceuticals and health innovation in the State of Victoria.

Playing a critical role in connecting clinicians, researchers, finance and industry, BioMelbourne Network supports and promotes the growth of the sector's infrastructure and facilitates the development and commercialisation of new drugs, devices, diagnostics and digital health technologies here in Melbourne.

DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

2020 - Andrea Douglas
2019 - Anna Lavelle
2018 - Kathy Connell
2017 - Sue MacLeman
2016 - Jackie Fairley
2015 - Elaine Saunders

INSPIRING LEADERSHIP AWARD

2020 - Bronwyn Le Grice
2019 - Clara Gaff
2018 - Amanda Caples
2017 - Kerry Hegarty
2016 - Sally McArthur

EMERGING LEADERSHIP AWARD

2020 - Ewa Douroux
2019 - Evelyn Chan
2018 - Grace Lethlean
2017 - Elizabeth Williams
2016 - Jacqueline Savage
2015 - Megan Baldwin



Leadership is not a person or a position. It is a complex moral relationship between people based on trust, obligation, commitment, emotion, and a shared vision of the good. – Joanne Ciulla (Author and Educator)

We once again come together to recognise true leadership in the biotechnology, medical technology and pharmaceutical sector. BioMelbourne Network's Annual Women in Leadership Awards are an opportunity to collect and share the stories from around our State that will serve as a compass for anyone taking the leadership journey themselves. We are honoured to be able to share some of these incredible stories with you today.

The common features that underpin the achievements of each of these marvellous examples of leadership can be summed up in the quote from Joanne Ciulla. It was not just their personal obligation, commitment and vision that have led them to be recognised leaders, it was their ability to share that vision with others, gain the trust and commitment of their teams, and include them collectively on the journey towards success.

The impact of good leadership within the Health Industry has rarely had the ability to impact humankind so clearly and directly as it has during this past year. As we reviewed the Award nominations this year, we learnt about many women who led the effort to manufacture life-saving vaccines, or who helped ensure hospital safety measures were developed and in place to keep our health system from collapsing.

But this year was not only about the pandemic. Some of our nominees continued their focus on cancer research while others leveraged our low COVID-19 infection rate to further solidify our leadership in the clinical trials space. We can be proud of the women in leadership in Victoria who ensure important work continues so that we come out of this difficult time stronger than we were before.

The BioMelbourne Network Women in Leadership Awards highlight the achievements of women across different stages of their careers, from those in more senior positions to those who may have more recently engaged in leadership roles for a specific project, purpose or impact. Visibility of female leaders empowers our sector and promotes a culture of diversity, inclusivity and flexibility. Our 2021 awardees are not only leaders in their respective fields, but also role models for progressive leadership, equity and equality. These Awards recognise and affirm the important role that women play not only in science but more broadly in our community.

This year we received the highest number of nominations to date. Our sincere thanks to all those who nominated and to our judges who had the difficult task of reviewing and selecting the final awardees from amongst so many worthy candidates.

In acknowledgement of the challenges thrust upon the sector by the pandemic, we have added a fourth award, chosen by our Board of Directors, called "Leadership and Impact Amidst the Pandemic". This special award shines a light on incredible women in Victoria who have contributed significantly in our response to the pandemic.

I would like to sincerely thank Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, for her opening message and words of support, and The Hon. Jane Garrett for presenting the Awards and being part of today's celebrations. This event would not be possible without the continued support of the State Government of Victoria, through the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.

Thank you for joining us today to celebrate and honour the recipients of the 2021 BioMelbourne Network Women in Leadership Awards.

Jeff Malone
CEO, BioMelbourne Network

2021 Distinguished Leadership Award

IMPACT FOR INDUSTRY

This award celebrates a leader who:

- has held a senior position of leadership (C-level executive, GM, Board Director, Chair)
- has significant experience within the health industry sector, 10-15+ years
- has shown leadership and vision resulting in meaningful industry impact
- demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities, such as integrity and initiative, mentoring and giving back, dedication and determination, resilience and risk taking, and passion for innovation that has impact.

Our 2021 recipient is Dr Jenny Petering



Dr Jenny Petering has played a major role in growing a leading Australian biotechnology IP practice over 25 years.

Jenny is recognised as one of the world's leading patent prosecutors, for her exceptional technical ability and commitment to clients; consistently singled out by industry reviews. She

has led, educated, and inspired several generations of patent attorneys, including teaching at the University of Melbourne, and Monash University.

Beyond excelling as a service provider at FB Rice, Jenny supports the local entrepreneurial and biotechnology community through her enthusiasm for innovation and mentoring. The inspiring role model has made a palpable difference to advancing women in the biotechnology industry through creating networks, mentoring forums, and investing in female entrepreneurs.

Jenny is committed to commercialisation entities that provide financial, technical and industry support to start-ups, research institutes and PhD students. She harnesses relationships with local and international industry partners to create impactful networking forums promoting emerging companies and those seeking an international footprint.

As a Scale Investors member Jenny has mentored early-stage companies and introduced entrepreneurs to strategic partners and funding. She champions Life Sciences industry excellence and advocates for advancing women in the sector.

Jenny sits on the Industry Mentoring Network in STEM Executive Committee, connecting industry leaders with PhD students. She also helps community initiatives including research institute translation and commercialisation committees and previously the Victorian Government - Science, Medical Research and Technology (SMaRT) Panel.

"It has been a privilege for me to work within the vital biotechnology sector in Melbourne. I am constantly inspired by other industry professionals who lead, support, train, mentor and facilitate others to achieve imperative outcomes. I have witnessed wonderful female leaders in these roles, and it is a true honour for me to receive this award from BioMelbourne Network."

- Jenny Petering

 @FB_Rice

FB RICE



The IP
Navigators

2021 Inspiring Leadership Award

MAKING IT HAPPEN

This award celebrates a leader who:

- has played a pivotal leadership role in delivering a project, partnership, or collaborative initiative within the last 5–10 years
- through this project or initiative has delivered meaningful outcomes and positive change in the health industry
- has demonstrated valuable leadership skills such as collaboration, communication, team building, transformation, innovation, change management, dedication and passion for innovation that has impact.

Our 2021 recipient is **Jennifer Herz**



A solutions-driven leader and strategic thinker, Jennifer Herz founded Biointellect in 2012 to provide commercialisation services to the biopharmaceutical sector. Most recently, through Biointellect's sister company Bioelect, she helped lead efforts that saw the Australian Government sign up the Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine.

Jennifer has an extensive local and international network of industry, policy, scientific and clinical experts across many therapeutic areas and healthcare sectors, plus global experience in new products and start-ups. Her Board experience includes strategy, risk, and governance in the public, private and the not-for-profit sectors.

With more than 20 years in the biopharmaceutical industry, Jennifer's experience includes numerous roles overseeing the Australian, New Zealand, and European markets. She was the first Managing Director of Sanofi Pasteur in Australia, a start-up that grew over her six-year tenure to be a major regional vaccine provider.

A former Medicines Australia Board member, Jennifer has led industry discussions with government, and worked with international groups linked to European institutions and the WHO. Among other things, she is on the NHMRC's Health Innovation Advisory Committee and the NHMRC funded Australian Partnership for

Preparedness Research on Infectious Disease Emergencies (APPRISE) Expert Reference Group.

Jennifer, who also mentors interns, is a Director of Bioelect, the Australian and New Zealand sponsor for the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine. She supported Novavax to set up their phase I/II trial in Australia, as well as helping navigate the TGA and interactions with government.

Jennifer also worked on strategy for the first FDA/TGA approved novel molecule against malaria in over 2 decades. Since 2012 she has helped the US company 60P Pharma to commercialise and now distribute it in Australia and soon New Zealand. Her leadership, perseverance, energy, passion, and ability to find solutions is inspiring.

"I'm very proud to be recognised with this award, at a time when we have witnessed tremendous collaboration on a global scale not really seen before, to bring COVID-19 vaccines to market. I'd like to accept this award on behalf of all the people around the world that have worked so hard in the last 12 months and made that vision a reality."

– Jennifer Herz

 @Biointellectinfo

 **Biointellect**

2021 Emerging Leadership Award

MOVER AND SHAKER

This award celebrates a leader who:

- has taken on a career challenge, career move or career change within the last 2-4 years that has high potential for industry impact
- exhibits leadership qualities such as strategic risk-taking, embracing innovation, entrepreneurship and an appetite for driving change
- is a rising star, who, regardless of age, is seen as a mover and shaker with high potential for future success in the industry.

Our 2021 recipient is Dr Hannah Kirk



Dr Hannah Kirk is changing the face of technology for children with developmental disorders through her research and leadership in digital health and medical technology. After being awarded her Monash University PhD in cognitive neuroscience in 2016, Hannah led research and development at Novita

Healthcare Ltd and TALi Health before taking a post-doctoral position in 2018 at Monash University's Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health with an NHMRC Early Career Fellowship.

Hannah's award-winning research program examines how digital technology can support cognitive, academic, behavioural and health outcomes in children and adolescents. An emerging global leader in her field, she co-invented the world's first game-based digital attention intervention for children with developmental disorders, TALi Train, and co-founded MedTech start-up, TALi Health Pty Ltd, to provide evidence-based digital therapeutics for children needing vital early interventions.

Hannah has led two clinical trials demonstrating the benefits of the intervention for attention and numeracy skills. The patented intervention is reimbursable through the NDIS and used by children globally. She has published 13 peer-reviewed papers, supervised 13

research students, and spoken at more than 20 national/international conferences.

Her current projects have created the first virtual reality intervention to improve impulsivity in ADHD and a touchscreen tool to support childhood cognitive development. Hannah regularly engages with the media and was named an ABC Top 5 Science Scholar in 2019.

She is passionate about research translation and uniting academia and industry to produce innovative evidence-based tools, and a strong advocate for gender equity in academia and industry. Hannah is an emerging leader whose strong research foundation, industry experience, innovative mind and active community engagement ensure she will make a significant and valuable contribution to the sector.

"I am honoured to accept this award, particularly given the number of magnificent women working in this sector. I am passionate about the importance of high-quality research within the industry and am thrilled to be a part of such an innovative biotechnology environment."

- Hannah Kirk



@DrHannahKirk



@MonashUni



MONASH University

2021 Board of Directors Award

RECOGNITION FOR LEADERSHIP AND IMPACT DURING THE PANDEMIC

This award celebrates a leader who:

- took on a significant, high risk challenge and created a positive impact in the community and health industry
- demonstrated her leadership by developing and implementing innovative communication strategies and direct engagement to address facts and misinformation, reduce community concerns and increase vaccine uptake
- engaged colleagues, clinicians, families and children, policy makers and governments, to promote vaccine uptake.

Our 2021 recipient is Assoc. Prof. Margie Danchin



Margie Danchin is an immunisation expert, and is passionate about effective vaccine communication and building vaccine confidence, locally and internationally.

She has more than 10 years' experience in vaccine research and clinical work, focussing on policy, safety, evaluation, confidence, acceptance, and uptake, particularly

among high risk-groups and in low and middle-income countries. As a Churchill Fellow, she will travel to access leading international experts to inform COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and uptake, develop interventions to improve uptake and respond to misinformation in Australia and the region.

Margie is a consultant paediatrician at the Royal Children's Hospital, University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics Associate Professor, and Murdoch Children's Research Institute's (MCRI) Vaccine Uptake Group leader. She is on a number of advisory boards and working groups.

Within MCRI, Margie leads the national COVID Vaccine Preparedness Study, that trains leaders in cultural and linguistically diverse communities, recent migrants, refugees, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. She works closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Global Vaccine Demand Hub, including the

Sabin's Vaccine and Acceptance Research Network (VARN) steering group and IPA-Vaccine Trust Project.

Highly respected for her warmth and integrity, decision-making skills and ability to inspire, Margie is a brilliant communicator and regularly writes for scientific and lay publications, including The Conversation. Her direct engagement with the community and government is always respectful, particularly when addressing misinformation and vaccine hesitancy.

"I am delighted to receive this award after the many challenges of COVID in 2020. I feel privileged to work with so many colleagues across our extraordinary medical and research precinct which has been at the forefront of the COVID response, and for the opportunity to engage with the media to strengthen the response to COVID, address community concerns and build confidence in the COVID vaccines."

– Margie Danchin



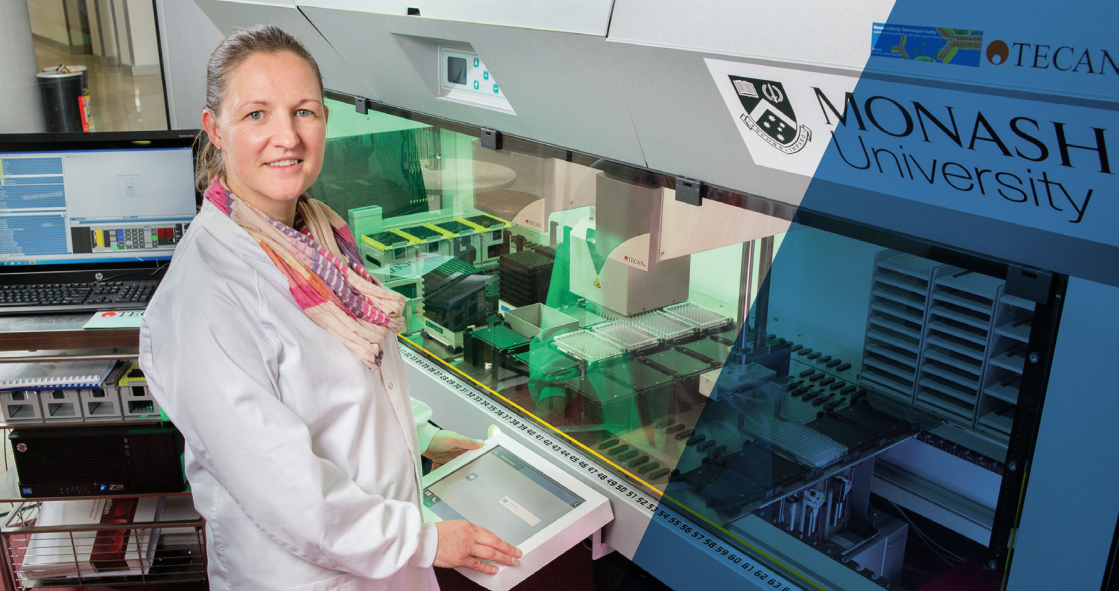
@MCRI_for_kids



@DanchinMargie



murdoch
children's
research
institute



Championing women in biotech

Victoria is leading the way in pursuit of gender equality and championing inspiring women to advance its biotechnology sector.

The Victorian Government is proud to recognise the women who are making outstanding contributions to Victoria's biotechnology sector. We hope the BioMelbourne Network Women in Leadership Awards will continue to inspire future female leaders in this exciting and evolving sector.

 djpr.vic.gov.au/biotech



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Network**

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