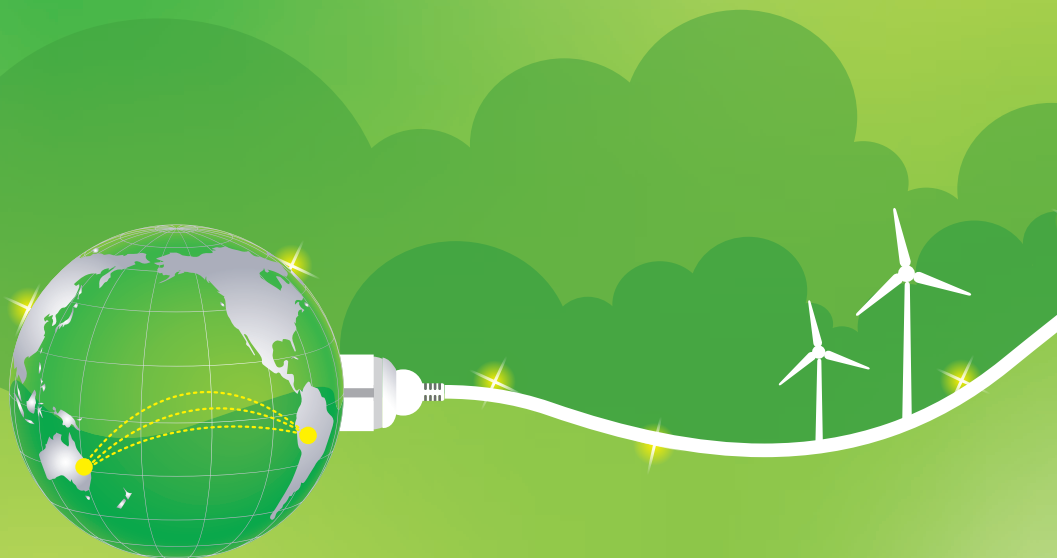


PROGRAM



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER

**ANNUAL
LATIN AMERICAN
COLLOQUIUM 2017**

ENERGY FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

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Message from Vice-Chancellor and President PROFESSOR PETER HØJ

Welcome to the 11th UQ-Latin American Colloquium.

Last year The University of Queensland (UQ) celebrated a milestone in its relationship with Latin America: a decade of colloquiums and a proud history of engagement stretching back much further.

In 2017 we continue this momentum by looking into the future and considering approaches to the globally relevant issue of sustainable energy.

In a future low-emissions economy, solar, wind, hydro and biomass generation are commonly identified as key sources of renewable energy. However, for a transition to a low emission future to be feasible a number of interacting technical, environmental, social and economic factors must be accounted for.

For this reason, the 2017 Colloquium will explore broader global energy solutions in the context of changing social, political and environmental demands, and identify mutually beneficial opportunities for collaboration.

Our regions have much to offer in this area. Indeed, Latin America is increasingly leading global efforts to transition to renewable energy sources and to tackle climate change. For instance, the Andean sun is already powering one of the largest photovoltaic solar plants in the world, the 246 mega-watt El Romero project in Chile. Costa Rica ran on renewable power for almost seven months last year, with Uruguay not far behind. The International Energy Agency reports that in 2014, the latest year for which comparable data exist, Latin America as a whole produced 53 per cent of its electricity from renewable sources, compared with a world average of 22 per cent.

Australia too has the opportunity to become a renewable energy superpower, but this will depend on innovation and stable policy settings.

Successful innovation almost always relies on national and international partners outside universities who understand the needs of their communities and follow through on promises. A desire to encourage and enable partnerships between our two growing regions is a key driver of this event and of UQ's global strategy more broadly.

As we look towards the next five to ten years, it's clear other regions, including ours, embrace similar priorities and challenges as those of Latin America, including good governance, food security, resilient environments and healthy communities. We are all aiming to up-skill our workforces and build capabilities. I can tell you with confidence that UQ is well positioned to support solutions to these challenges.

You can count on UQ to be an important part of the Australian-Latin American future. We are already heavily engaged in the region and we look forward to expanding our academic partnerships, technological innovations and trade relations with such an opportunity-filled part of the world.

I extend my sincere thanks to the Australian-Latin American Business Council, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, our speakers, guests and UQ colleagues for their contribution to this Colloquium. This event presents a unique opportunity to exchange ideas that will bring mutual benefit to our regions.

ANNUAL LATIN AMERICAN COLLOQUIUM PROGRAM

8.30am – 9.00am Registration

9.00am – 9.10am **Welcome**
Professor Peter Høj, Vice-Chancellor and President
The University of Queensland

9.10am – 9.20am **Ambassadorial Welcome Address**
His Excellency Mr Miguel Julian Palomino de la Gala
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Peru

9.20am – 10.00am **Plenary Address**
Professor Sandro Valentini
President, São Paulo State University (UNESP)

10.00am – 10.15am **Student Case Study**
Ms Paula Calvo Brenes
PhD Student, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation,
The University of Queensland

10.15am – 10.45am **MORNING TEA**

10.45am – 11.45am **PANEL SESSION 1: TRANSFORMING GLOBAL SOLUTIONS**

Moderator: **Professor Karen Hussey**, Director, Centre for Policy Futures, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Panellists:

His Excellency Mr Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr.
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil

His Excellency Mr Juan Rodrigo Salazar Sancisi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Republic of Ecuador

Mr Rod Welford
Managing Director, Integrated Resource Planners

Professor Chris Greig
Director, UQ Energy Initiative, The University of Queensland

11.45am – 12.45PM

PANEL SESSION 2: RESPONDING TO CHANGING GLOBAL NEEDS

Moderator: **His Excellency Dr Hugo Javier Gobbi**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Argentine Republic

Panellists:

Ms Barbara-Anne Bensted

Chief Digital Officer, Energy Australia

Professor Neville Plint

Director, Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland

Dr Vigya Sharma

Research Fellow, Energy and Poverty Research Group (EPRG), School of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology, The University of Queensland

Mr Juan Ossa Moreno

PhD Candidate, Sustainable Minerals Institute - Centre for Water in the Minerals Industry, The University of Queensland

12.45pm – 1.30pm

LUNCH

1.30pm – 2.30pm

PANEL SESSION 3: GREATER CONNECTIONS, GREATER POWER

Moderator: **His Excellency Mr Ricardo Javier Varela Fernandez**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Uruguay

Panellists:

Ms Tracy Collier

Financial Inclusion Advisor, Good Shepherd International Foundation

Ms Kirsty McNeil

Assistant Secretary, Canada and Latin America Branch, Americas Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Professor Robert Henry

Director, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, The University of Queensland

His Excellency Mr Armando Álvarez Reina

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Mexico

2.30pm – 2.40pm

Closing remarks

His Excellency Mr José Jairo Hernandez Milian
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Republic of Costa Rica

2.40pm – 2.50pm

Closing remarks

Professor Iain Watson
Vice-President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement),
The University of Queensland

3.00pm

Event Closes



Professor Peter Høj
Vice-Chancellor and President
The University of Queensland

Professor Peter Høj commenced as Vice Chancellor and President of The University of Queensland on 8 October 2012. Prior to this appointment he was Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of South Australia from June 2007. Before that, he was CEO of the Australian Research Council (2004-2007) and Managing Director of the Australian Wine Research Institute (1997-2004).

He was educated at the University of Copenhagen, majoring in biochemistry and chemistry, has a Master of Science degree in biochemistry and genetics, a PhD in photosynthesis, an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Copenhagen and the University of South Australia.

Professor Høj is the chair of the Board of Group of Eight (Go8) Universities in 2017, a member of the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board (AMRAB) from 2016 and a member of the Queensland State Government's International Education and Training Advisory Group (IETAG) from 2016. He is a senior consultant to Hanban in the Oceania Region.

He is a Fellow of ATSE and a Foreign Member of The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters.



Professor Iain Watson
Vice-President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement),
The University of Queensland

As Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement), at The University of Queensland, Professor Iain Watson is responsible for leading the University's overall engagement strategy, with a particular focus on expanding the quality and scale of engagement with prospective students, industry, government, alumni and Aboriginal and Torres-Strait Islander communities. The position works collaboratively with all UQ portfolios to develop, articulate and sustain a shared vision of engagement.

Professor Watson's career has spanned more than 20 years working in academia. Graduating from Ulster University with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Professor Watson went on to complete a Master of Science and a

PhD, focussing on the use of market and industry data in financial distress modelling.

Professor Watson previously held the role of Executive Dean of the Faculty of Business Economics and Law and before that, held the Deanship of the UQ Business School at The University of Queensland. Prior to coming to UQ, Professor Watson was the Deputy Dean at the University of Western Australia Business School.



Professor Sandro Roberto Valentini
President, São Paulo State University (UNESP)

President (2017-2021) of São Paulo State University – UNESP, Prof. Sandro, Full Professor, graduated in Pharmacy and Biochemistry (BSc) at the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences – UNESP (1986), and received a Master degree in Microbiology and Immunology from the São Paulo Federal University – UNIFESP (1989) and a PhD degree in Biochemistry from the São Paulo University – USP (1993).

During his PhD, he developed part of his thesis at the Center for Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology – MIT. From 1996 to 1998, he was a research Fellow at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School. Since then, he has established a research group and coordinated a number of projects using the yeast *Saccharomyces*

cerevisiae as a model organism. He was Vice-Dean (2005-2008) and Dean (2009-2012) of the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences – UNESP. Member of Brazilian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Vice-Chair and Chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Polyamines.

His main research interests are: functional characterization of proteins using *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* as a model organism, translation factors (mainly eIF5A), protein synthesis and cancer. Author of 76 published scientific articles and 230 paper presentation in scientific events. He has supervised and concluded: 11 post-doctoral training, 17 PhD thesis (being 5 co-supervisions), 4 master's dissertations and 41 undergraduate research fellows.



**Her Excellency Dr Clemencia Forero-Ucrós
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Republic of Colombia**

Her Excellency Clemencia Forero - Ucrós has been designated as Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia to Australia since February 2013; and Non Resident Ambassador to New Zealand (July 2013) and To Fiji (August 2016).

In 2009, H.E. was delegate of the President of the Republic before the Andean Community; in 2009-2010, Mrs Forero - Ucrós was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and in 2010, she was appointed as Ambassador of Colombia to Canada

She has also been Ambassador of Colombia to Sweden, and Non Resident Ambassador to Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Iceland; Permanent Representative before the United Nations' Office in Geneva as well as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs in several opportunities.

She has received numerous national decorations among them the "Orden de Boyacá" award "Gran Cruz" category, presented by the President of the Republic as well as International decorations from the governments of Chile, Peru, Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Venezuela and the United States "special recognition award", Office of National Drug control Policy, Executive office of the President of the United States.

She has a Bachelor degree in Philosophy from Universidad los Andes, and a Master's degree in Political Studies from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana.



**His Excellency Mr Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr.
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil**

Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr. is a career Brazilian Diplomat having entered the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1974. Since that time, he has served in Bonn, Hong Kong, Prague, Baghdad, Toronto, Kinshasa, São Tomé, and Faro (Portugal). In Brazil, he has served in various positions: the Ceremonial Branch, Cabinet of the Minister of State for External Relations, Presidency of the Republic, Head of the West Africa Division, Head of the Division of Central Asia, and as an Advisor for International Affairs in the Ministry of Social Welfare. He has also taught Ceremonial and Protocol at the Brazilian Diplomatic Academy. Before he arrived in Canberra, he served as Consul-General in Faro, Portugal, and as Ambassador to São Tomé e Príncipe, Indonesia and ASEAN. Ambassador Manuel Innocencio de Lacerda Santos Jr. was posted to Canberra as the Brazilian Ambassador-Designate to the Commonwealth of Australia on 4th January 2016, and presented his credentials to the Governor-General of Australia on 24 February 2016.



**His Excellency Dr Hugo Javier Gobbi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Argentine Republic**

Born in Buenos Aires in November 1955, Ambassador Gobbi is an Economist with a Master degree in International Relations and a PhD. in Political Science from the Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium. He also has a Diploma in Trade Policy from the GATT in Geneva.

As a career diplomat graduated from the Argentine Foreign Service Institute in 1985, he has served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Directorate of Multilateral Economic Relations (1985-1987); the Embassy of Argentina to the European Economic Community (1987-1992); the Directorate of MERCOSUR (1992-1994); the Mission of Argentina to MERCOSUR and ALADI (1995-1997); the Embassy of Argentina to Brazil (1997-2002); the Senate, as counsellor of ex-President and Senator Raúl Alfonsín (2003); the Secretariat of International Economic Relations (2003-2005); and the Embassy to the Holy See (2005-2010). In 2010 he was appointed Director of Special Economic Affairs and was Sous Sherpa for Argentina in the G20 between 2010 and 2016. He was the Director of Economic Multilateral Affairs and G20 between 2013 and 2016. These positions allowed him to be the Head of the Argentine Delegation in several multilateral fora: WTO, FAO, OECD, G20 (Toronto, Seoul, Cannes, Los Cabos, Saint Petersburg, Brisbane and Antalya).

On 24th February 2016, H.E. Gobbi presented the letters of Credence to Governor General of Australia, H.E. Gen. the Hon Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) that accredited him as Ambassador of the Argentine Republic. On 25th October 2016 Ambassador Gobbi presented the letters of Credence to the Governor General of Papua New Guinea, H.E. Peter O'Neill, which accredited him as non-resident Ambassador in that Country. And On the 11th April 2017 he presented the letters of Credence to the H.E. President Jioji Konousi Konrote, President of the Republic of Fiji, which accredited him as non-resident Ambassador in that Country.



**His Excellency Dr Ricardo Javier Varela Fernandez
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Uruguay**

His Excellency Mr Ricardo Javier Varela Fernandez was born in Uruguay in 1955. He studied at the University of the Republic of Uruguay where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Diplomacy. He completed a Master's degree in Political Science at the University of Georgetown (Washington DE, USA). His professional experience has led him to many delegations and embassies in capacity of Deputy Director, Chief of Cabinet and First Secretary around the world. He has been awarded the Grand Official of the Italian republic and is currently Ambassador of Uruguay to Australia.



**His Excellency Mr Miguel Julian Palomino de la Gala
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Republic of Peru**

H.E. Miguel Julian Palomino de la Gala is a career diplomat and lawyer. With a Masters in Diplomacy and International Relations and a Bachelor of Laws and Political Science, his field of experience is in multilateral policy, sustainable development and energy. He has worked in a variety of roles in the United States, Brazil, Mexico, Bolivia, Federation of Russia and Spain. The Ambassador was President of the Bureau of the Adelboden Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountains in Rome, Italy. He has also held a position at the United Nations as Chairman of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development-CSTD in Geneva. His Excellency has participated in events and bilateral meetings with the Government of Bolivia on the proposed exportation of natural gas, with the Government of Ecuador on electrical interconnection, and with the Government of Chile on energy issues. He was also an Advisor at the Office of the Minister of Energy and Mines in Peru.



**His Excellency Mr Juan Rodrigo Salazar Sancisi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Republic of Ecuador**

His Excellency Juan Salazar Sancisi is a career diplomat, he was appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Ecuador to the Commonwealth of Australia on February 2017, and has previously been Ambassador to Hungary, Bulgaria, France, Japan, Indonesia, the Philippines and the Russian Federation.

Ambassador Salazar has also been Deputy Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations in New York and to UNIDO and IAEA in Vienna.

Ambassador Salazar obtained a degree in Economics and has Master degrees in Integration Law and in International Economic Law. In his academic career, Ambassador Salazar has been a Professor of Negotiation and Integration at the Andean University and the International University of Ecuador, where he is a member of the Directory of the Ecuadorian Centre for International Studies.



**His Excellency Mr José Jairo Hernandez Milian
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Costa Rica**

Ambassador Hernandez is a Costa Rican citizen, with experience in the public sector, in the private sector, the international arena and in the academia. He is currently Ambassador to Australia.

He was Ambassador to Singapore from 2012 to 2017, and served as the Dean of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps (2016-17). Prior to that, he was the Director-General of Foreign Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, from 2010 to 2012, in which capacity he travelled extensively with his country's President and Foreign Minister. From 2009 to 2010, he was the Deputy Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations, period in which Costa Rica was a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Ambassador Hernandez has extensive international experience. He Holds a Certificate of Specialization in Latin American Studies (University of Brasilia), a Licenciatura Degree in Law and Political Science (University of Costa Rica) and a Masters of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University, The Fletcher School of Law. He represented Latin America and the Caribbean as Member of the Executive Council (1984-87) and as Vice President (1991-1995) of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations.



**Her Excellency Ms Connie Taracena Secaira
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of the Republic of Guatemala**

Ms Connie Taracena-Secaira studied International Relations at the Rafael Landivar University, Guatemala. She completed a Master's degree in Political Science at the Pontificia Javeriana University, Colombia as well as International Politics at the Université Libre de Bruxelles. Her professional experience has led her to many destinations in the capacity of First Secretary and Consul including Russia, Sweden, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg. Her tenure as Minister Counsellor, Guatemalan Permanent Mission to the UN oversaw the work of the Third Committee, Social Humanitarian, Human Rights and Cultural Affairs. In UNICEF she was member of the Executive Board of Directors as representative of GRULAC. She is currently Ambassador of Guatemala to Australia. She has received the Honour of Merit and Outstanding Services.



**His Excellency Mr Jose Manuel Galego Montano
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Cuba**

Ambassador Galego is the designated Ambassador of Cuba to Australia and the concurrent Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

He was born in La Havana Cuba on 12 January 1963.

He has a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and he also has post graduate studies related to this field.



**His Excellency Mr Armando Álvarez Reina
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Mexico**

He was born in Matamoros, Mexico, on November 28, 1958.

Has a Bachelor degree in International Relations by the National Autonomous University of Mexico; a Master degree in International Relations (with special focus in Pacific Studies) by Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia; and a second Master degree in National Security by the Higher Education Center for Naval Studies of the Mexican Navy.

He is a career member of the Mexican Foreign Service since 1988. Previous postings overseas include Ambassador to Mexico in Costa Rica (July 2012-December 2013); Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassies in Costa Rica (2004-2007) and South Korea (1996-2000); Deputy Consul-General at the Consulate General of Mexico in Sydney, Australia (1993-1996); and Head for Cooperation at the Embassy of Mexico in Guatemala (1989-1993).

At the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Mexico he served as Director General for Asia - Pacific (2007-2012); Director for the OAS, at the Direction-General for American Regional Organisms and Mechanisms (2003-2004); commissioned to the Mexican Navy (2002-2003), Representative of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the State of Campeche (2000-2002); Head of the Department of Central America (1988/1989).

He is fluent in English and has working knowledge of French.

He is married to Gladys Tenorio, with whom he has two sons, Rodrigo and Diego.

He Arrived in Australia in January 18th, 2014, as Ambassador of Mexico. Presented Letters of Credence on February 27, 2014.



Mr Fernando Acosta
Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Paraguay

Mr Fernando ACOSTA DIAZ took up service as the Charge d'Affaires of the Paraguayan Embassy in Canberra on the 26th September 2016. He holds a degree in Marketing and Public Relations from the Autonomous University of Asunción (1993-1997) and a Graduate Diploma from the Diplomatic and Consular Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1993-1994).

Mr ACOSTA DIAZ speaks Spanish, Guaraní, English and Portuguese. During his career in Paraguay, he served as an official in the Treaties Division (1991-1994), as the head of the Cono Sur Division (1994-1996), and as the head of the International Treaties Division (2004-2006). Before his posting to Australia, he was appointed as the Second Secretary at the Paraguayan Embassy in Uruguay (1998-2004) and as the Counselor at the Paraguayan Embassy in the United Kingdom of Great Britain (2006-2011).



Mr Daniel Gasparri-Rey
Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

From 2006 to 2016, Mr. Gasparri was President of the State Company of Recycling REMAPCA. From 2004 to 2006 he was Commercial Attaché at the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the Republic of Chile and during the same period Member of the Presidential Negotiating Commission for the admission of Venezuela to MERCOSUR; and Secretary of the Special Commission for the Study of Proposals FTAA, G3, CAN, MERCOSUR, NAFTA and other agreements on International Integration of the Venezuelan Parliament from 2001 to 2004.

Mr. Gasparri holds a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration at the University Santa María, Venezuela (Summa Cum Laude); a Bachelor Degree in Human Resources at the National Experimental University Simón Rodríguez, Venezuela; a Master of Business Administration at the Technical University Federico Santa María, Chile; and a Master in Business Management at the University of Lleida, Spain.

His mother language is Spanish and he is fluent in English, Italian, German and Portuguese.



Ms Paula Moreno
Trade Commissioner of Chile to Australia, Embassy of Chile

Trade Commissioner of Chile to Australia since December 2015.

Marine Biologist with an extensive background in the generation of regulations and standards associated with sustainable trade and public policies at local, national and international levels, in Government Agencies and environmental non-profit organizations.

Before her current posting in Australia, she was Head of the Department of Sustainable Trade at ProChile Headquarters in Santiago, which had a strong focus on supporting socially and environmentally responsible SMEs.



Ms Barbara-Anne Bensted
Chief Digital Officer, Energy Queensland

Barbara-Anne has responsibility for Energy Queensland's Information & Technology business unit, which previously operated as SPARQ Solutions.

She has a strong track record of enabling organisations across a wide range of industries and countries to achieve world class, high quality, and sustainable business transformations.

Barbara-Anne was previously an Executive Consultant at Queensland Treasury where she was a driving force behind the development of digital transformation strategies for business improvement. She also spent a number of years as a Program Director and Advisor at Origin Energy, establishing and managing key strategic programs such as the Carbon program and the Privacy and Credit Reform program.



Ms Kirsty McNeil
Assistant Secretary Canada and Latin America Branch, Americas Division,
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ms McNeil was appointed Assistant Secretary, Canada and Latin America Branch in July 2017. Prior to that, she was the Director of the South-East Asia Institutes Section in the South-East Asia Division. Ms McNeil was the Director of DFAT's Crisis Management and Contingency Planning Section from 2013 to 2016 and the Director of the Marine Environment Section from 2012-2013.

Ms McNeil has served overseas twice, most recently as the Acting Deputy Head of Mission in Suva, Fiji, from 2009 to 2012. From 2002 to 2005 she was the Second Secretary at the Australian Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In Canberra, Ms McNeil has undertaken a range of positions across both policy and corporate areas. She has worked on the Department's bilateral desks on Japan and Latin America and in its Corporate Management Division.

Ms McNeil holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Industrial Relations)/Bachelor of Arts (Political Science) from the University of Melbourne and a Graduate Diploma in Foreign Affairs and Trade from Monash University. She commenced in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as a Graduate Trainee in 1999.



Mr Rod Welford
Managing Director, Integrated Resource Planners

Rod Welford is thought leader and global expert in resource-efficient use of energy and materials. As Queensland Minister for Environment and Heritage and Minister for Natural Resources (1998 - 2001), he spearheaded the State's Recycling Strategy and introduced eco-efficiency and renewable energy incentive programs after establishing Queensland's first Environmental Protection Agency which incorporated a specialist Sustainable Industries Division. After retiring from Parliament in 2009, he was CEO of the Australian Council of Recycling until 2013. He recently stepped down as Executive Chairman and CEO of Ensign Energy Solutions, a company which guides energy transformation programs to reduce operating costs of the world's largest resource sector companies. He oversaw Ensign's growth from seven to 70 staff in three years from 2013, ultimately winning the national Optus Business of the Year award in 2016. He now advises companies on energy cost management and the future of the Australian energy markets, and mentors emerging entrepreneurs in the energy and ICT sectors.



Ms Tracy Collier
Financial Inclusion Advisor, Good Shepherd International Foundation

Tracy Collier is an expert in financial inclusion and microfinance with experience managing and consulting on economic empowerment and poverty reduction programs across Australia and Latin America. Since 2013 she has worked for Good Shepherd Microfinance on a range of programs focusing on cross-sector collaboration and partnerships, including the Home Energy Saver Scheme Program and the Financial Inclusion Action Plan Program. She is currently working with the Good Shepherd International Foundation to provide technical support to their financial inclusion projects across Central America and sees first-hand the social and economic impact that high energy costs have on female micro entrepreneurs across the region.

Tracy brings together a diverse skill set having previously managed two small businesses in Oaxaca, Mexico, having taught English in Argentina and Chile and working as an interior designer in Argentina. She speaks fluent Spanish, has an Undergraduate degree in Business from Monash University and is currently completing a Masters degree in International Development at RMIT University with a thesis on women's economic empowerment in Central America.



Dr Jessica Gallagher
Director, Global Engagement, The University of Queensland

Dr Jessica Gallagher is the Director of Global Engagement at The University of Queensland (UQ) where she is responsible for the management of the UQ Global Engagement office within the broader international portfolio. In this capacity, she is responsible for the strategic development and coordination of UQ's international partnerships, agreements, scholarships and a wide range of global programs designed to showcase and extend UQ's reach and reputation.

Prior to joining UQ Global Engagement, she was the Director of the Office of Undergraduate Education/ UQ Advantage Office, where she oversaw the development of a wide range of professional development, international mobility and enrichment programs for UQ students, including the UQ Advantage Award program. She has also held senior positions in the UQ Graduate School and Office of Prospective Students and Student Equity.



Ms Kate Whelan
Senior International Strategist, Global Strategy and Partnerships, UQ Global Engagement, The University of Queensland

Kate works within the Global Strategy and Partnerships team which plays a lead role in furthering The University of Queensland's international engagement agenda. Collaborating closely with internal and external stakeholders, Kate develops informed and innovative engagement strategies with priority countries and premier partners. She develops future planning resources including broad strategic regional overviews, individual country strategies, partnership proposals, capability statements and annual partner reports and works collaboratively to nurture existing strategic partnerships, support faculty and institute global engagement and identify new and emerging opportunities for UQ. Kate is currently working to develop and implement Country Strategies and Strategic Partnership Proposals for some of UQ's priority countries, including Brazil, Vietnam, Switzerland, France and Denmark.



Professor Neville Plint
Director, Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland

Professor Neville Plint is the Director of the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI) at The University of Queensland (UQ) in Australia. Neville holds a Chemistry degree, PhD and MBA from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, and brings extensive leadership experience and a deep understanding of the mining sector having worked for 20 years with Anglo American in South Africa. His career has focused on delivering improved operational performance on mining sites by developing and implementing new technologies, whilst establishing a global network of research professionals in academic institutes, mining companies and research organisations.



Professor Robert Henry
Director, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI),
The University of Queensland

Robert Henry conducts research on the development of new and improved products from plants. He is Professor of Innovation in Agriculture and Director of the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, at the University of Queensland. His research targets improved understanding of the molecular basis of the quality of products produced from plants and genome analysis to capture novel genetic resources for diversification of food and energy crops.



Professor Chris Greig
Director, UQ Energy Initiative & Director, Dow Centre for Sustainable
Engineering Innovation, The University of Queensland

Chris Greig leads both the UQ Energy Initiative and the Dow Centre for Sustainable Engineering Innovation. Chris is a Chemical Engineer having obtained his degree and PhD at the University of Queensland. His 25 year industry career commenced as the founder of a successful process technology and contracting company which was later sold to a major international engineering company.

Chris is a Non-Executive Director of Seymour Whyte Limited and has held various other corporate and Government board positions. Chris also sits on Advisory Boards for the Centre for Coal Seam Gas (Chair), the School of Chemical Engineering and the Queensland Geothermal Energy CoE and co-leads the Energy Poverty Research, and Carbon Capture and Storage Research Groups. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

He is also course coordinator for ENGG400 – Professional Practice in the Business Environment. His main interests lie in Energy Transitions, Economics and Policy, Energy for Development, Mega-Project Implementation and CCS.



Professor Karen Hussey
Director, Centre for Policy Futures, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Queensland

Karen Hussey is Director of UQ's newly-established Centre for Policy Innovation in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Trained as a political scientist and economist, Karen undertakes research in the field of public policy and governance, with varied interests including public policy relating to sustainable development, global trade, and the ethical, legal and social implications of public health genomics.

Prior to her current position Karen was Deputy Director of the Global Change Institute at UQ, and prior to that she was Associate Professor in the Fenner School of Environment and Society at the ANU, where she now holds an Honorary Professorship. From 2007-2010 Karen was based in Brussels as the ANU Vice Chancellor's Representative in Europe, where she was responsible for developing the ANU's research relationships and profile with European research teams and institutions.



Dr Vigya Sharma
Research Fellow, Energy & Poverty Research Group, The University of Queensland

Vigya is a Research Fellow with the Energy and Poverty Research Group (EPRG). She is also an Honorary Fellow with the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining (CSRSM), Sustainable Minerals Institute at UQ where she was a Postdoctoral Fellow until May 2015. Initially trained as an engineer in India, Vigya has since transitioned to the social sciences. She holds a M.Sc. in Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Infrastructure from Kungl Tekniska Hogskolan, Stockholm, Sweden and PhD in Sustainability and International Development from The University of Adelaide, Australia.

Her research is at the intersection of climate change, resources, and livelihoods and development. Presently, she is investigating the ethical case for Australian coal exports to India as well as the role of energy access in helping societies better adapt to changing climatic conditions. One of her key emerging research interests is in the area of Energy and Gender; she is currently supervising PhD research investigating gender and energy entrepreneurship linkages in remote developing regions such as PNG.



Mr Juan Ossa Moreno
PhD Candidate, Sustainable Minerals Institute - Centre for Water in the Minerals Industry, The University of Queensland

Juan is a Colombian Civil Engineer currently undertaking a PhD related to water resources management in catchments with mining projects, at the UQ Sustainable Minerals Institute. In the past he has worked in the construction industry in the development of water supply and drainage infrastructure, and he has been involved in research projects related to optimisation of water supply networks, experimental models of water drainage networks and evaluation of benefits of green infrastructure for urban water networks.



Ms Paula Calvo
PhD Student, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI), The University of Queensland

Ms Paula Calvo is a PhD student with the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI), University of Queensland. She was born in Costa Rica, holds a Bachelor & Honours degree in Agricultural Science (University of Costa Rica), Diploma in Business Administration (Distance University of Costa Rica), and a MSc. in Vegetable Sciences (Pontifical Catholic University of Chile).

Her career has focused on postharvest management of agricultural products. She holds a current research scientist position at the Agronomics Research Centre of the University of Costa Rica, and has been involved in international cooperation with Mexico (Research Centre for Food and Development) and China (Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences). She also has a strong interest in food policy and governance. In 2014, Paula received an Australia Awards scholarship and travelled to Australia to conduct her PhD studies in biofortification of sweet-corn for human health.

As a PhD student, she has been granted several awards and recognition, including invitation as a guest presenter at the Gordon Carotenoid Conference (Italy, 2016), the Crawford Fund and UQ-Vice-Chancellor awards for her research abstract at the TropAg Conference (Brisbane, 2015), and the Howard Foundation best research abstract/best student oral presentation at the Macular Carotenoid Conference (Cambridge, UK, 2015).

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