



EMERGING SKILLS SUMMIT 2020 & BEYOND

A CRITICAL NATIONAL CHALLENGE

SUMMIT

Tuesday 22 November 2005
Shangri-la Hotel, The Rocks, Sydney

*WHAT ARE THE SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE SETS WHICH WILL BE RELEVANT IN THE YEARS AHEAD?
HOW BEST DO WE MEET THESE?*

*MEET WITH LEADERS FROM GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, UNIONS, HIGHER EDUCATION,
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, & THE PROFESSIONS TO ADDRESS THESE VITAL ISSUES.*

SPECIAL FEATURES

Summit: – Keynote address by the Hon. Gary Hardgrave MP, Minister for Vocational & Technical Education and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister
Prominent leaders to contribute their ideas. Outstanding speaker faculty.

Awards Dinner – 22nd November 2005 (Shangri-la Hotel)
Keynote address by the Hon. Dr Brendan Nelson MP, Minister for Education, Science and Training

SUPPORTED BY:



Australian Government
Department of Education, Science and Training

PROGRAM and REGISTRATION

WHY THIS SUMMIT IS CRITICAL

One of the challenges facing business, industry, and post-compulsory education and training providers is to identify what are the skills sets and knowledge sets which will be relevant in the years ahead and how best to meet these.

Increasing commercial pressures will inevitably speed the time-to-market of emerging technologies.

In a globally competitive marketplace there is constant pressure to compress the lag between demand for and supply of appropriately educated and trained staff.

Business and education providers need to put in place mechanisms to ensure we anticipate our needs and know how to meet them.

Recently there has been considerable discussion about the growing problem of skill shortages. Such shortages cover an array of industry sectors.

However, what is not being discussed is the **type of skills** the Australian workforce will need in the coming decades and the **nature of the education and training** which will be needed to support those needs.

Australia is increasingly a knowledge-based economy. Sectors such as elaborately transformed manufacturing, ICT, engineering, mining, agriculture, the sciences, arts and humanities, and the professions will be the enablers in our pursuit of a high performing knowledge-based economy.

Issues to be considered at the Emerging Skills Summit will include:

- What **trends** in skills gaps exist today in Australia and how are they being rectified?
- How are the higher education and vocational education and training sectors positioning themselves to meet future shifts in skill requirements?
- How can business and industry communicate to education providers what their market needs are?
- Should Creativity be a recognised discipline much the same as Knowledge Management now is?
- How do you build a demand driven culture where organisations are constantly seeking change rather than waiting to have change forced upon them?
- How will the ageing of the Australian workforce be addressed and what are the implications for lifelong learning?

- Is the trend towards generic degrees coupled with vocational skills, or double degrees the right option?
- How do we predict future skills trends especially for future business leaders and those wishing to embark on a career incorporating innovation, entrepreneurship and business development?

This Summit will be an opportunity to canvass the opinions and ideas of **thought leaders** from a number of areas of expertise - business, industry, higher education, vocational education and training, research, graduate employers and the professions.

It is intended that the outcome will be some concrete proposals for implementation by the various stakeholders.

It is essential to our economic development that Australia be at the forefront of the skills development curve.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Business and community leaders, leading academics and administrators from higher education and vocational education and training, employer groups, leaders from the professions, senior officers and policy makers from all levels of government, senior management and leading researchers from public/private research organizations, and all those interested in contributing to the development of the creative class in Australia.



Keynote Address at the Summit will be presented by the Hon. Gary Hardgrave MP, Minister for Vocational and Technical Education & Minister Assisting the Prime Minister

The Program

Tuesday 22 November

8.30am **REGISTRATION**

8.55am **WELCOME:** Professor Ashley Goldsworthy, AO OBE, Executive Director, Business/Higher Education Round Table

9.00am **MANAGER OF THE 21ST CENTURY – THE NEXT 10 YEARS:** Jon Nicholson, Senior Vice-President, Boston Consulting Group

9.25am **DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL CAPABILITY IN THE KNOWLEDGE ERA:** Barry Peddle, Chair, TAFE Directors Australia

9.50am **SUSTAINABILITY OF THE MINERALS SECTOR IN AUSTRALIA, SKILLS NEEDED IN A GLOBAL INDUSTRY:**

Don Larkin, CEO, The Australasian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy

10.10am **KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** Hon Gary Hardgrave MP, Minister for Vocational & Technical Education & Minister Assisting the Prime Minister

10.40am **MORNING TEA**

11.05am **WORLD CLASS SKILLS FOR WORLD CLASS INDUSTRIES - the Way Forward:** Megan Lilly, General Manager for Education & Training – Australian Industry Group

11.30am **GRADUATE SKILLS:** Ben Reeves, Executive Director, Australian Association of Graduate Employers

11.50am **THE DYNAMICS OF A CHANGING WORKFORCE:** Dianne Francois, HR Leader - Business to Business, GE Money

12.15pm **NEW ECONOMY APPROACHES TO SKILLS SHORTAGES:** Professor Kerry Cox, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ballarat

12.40pm **PANEL: THE RISE OF THE CREATIVE CLASS**

The Value of Creativity: Ralph Kerle, CEO/Creative Director, Eventures Australia P/L

What does it mean to be a Creative Manager: Professor Janet Chan, School of Social Science & Policy, University of New South Wales

1.20pm **LUNCH**

2.00pm **The challenge for Universities:** Professor Di Yerbury AO, Vice-Chancellor, Macquarie University & President, Australian Vice-Chancellors Association

2.25pm **Australia: All Workers are Knowledge Workers:** Bill Shorten, National Secretary, Australian Workers Union

2.50pm **PANEL: SKILLS- Interdisciplinary & across Industry**

Developing Entrepreneurship & Innovation Skills in all Future Employees: Dr. John Bailey, Chairman, Carlton Consulting Group

Private Providers & their role in meeting the skills needs of Emerging Industries: Julie Moss, National Chair, Australian Council for Private Education & Training, & Managing Director, Photography Studies College

The Advantages of a Cross-Industry Approach with Skills Convergence: Sharon Coates, CEO, Innovation Business Skills Australia

The New Engineer: Rolfe Hartley, National Vice- President, Engineering Practice & CPD, Engineers Australia

4.00pm **CLOSE:** Rob Stewart, President, B-HERT

B-HERT AWARDS

In 1998 B-HERT initiated a program of annual prestigious awards to recognise outstanding achievements in collaboration between business and higher education in the fields of Research & Development and Education & Training. The objective of the program is to highlight at a national level the benefits of such collaboration, and enhance links between industry and universities.

The awards are made for programs or projects involving a collaborative partnership between business and higher education. Therefore, the collaborating organisations nominated for the award must come from business and from higher education.

Awards are judged by an independent panel and presented at the B-HERT Awards dinner in November each year.

This year's Awards are for –

- Best R&D Collaboration
- Best E&T Collaboration
- Best Collaboration involving a CRC - R&D or E&T
- Best International Collaboration - R&D or E&T
- Best Collaboration with a Regional Focus – R&D or E&T

AWARD SPONSORS:



RMIT University



The University of Sydney



BEST ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Each year B-HERT makes an award to the Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year, to recognise the importance of education in the process of developing and nurturing entrepreneurs; and to showcase best practice in entrepreneurial education. Educators of students beyond the age of compulsion from final years of schooling, vocational education, training institutions, universities, employment programs to adult education programs are eligible.

The Award is judged by an independent panel and presented at the B-HERT Awards dinner each year.

The award includes a QANTAS voucher to the value of \$3000, valid for 12 months, which is intended to be used by the winner to visit some appropriate overseas institution.

THIS AWARD IS SPONSORED BY:



- Curtin University of Technology
- University of South Australia
- RMIT University
- University of Technology, Sydney
- Queensland University of Technology

All Awards this year will be presented by the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP, Minister for Education, Science and Training



Representing the Sydney electorate of Bradfield for the Liberal Party of Australia since 1996, Brendan Nelson has been Minister for Education, Science and Training since November 2001.

Dr Nelson was previously Chairman of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Workplace Relations, where he authored three major reports – the Age Counts report into Labour Market Reform for the over 45s, the Today's Training, Tomorrow's Skills inquiry into the role of TAFE and the report into Employee Share Ownership, Shared Endeavours. Dr Nelson also initiated the Committee's ongoing inquiry into the education of boys.

Dr Nelson has been a key contributor on a range of Government policy committees including Health, Communications, Treasury and was Secretary of the Government's Workplace Relations Policy Committee.

Prior to his appointment to the Federal Executive as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence in December 2000, Dr Nelson was Chairman of the Sydney Airport Community Forum, which interfaces the aviation industry, three tiers of government and Sydney communities planning long-term air traffic management and noise abatement strategies.

Dr Nelson is well known for his commitment to the areas of health, medical and social issues including smoking, drugs, Aboriginal health, aged care, youth suicide, human rights and the health effects of unemployment.

A general practitioner by training and a graduate of Flinders University in South Australia, Dr Nelson at the age of 35 was the youngest doctor to have ever been elected to the Federal Presidency of the Australian Medical Association (AMA), a position he held from 1993 to 1995. He had previously served as its Federal Vice President and Tasmanian Branch President.

In 1995 Dr Nelson was awarded the AMA's highest honour – the Gold Medal for "distinguished service to medicine and humanity". He was further acknowledged in 1995 for his commitment to the medical profession and public health in particular, with an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

He is married, has three children and interests include music, motorcycles and tennis.

THE MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE AWARDS DINNER IS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING



Australian Government

Department of Education, Science and Training

Emerging Skills Summit

Speaker Profiles



The Hon Gary Hardgrave, MP, Minister for Vocational & Technical Education, and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister

Gary Hardgrave has been a Member of Parliament since 1996 for the seat of Moreton in Queensland. He has held his current portfolio of vocational and technical education since the last election in October, 2004 and as Minister Assisting the Prime Minister since October 2003. He was previously Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs from November 2001 to October 2004.

Prior to entering Federal Parliament he was a radio broadcaster, news director, television presenter and journalist. He was also a media adviser to State and Federal Members of Parliament. He is a graduate in commerce of Griffith University.

Dr John Bailey, Chairman, Carlton Consulting Group

John Bailey is the Chairman of The Carlton Consulting Group Pty Ltd, consultants in the development of strategic competence within large corporations and government organisations working with senior executive teams and CEOs.

He holds a number of faculty positions including the University of Melbourne; RMIT University; Swinburne University and ANU. He has co-authored 15 books including Strategic Alliances (Business & Publishing 2000). In 2003 John was awarded the Australian Entrepreneurship Educator of The Year Award by The Business/Higher Education Round Table.

John has professional qualifications in engineering, commerce and education, an MBA and PhD degrees in management from University of Melbourne. Professional memberships include Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, Member Australian Institute of Management, Member Australian Institute of Training and Development, Member of Australasian Institute of Enterprise Facilitators.

Previous appointments have included National Training and Development Manager for Telecom Australia; Dean of the Business School at Preston Institute of Technology; Founding Executive Director of the Centre for the Development of Entrepreneurs, Chisholm Institute of Technology; and managing director of Clark Hummerston Bailey Consultants.

Professor Janet Chan, School of Social Science & Policy, University of NSW

Professor Chan's research activities in recent years have focused on three related areas: (1) the analysis of criminal justice policy, (2) understanding the structural and cultural dynamics of police reform, and (3) cultural analysis of crime and criminology. She has been interested in examining the development, implementation and evaluation of reforms and innovations in police, courts, corrective services and juvenile justice. She has also been developing a theoretical framework for understanding the relationship between social, legal and technological change and organisational culture.

Professor Chan has held a number of visiting positions with institutions in the UK and British Columbia, as well as consultancies to organisations such as the NSW Attorney General's Department and the NSW Police Service.

Other areas of expertise include: Socio-legal studies; Regulation theories; Evaluation research; Media and cultural studies.

Janet has a BSc, MSc, MA Toronto, M Art, PhD Sydney, and is a Fellow of the ASSA.

Sharon Coates, CEO, Innovation & Business Skills Australia

Sharon Coates is the Chief Executive Office of the Industry Skills Council - Innovation Business Skills Australia. Sharon's experience includes senior management roles with the former Australian National Training Authority -

leading system wide VET reform nationally.

She has also held other senior VET policy and management roles with the Victorian State Training Authority, the ACE sector, TAFE Institutes, and Ministerial appointments within the key areas of adult literacy and women's participation in VET.

Sharon ensures the integration of the needs of industry with IBSA's core role of developing nationally recognised competency standards and qualifications for workforce skills development and training.

Professor Kerry Cox, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ballarat

As Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ballarat, Kerry heads the senior leadership team. He brings to the University very diverse experience in Australia and overseas as a scientist, academic and senior academic administrator.

Kerry holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours in Microbiology) and Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Western Australia. He is also a Fellow of the Australian Society for Microbiology and the Australian Institute of Biology Incorporated.

He is the co-author of some 70 publications in immunology and microbiology. He is a former President of the Australian Society for Microbiology. Appointed as Lecturer at Flinders University in 1974, Kerry became Dean of Biological Sciences in 1991, Head of the Faculty of Science and Engineering in 1992, and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) in 1993. He commenced at the University of Ballarat on 1 September 1997 as a Deputy Vice-Chancellor and became Vice-Chancellor on 1 January 2001.

He received the Centenary Medal in 2003 for services to Higher Education in Australia; the Distinguished Service Award of the Australian Society for Microbiology in 1994; and was made an Emeritus Professor of Flinders University in 1997. Kerry serves or has served on many councils, boards and committees. He has also been a keynote speaker at many fora both nationally and internationally in the field of immunology/microbiology and on the role of education, training and research in a rapidly changing world.

Dianne Francois, HR Leader - Business to Business, GE Money

Dianne started her career in teaching, and learning and development roles, including working in France for four years. Dianne joined GE Money in 1999. During her time within GE Dianne has taken on a number of roles within the HR function some of which include - Operations Training Leader, Operations HR Leader and Card Services HR Leader. More recently Dianne moved into the role of Organisational Development leader and HR business Integration leader.

Dianne's current role is HR Leader for GE Money, specifically focusing on the business to business finance side of GE Money.

Rolfe Hartley, National Vice President for Engineering Practice and Continuing Professional Development, Engineers Australia

Rolfe Hartley is a civil engineer who manages facilities services provided to Government clients by KBR's Government and Defence business unit in Canberra. Rolfe is a member of the Council of Engineers Australia and is National Vice President for Engineering Practice and Continuing Professional Development.

In this portfolio he oversees the activities of the eight Colleges that represent the learned society function of Engineers Australia. He also oversees the development and implementation of a programme of Continuing Professional Development to ensure that members of the engineering team who achieve Chartered Status attain and maintain the competencies required for independent practice.

Ralph Kerle, CEO/Creative Director, Eventures Australia P/L

Ralph is the Founder of Eventures Australia Pty Ltd (experience design and production) whose clients include such Fortune 500 companies as Caltex, Carlton and United Breweries, Dairy Farmers, Foxtel, General Motors, Hewlett Packard, Kraft Foods, Nestle, Rolls Royce, Toyota, Telstra, Walt Disney, and Yellow Pages. His creative event design and production work for the Royal Melbourne Show won a Gold Medal in the US Fairs and Exposition for Best Overall Programme for Fair Going Public for 500,000 to 1 million attendees. He is a drama graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts and is a Board Member and International Committee Member of the US Creative Education Foundation and a Fellow of the US-based think tank, the Center for Cultural Studies & Analysis. He is an accredited Innovation Coach at the Banff Centre Leadership Lab Faculty, Banff, Canada.

He is currently completing a Doctorate in Creative Industries at the Queensland University of Technology based on his theories of Experience Design.

Don Larkin, CEO, The Australasian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy

Don Larkin has been CEO of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy since June 1999. The AusIMM is the pre-eminent body representing professionals in the Minerals Sector (Geologists, Mining Engineers, Metallurgists and other professions). Don has worked in the private, government, education and not for profit sectors and has focussed on the strategic interface between Government and Business.

Past positions include Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Director of the Australian Administrative Staff College, Mt Eliza, Executive Director of the Australian Hotels Association, Executive Director of the State Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Acting Managing Director of the Tourism Council of Australia.

Don has a B.Ec(ANU), MBA(Monash), and is a Fellow of the AusIMM.

Megan Lilly, General Manager for Education & Training, Australian Industry Group

Megan Lilly is currently the National General Manager – Education & Training for the Australian Industry Group. Prior to this Megan was the CEO of Business Services Training Australia, the national industry advisory board for the business services and related industry sectors. Before joining the national ITAB Megan held several senior management positions in various Victorian TAFE institutes.

Megan is currently a Director of Manufacturing Skills Australia; member of the National Quality Council; and a member of the Victorian Learning & Employment Skills Commission.

Julie Moss, Chair, Australian Council for Private Education and Training

Julie has been National Chair (since Oct 2004) and General Board Member - Victoria (since 1991) as well as Managing Director, Photography Studies College.

She was Deputy National Chair from 2000 to Oct 2004 and has been an ACPET member since its inception. She has been actively involved in raising ACPET's profile in a range of capacities including her role on a number of reference groups and her participation, over a number of years, in the judging of the Australian and Victorian Training Awards.

With over 20 years in the vocational education and training sector, including previous management experience in community education and employment programs, she brings a "hands-on" approach and a strong sense of the importance of working locally and nationally to advance ACPET and the diverse sector it represents. Ms Moss is also a Board member of the Victorian Qualifications Authority, and a member of the Victorian Government's Higher Education Advisory Committee and the VTAC Management Committee.

Jon Nicholson, Senior Vice-President, Boston Consulting Group

Jon Nicholson is a Senior Vice President in the Sydney office of The Boston Consulting Group. He joined BCG in 1988 from the Office of the Prime Minister, where he was the Senior Private Secretary to the then Prime Minister (Bob Hawke). He was appointed Vice President in 1994.

Mr Nicholson has deep expertise in corporate strategy and organisational transformation. He has led over 500 assignments, both in Australia and globally.

These include: The transformation of a major Australian bank, which led to a doubling of its share price over a three year period; Restructuring and re-organisation of a major industrial company; Asian strategy and organisation for one of the world's largest insurance companies; Corporatisation and strategy for a government owned utility; Global business strategy for a complex, multi-product

utility; Major contributor to the Karpin Report on Management Education: "The Manager of the 21st Century"; Strategic transformation of world's most successful broker, following the collapse of US market in 2000; Fundamental strategic redesign of a complex retail network, including deep customer research; The strategic design of "Business Class" financial services business; Corporate re-organisation of a complex, multi-divisional organisation with sophisticated synergy requirements between divisions.

Jon has a degree in mathematics from the Australian National University.

Barry Peddle, Chair, TAFE Directors Australia

Barry Peddle has been the Institute Director of the TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute for over eight years and prior to that the inaugural Institute Director of the Riverina Institute of TAFE for seven years. He is the longest serving Institute Director in the NSW TAFE system.

Barry is a Ministerial appointment to the NSW Board of Adult and Community Education, the Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board, the Illawarra Regional Development Board and the Commonwealth Illawarra Area Consultative Committee.

Barry was a founding executive Director of the Australian TAFE Directors Association and held the position of Deputy Chair until his appointment as Chair of the 2nd World Congress Planning Committee for the 2nd World Congress of Associations of Colleges and Polytechnics, and represents Australian Directors on the World Federation of that body today.

Barry's recent international experience includes project management for a Middle East military college tender and currently working with TAFE Global on restructuring the Thailand VET Institute system.

Ben Reeves, Executive Director, Aust Association of Graduate Employers

Ben is the National Recruitment Manager at Minter Ellison, one of the world's largest law firms. He is also Executive Director of the Australian Association of Graduate Employers (AAGE), which is the peak industry body for organisations involved in graduate recruitment.

Ben has extensive experience in the recruitment field in both Australia and the UK. He has managed graduate and experienced recruitment programs for a number of organisations including KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Phillips Fox.

Ben has a degree in Physics and is a Chartered Accountant.

Bill Shorten, National & Victorian Secretary, the Australian Workers Union

Established 119 years ago, the AWU is Australia's oldest and most diverse union, with 120,000 members nationwide.

Bill started working at the AWU in 1994, after completing Arts and Law degrees at Monash University. While working for the union, he studied for an MBA from the Melbourne Business School.

In 1998, Bill was elected as the AWU's Victorian Secretary. He reformed the union's internal structure and implemented new strategies to organise non-union workplaces and consolidate membership in the steel, aluminium, glass, manufacturing and aviation industries.

In 2001, Bill was elected AWU National Secretary and re-elected as Victorian Secretary. The 38-year-old was re-elected unopposed to both positions in 2005.

Professor Di Yerbury, AO, Vice-Chancellor, Macquarie University & President, Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee

Di Yerbury, AO, President of AVCC for 2004-05, is a Professor of Management and previous CEO of the Australia Council, who became Australia's first woman Vice-Chancellor when she joined Macquarie University in 1987.

Passionate about international education, she holds several prominent positions in the international field, including as President of the US-based Golden Key International Honour Society; until 2002 as the long-serving President of IDP Education Australia (the company which supports educational exports); as Founding President of the Asia-Pacific Higher Education Research Network; and as a Director of the Association of Universities of the Asia-Pacific, and the Association of Commonwealth Universities. For many years she served on the Board of the Australian Education Office in Washington, and was Australia's nominee on the Council of the University of the South Pacific.

A recipient of Honorary Doctorates from Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto and the University of Western Sydney, Di Yerbury was named NSW Telstra Business Woman of the Year in 2002.



‘Higher Education is a very critical sector for Australia, and one that produces the skills, talent and capacity for innovation the country needs to sustain economic growth and build a better society into the future.’

The Hon John Howard MP
Prime Minister of Australia

‘It is research and innovation that will drive us confidently into the knowledge society of the 21st century.’

The Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP
Minister for Education, Science & Training

The Mission of the Business/Higher Education Round Table

The relationship between business and higher education is an important one, and with information and knowledge the critical drivers for most businesses, a relationship becoming more vital everyday.

The value of B-HERT is the intellectual leverage of its unique membership in influencing the attitudes towards and direction of higher education in Australia.

It is the collective voice of leaders in academe, business, research, science and the professions, which is the added value in policy debates and in building more effective links and beneficial outcomes amongst the stakeholders.

Australian business can reap large benefits from better access to the skills and knowledge of our higher education institutions. Business leaders have a lot to offer in promoting the quality, vitality and global competitiveness of our higher education system.

The purpose of the Business/Higher Education Round Table (B-HERT) is to pursue initiatives that will advance the goals and improve the performance of both business and higher education for the benefit of Australian society.

In pursuing its mission, B-HERT aims to influence public opinion and government policy on selected issues of importance. B-HERT is the only national body where leaders of Australia’s business, research, professional and academic communities come together to address important issues of common concern, to improve the interaction between Australian business and post-compulsory education institutions, and to help guide the future directions of post-compulsory education.

Membership comprises Australian universities, corporations, professional associations and major public research organisations.

We are pursuing an integrated set of priorities, including: *long-term funding of universities, particularly in respect of research and research training; *the training agenda - in terms of the extent to which the education and training sector is effective and meeting the needs of business; *a greater focus on post-compulsory education; *the commercialisation of research, particularly in the public sector; *the critical need for lifelong learning in the business environment; *the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship; *more effective identification, management and exploitation of IP; *more effective regional engagement; *commercial partnerships in R&D; *quality in higher education; *science infrastructure; and the need to invest in R&D.

What Does B-HERT Do?

Directors Register for Academics, Researchers, Engineers and ICT Professionals

In a recent issue of the official journal of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, in an article on Corporate Governance, the comment was made, 'We need to widen the pool of directors..... to include women, government, academics, HR people, industrial relations, communications and IT.'

Companies need to constantly expand their pool of non-executive directors, to diversify the collective talent around the board table, and to go outside the normal pool of likely candidates. Companies could gain valuable expertise by tapping into the university and research sectors.

B-HERT has established a register of those from universities and research organizations (CSIRO, DSTO, ANSTO, and medical research institutes) who are interested in becoming non-executive directors on company boards. Companies are able to request a search of the register, and follow-up with individuals whom they see as potentially suitable.

In addition the register also includes members from Engineers Australia and the Australian Computer Society, both organizations being Members of B-HERT.

Ministerial Working Lunches

Provide exclusive access to senior federal policy makers, both in Government and Opposition.

CEO Round Table Lunches

These private lunches give Members the benefit of hearing from a business leader of a progressive organisation.

Regional Engagement Fora

These regular fora bring together all stakeholders within a regional context to focus on the benefits that linkages between education providers and business can generate.

Annual Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Collaborative R&D, and Education & Training, and Entrepreneurial Education.

Professional Certificate in Business Principles

The purpose of which is to provide to new graduates (particularly, but not exclusively) in non-business disciplines, and others entering business for the first time, with a basic introduction to practical business, in a program delivered by the La Trobe University Graduate School of Management.

Higher Education Summits

Regular one-day summits with political and business leaders. Recent summits have focused on the Challenge of Commercialisation, University Governance, Intellectual Property & Knowledge Management, Post-compulsory Education and Regional Engagement.

B-HERT Knowledge Exchange Network (KEN)

KEN aims at providing a unique, practical, cost-effective and efficient mechanism for the interchange of information between universities, research organisations, and business (particularly SMEs), focussed on the use of IP in the former to help improve productivity in the latter, and the identification and communication of problems in business which might be effectively addressed by resources available in universities and research organisations.

Publications

B-HERT publishes reports and papers including the periodical 'B-HERT NEWS', distributed to a wide audience of thought leaders in government, education, business, science, research and the community in general.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Program

B-HERT is a founding partner in this program. SIFE's mission is 'to provide university students the best opportunity to make a difference and to develop leadership, teamwork and communications skills through learning, practicing and teaching the principles of enterprise and innovation in a market economy'.

Workshops & Seminars with thought leaders from business, research, and higher education.