



**2018/2019**



**TIAC**

**Technology and Industry Advisory Council**

# **TIAC Annual Activity Report**




Hon Mark McGowan MLA  
Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; State Development, Jobs and  
Trade; Federal-State Relations  
Level 5, Dumas House  
2 Havelock Street  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Premier

On behalf of the Western Australian Technology and Industry Advisory Council (TIAC), I am pleased to submit the TIAC Annual Activity Report for the year ending 30 June 2019, for your information and subsequent presentation to Parliament in accordance with Section 26(1) and Section 26(2) of the *Industry and Technology Development Act 1998* (ITD Act).

TIAC has also reported through the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation Annual Report and Financial Statement in accordance with Section 26(3) of the ITD Act and in compliance with Section 62 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Alan Bansemer**  
**Chair**

26 August 2019

On behalf of Council members:

Current members (as of 31 August 2018):

Mr Alan Bansemer (Chair)  
Mr Andy Farrant  
Professor Lyn Beazley AO FTSE  
Professor Shaun Collin  
Professor Barry Marshall AC  
Mr Geoffrey Wedgwood (ex-officio)

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## **Executive Summary**

The Technology and Industry Advisory Council (TIAC) was established to provide independent advice to the State Government on the growth and development of industry, trade, science, technology and research to support the economic advancement of the State.

The *Industry and Technology Development Act 1998* (ITD Act) provides the functions of TIAC, as directed by the Minister responsible for the ITD Act.

In a letter dated 12 July 2018, the Minister responsible for the ITD Act acknowledged that TIAC had been an important vehicle for providing economic development and job creation advice since its inception, but was of the view that the Government had other options to receive such advice. Therefore, and in accordance with section 25(1) of the Act, directed that the performance of TIAC's functions, the exercise of its powers and members positions cease, effective from 31 August 2018.

On 17 August 2018, individual letters were sent to each Council member reiterating the Ministerial direction from the 12 July 2018 correspondence.

## **TIAC Activities in 2018–2019**

### ***Advice to the Minister***

A summary of key discussion points was provided to the Minister responsible, following the 2 August 2018 Council meeting.

In addition, TIAC provided one advisory paper to the responsible Minister titled *Industry Research Facilitation Policy: Translating Research to Economic Outcomes* and provided a submission to the public consultation process on the Government's Market-Led Proposals Policy.

### ***Industry Research Facilitation Policy***

TIAC's Industry Research Facilitation Policy is a recommended pathway to enhance collaboration and to increase the attraction of Commonwealth science, research and innovation funding into Western Australia. Increased research funds from the Commonwealth will diversify, strengthen and grow the State's economy creating new jobs, new industry sectors, new products, services and solutions as a basis for improved competitive advantages.

The paper includes five recommendations for State Government support to drive greater collaboration, industry-focused research and translation of this research into economic outcomes.

- A single point of contact (Portal Team) in the State Government (Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation) to act as a liaison and coordinator with the Commonwealth, potential applicants, university business development staff, small, medium and large industry organisations, researchers and State agencies.
- An application-readiness process. This will act as a sounding board/pre-application evaluation of applications' early development.
- The promotion of collaborative research and development projects by proactively identifying across Government agencies key issues that require research focus as a major end-user and market for solutions.
- A requirement to translate research into innovative commercial products and services in partnership with the private, public or community sectors.
- An industry-based Higher Degree by Research Placement Program that is targeted at Masters and Honours level.

A copy of the report was circulated to a number of Ministers including: the Hon Mark McGowan MLA, Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; State Development, Jobs and Trade; Federal-State Relations; the Hon Dave Kelly MLA, Minister for Water; Fisheries; Forestry; Innovation and ICT; Science; the Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC, Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Minister assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade; the Hon Ben Wyatt MLA, Treasurer; Minister for Finance; Energy; Aboriginal Affairs; and the Hon Sue Ellery MLC, Minister for Education and Training. The report was published on the TIAC website in September 2018.

## ***Market-Led Proposals Policy***

On 28 June 2018, the Hon Mark McGowan MLA, Premier, announced the draft Market-led Proposals Policy. The policy is aimed at streamlining processes, reducing red tape and sets out a new, consistent process to enable the State Government to receive and evaluate unsolicited proposals from the private sector. The draft policy provides a single portal for the private sector to approach government with unique projects or services that meet government objectives, achieve value for money and deliver outcomes that will benefit Western Australia.

The draft policy was open for a six-week public consultation period, closing on Thursday, 9 August 2018. The Council provided a submission to the consultation process in line with TIAC's strategy to support the Government's role in economic development and job creation in Western Australia.

## **Council Meeting**

The 45<sup>th</sup> Council meeting on 2 August 2018 was held at the offices of the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI). TIAC prepared and agreed to a submission to the Government's 'Market-Led Proposals Policy' public consultation process. This was submitted on 3 August 2018.

The TIAC Secretariat provided a synopsis on the work undertaken to finalise the Industry Research Facilitation Policy and requested that the Council review, provide feedback and approve if considered complete.

The TIAC Chair, Mr Alan Bansemer, informed members that the Premier had advised him, and had asked JTSI to "liaise with all relevant parties and commence ceasing the functions and operations of TIAC. TIAC's functions are to cease effective from 31 August 2018."

## **Cessation of TIAC**

The responsible Minister issued a Direction under S25(1) to the Chair and members of TIAC, that the performance of TIAC's functions, the exercise of its powers and the positions as Council members cease, effective from 31 August 2018. JTSI has commenced processes to cease the operations of TIAC including removing the role of TIAC and its functions from the ITD Act.

## TIAC Membership

The members of TIAC during the specific period 1 July to 31 August of the 2018–2019 financial year were:

### **Mr Alan Bansemer, TIAC Chair and Director, Banscott Health Consulting Pty Ltd**

Mr Alan Bansemer has over 35 years' experience in the health sector, including six years as the West Australian Health Commissioner and eight years as the Deputy Secretary to the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health. He currently runs his own private consultancy group, Banscott Health Consulting Pty Ltd, providing strategic advice to health departments throughout Australia.



Mr Bansemer has chaired a number of committees including the Medicare Schedule Review Board and General Practice Consultative Committee. In addition, he has served as a member of numerous health advisory committees including the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council, Health Insurance Commission and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Mr Bansemer has a Bachelor degree in Economics from the University of Adelaide and Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from the South Australian Institute of Technology.

### **Mr Andrew (Andy) Farrant, Principal, One Degree Advisory**

Mr Andy Farrant has over 25 years' management experience, serving as a company director in a range of not-for-profit and commercial entities. In his last job, Mr Farrant was the General Manager and Company Secretary for Poseidon Scientific Instruments, a defence firm specialising in radio frequency technology. In this role he was responsible for leading a team that developed the signal receivers for the Murchison Widefield Array, a precursor project for the Square Kilometre Array Radio Telescope.



His career also spans across the field of arts management serving as the Chief Executive Officer for Country Arts WA, the Media and Marketing Manager at Perth Theatre Trust, a Director of Regional Arts Australia and the Chair of Federal Ministerial Advisory Committee Playing Australia. He currently is the Principal Consultant at One Degree, a boutique consultancy firm specialising in leadership and communications.

Mr Farrant is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He holds a Post Graduate qualification in Arts Administration and is a trained science specialist teacher.

## **Professor Lyn Beazley AO FAA FTSE**

After graduating from Oxford and Edinburgh Universities, Lyn built an internationally renowned research team in Neuroscience that focused on recovery from brain damage, with much of her investigations undertaken as Winthrop Professor at The University of Western Australia. Currently Lyn is Sir Walter Murdoch Distinguished Professor of Science at Murdoch University.



Lyn was honoured to be Chief Scientist of Western Australia from 2006 to 2013, advising the Western Australian Government on science, innovation and technology, as well as acting as an Ambassador for science locally, nationally and internationally. With extensive experience serving on advisory bodies, Lyn currently serves on several boards including the Federal Government's Bionic Vision Australia. Lyn was a Trustee of the Western Australian Museum from 1999 to 2006 and currently is Patron of the Friends of the Museum. Recently Lyn joined the Board of the Western Australian Art Gallery Foundation.

In 2009, Lyn was awarded Officer of the Order of Australia and elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering later that year. In 2011, she was inducted into the inaugural Western Australian Women's Hall of Fame, followed by being elected a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and a Companion of Engineers Australia. Lyn has worked to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to the community, especially to young people and in 2012, Lyn was thrilled to become the second recipient of the Governor's Award for Giving in recognition of her enthusiastic philanthropy. In 2014, Lyn was accorded the honour of being inducted into the Western Australian Science Hall of Fame and in November 2015 was thrilled and honoured to be announced as WA Australian of the Year for 2015.



**Professor Shaun Collin, Director, UWA Oceans Institute and Oceans Graduate School, The University of Western Australia**

Professor Shaun Collin is a world leader in comparative neurobiology and Winthrop Professor at The University of Western Australia. Shaun has a BSc (Hons) and MSc from The University of Melbourne and a PhD from The University of Queensland.



Professor Collin, a former WA Premier's Research Fellow, is a world leader in how animals perceive and process their sensory world under different environmental conditions. He uses innovative techniques in anatomy, electrophysiology, bioimaging, molecular biology and behaviour to understand the evolution and mechanisms of neural processing for a range of senses including vision, hearing, olfaction and electroreception. Professor Collin's research is being incorporated into shark mitigation technologies, improving aquaculture industries, identifying the effects of anthropogenic disturbances such as underwater noise and dredging activities, with the ultimate aim of informing management strategies to conserve Australia's unique biodiversity.

Professor Collin has held many of the world's most prestigious fellowships in places such as the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in the United States; the Marine Biology Laboratory in Woods Hole in the US; The University of Tuebingen in Germany; The University of Montreal in Canada; the University of Washington (Friday Harbor) in the US; and The University of Queensland in Brisbane. He is the author of over 260 international scientific publications including eleven books on sensory systems of primarily aquatic vertebrates. Professor Collin has played an important role in the implementation of the Blueprint for Marine Science 2050 in Western Australia.

**Professor Barry Marshall AC FRS FAA FTSE, Nobel Laureate, The University of Western Australia**

Professor Barry Marshall is a Nobel Prize Laureate for Physiology or Medicine. This prize was awarded jointly to Professor Marshall and Professor Robin Warren in 2005 in recognition of their 1982 discovery of the bacterium, *Helicobacter pylori* that causes peptic ulcer disease. Their work is acknowledged as the most significant discovery in the history of gastroenterology and is compared to the development of the polio vaccine and the eradication of smallpox.



In 1998, Professor Marshall was made a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in 2008 he was elected as a Foreign Member to the prestigious US National Academy of Science. He was awarded a Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2007.

Professor Marshall continues to work as a Senior Principal Research Fellow at The University of Western Australia and is an Honorary Clinical Professor of Medicine and a consultant gastroenterologist at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. He treats patients with antibiotic resistant *Helicobacter pylori* infections and leads a team undertaking varied research into the bacterium, from clinical microbiology through to genomics and systems biology. His Helicobacter Research Laboratory is located within the Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases Research and Training, of which he is a Director. In 1996, he was a founder of Tri-Med Distributors Pty Ltd, a company specialising in the distribution and marketing of products for the detection and cure of *Helicobacter pylori*. In addition, he founded Ondek Pty Ltd in 2005 to develop and commercialise derivatives of *Helicobacter pylori* that are unable to colonise the gut, but have beneficial therapeutic effects. The first product being developed at Ondek is an immunotherapy for the treatment of eczema. Other products will address allergic asthma and food allergies in children.

**Mr Geoffrey Wedgwood (ex-officio), Deputy Director General, Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation**

Mr Geoffrey Wedgwood joined JTSI as Deputy Director General in September 2016.

He has more than 20 years of resources sector related experience, particularly in oil and gas, mineral sands, iron ore and mining services. His experience covers both the public and private sectors and includes senior management roles with Woodside Petroleum Ltd, Iluka Resources Limited, Mineral Resources Limited and senior advisory and consulting roles with previous WA Ministers for Resources Development and Energy and State Development.

## **Resignations and Appointments**

Mr Alan Bansemer (Chair), Professor Lyn Beazley AO, Professor Shaun Collin, Mr Andrew Farrant and Professor Barry Marshall AC continued to serve as members, under Section 1 of Schedule 1 of the ITD Act, until 31 August 2018 when their roles ceased in accordance with direction received under Section 25(1) of the ITD Act.

## **TIAC Secretariat**

As per the Operating Protocol between JTSI and TIAC, JTSI provides a team of staff (known as the Secretariat) to TIAC, who provide the following support:

- secretariat support:
  - minutes;
  - agenda;
  - conflict of interest registry; and
  - booking conference and event attendance.
- project management support;
- budget and financial administration;
- public interest disclosure officer, direct advice and desktop research; and
- website maintenance.

## **Financial Statement**

TIAC reports under the *Financial Management Act 2006* through the JTSI Annual Report and Financial Statements.

## **Financial Provisions**

While there is capacity for TIAC expenses to be provided for under Section 15 of the ITD Act via the Western Australian Industry and Technology Development Account, TIAC's budget is currently provided as part of the JTSI annual operating budget.

## **Remuneration of Council Members**

Council members' remuneration was recommended by the Public Sector Commissioner under provisions of Section 24 of the ITD Act as follows:

- (a) Chairperson's Salary: \$40,000 (per annum) and ceased on 31 August 2018
- (b) Member's Sitting Fee – Non-Public Sector: \$660 (per meeting)
- (c) Member's Sitting Fee – Public Sector: Nil

The recommendation was made pursuant to Premier's Circular 2010/02 – "State Government Boards and Committees" which excludes those on the public payroll from receiving fees.

TIAC met on one occasion on 2 August 2018.

## **Objects of the *Industry and Technology Development Act 1998***

The objects of the ITD Act (Section 3) are to:

1. promote and foster the growth and development of industry, trade, science, technology and research in the State;
2. improve the efficiency of State industry and its ability to compete internationally;
3. encourage the establishment of new industry in the State;
4. encourage the broadening of the industrial base of the State; and
5. promote an environment which supports the development of industry, science and technology and the emergence of internationally competitive industries in the State.

## **Functions of the Western Australian Technology and Industry Advisory Council**

1) The Council, under Section 21 of the ITD Act, is required to:

- a) provide advice to the Minister, at the initiative of the Council or at the request of the Minister, on any matter relating to the objects of the *Industry and Technology Development Act 1998*; and
- b) carry out, collaborate in or procure research, studies or investigations on any matter relating to the objects of this Act, including matters relating to the:
  - i) role of industry, science and technology in the policies of government;
  - ii) social and economic impact of industrial and technological change;
  - iii) employment and training needs and opportunities relating to industrial, scientific and technological activities in the State;
  - iv) adequacy of, priorities among and coordination of, scientific, industrial and technological activities in the State;
  - v) methods of stimulating desirable industrial and technological advances in the State;
  - vi) application of industrial, scientific and technological advances to the services of the Government; and
  - vii) promotion of public awareness and understanding of development in industry, science and technology.

- 2) The Council may publish and make available any report or finding produced as a result of any research, study or investigation under subsection (1).
- 3) The Council is to liaise with and advise any person, body or organisation, with respect to the conduct of any research, study or investigation into a matter relating to industry, science and technology in the State.
- 4) In carrying out its functions the Council is to:
  - a) have regard to the needs of the Western Australian community and the resources of the State;
  - b) promote developments in industry, science and technology that increase productivity and competitiveness; and
  - c) support developments that create employment opportunities.
- 5) The Council has the power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.

## **Ministerial Directions**

Under Section 25 of the ITD Act, the responsible Minister may give directions, in writing, to the Council with respect to the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers.

On 12 July 2018, the responsible Minister issued a Direction under S25(1) to the Chair and members of TIAC, that the performance of TIAC's functions, the exercise of its powers and the positions as Council members cease, effective from 31 August 2018. JTSI is managing the cessation of TIAC, including progressing relevant legislative amendments to remove TIAC and its functions from the ITD Act.