



FINANCIAL  
SERVICES  
INSTITUTE  
*of Australasia*

## FINSIA MEMBERS ENDORSE DIGITAL FUTURE

Finsia, Australasia's peak financial services body, resoundingly endorsed a new strategic vision at its AGM in Sydney last week.

The organisation's 12,000 strong membership voted on changes to Finsia's governance and board structures. These changes were proposed in recognition of the central role the Finsia's new digital platform will play in expanding the skills and networks finance professionals across Australia and in the Asian region.

Finsia Chief Executive Officer Russell Thomas said that the reforms will cement Finsia's industry-leading position as an innovator.

"Finsia has seized on the opportunities in digital to deliver compelling experiences for the next generation of finance professionals. Our board and governance structures now reflect the changing skills and diversity the organisation requires to keep delivering and innovating."

"The point of difference Finsia has always had is the community of leaders who are willing to give back to the industry through mentoring, training and policy development. With our new digital platform, there are ever more opportunities for new and emerging leaders to connect with the best in the industry," Mr Thomas said.

Key changes endorsed by Finsia's members include reducing the number of board directors to a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 9, and emphasising greater diversity of skills in the appointment of directors.

Governance Matters — an independent expert — were engaged to assist the Board to review its governance structures and practices.

At the AGM, the following new appointments were announced:

- > President — David Gall, Group Chief Risk Officer, National Australia Bank
- > Vice President — Victoria Weekes, non-executive director
- > Board — Loretta Venten, General Manager, Loan Markets and Syndications, Commonwealth Bank

Said Mr Thomas, "I congratulate the David, Victoria and Loretta on their appointments. They have each made exemplary contributions to Finsia's community of practice over many years and will further Finsia's revitalised strategic vision."

Mr Thomas also thanked outgoing President Marianne Birch, Executive Director, Macquarie Capital Advisers: "Marianne's leadership has culminated in the launch of Finsia's groundbreaking digital platform and driven increased relevance and vitality for our organisation."

-END-

*finsia.com*

Level 18  
1 Bligh Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Australia

T 61 2 9275 7900  
T 1300 346 742  
F 61 2 9275 7999  
membership@finsia.com

PO Box H99  
Australia Square  
NSW 1215  
Australia

ABN 96066027389

## **About Finsia**

Finsia — the Financial Services Institute of Australasia — is Australasia’s premier membership organisation for the financial services industry.

Finsia advances our members’ careers by building their capability and professional standing – and by connecting them to leading content, insights and influential networks. Finsia also plays a vital role in strengthening the financial services industry through policy initiatives and respected credentials that drive rigorous professional standards.

## **Media contacts**

### ***Cannings Corporate Communications***

Michael Mullane / Ben Leeson

+ 61 2 8284 9993

### ***Finsia***

Caroline Falshaw

+ 61 2 9275 7984

*finsia.com*

Level 18,  
1 Bligh Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

T 61 2 9275 7900  
F 61 2 9275 7999  
membership@finsia.com

PO Box H99  
Australia Square  
NSW 1215 Australia