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Media Release

VICTORIA WEEKES NAMED NEW PRESIDENT OF FINSIA

FINSIA, the leading Australasian financial services industry-wide body, has named the professional non-executive director who has more than 25 years experience as a senior executive in the financial services sector as its new President.

Victoria, who has been a member of FINSIA and its predecessor organisation the Securities Institute since 1996, takes over from David Gall who is continuing in a high profile role as Interim Vice President.

The appointment, which was ratified at the last board meeting on July 30, comes as part of a series of board level changes at the 133-year-old body.

Three new board directors appointed during May and June were also announced at their first official meeting.

They are: Westpac Chief Risk Officer David Stephen F FIN, National Australia Bank Executive General Manager, Growth Sector Cameron Fuller F FIN and Commonwealth Bank of Australia Executive General Manager, Regional and Agribusiness Banking Grant Cairns F FIN.

Victoria, a Senior Fellow, is currently the Independent Chair of OnePath Custodians, the ANZ Bank's public offer retail superannuation fund and a non-executive director of ASX-listed URB Investments. She is also the Chair of NSW Treasury and a member of the ASIC Markets Disciplinary Panel.

She said: "I am honoured and privileged to be appointed President of FINSIA at this critical time in our industry and our organisation's history, and hope I can provide the strong leadership that reflects the great legacy of our organisation and its members.

"My great aspiration is for FINSIA, and its members, to be leaders in deepening professionalism and pride in our industry.

"FINSIA, its members and staff, have a fabulous history of being leading advocates, thought leaders and drivers of professional standards.

"At a time when the financial services industry is facing unprecedented change, with heightened community expectations, a challenging competitive environment and regulatory landscape, building professionalism across our industry and supporting our members to be the best they can is critical.

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"Over the next year, that means FINSIA will continue to deliver and grow its program of market leading professional qualifications and programs that support our members and the industry to respond to this new environment.

"Importantly that also means working closely with industry leaders, regulators, ethics organisations to build professional standards, to become industry recognised standards of competence, conduct and ethical behaviour that apply across the industry, whether you're a banker, a fund manager, or in fintech."

Commenting on FINSIA's commitment to gender diversity, she added: "FINSIA released its first Gender Divide Report in 2010 and I'm very proud that FINSIA has demonstrated a continued commitment to driving change in gender diversity in our industry.

"FINSIA's core philosophy of transparency and consistency in reporting to drive change is at the heart of this report and its diversity campaign.

"Though some incremental change has occurred since 2010, what the 2019 Report shows is that significant change requires further significant effort at the organisational and system level, and by each and every individual in the industry.

"Gender diversity is a business problem which will deliver huge rewards if we get it right. And like every business problem it requires recognition, analysis and solutions that are measured and managed.

"FINSIA's ongoing advocacy and thought leadership on gender diversity - challenging the norms of the past - will be critical to driving awareness and ensuring the industry meets this important challenge."

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FINSIA. The professional excellence pathway.

FINSIA — the Financial Services Institute of Australasia — is the professional membership body in Australia and New Zealand for the financial services industry.

FINSIA's heritage is over 130 years of progressing financial service knowledge and conduct to high standards. More importantly than ever FINSIA is the connector of key stakeholders, industry regulators, government and education providers to help deepen trust in financial services by raising standards of professionalism. FINSIA enables the advancement of competence and integrity for the benefit of professionals, consumers and society.