

27 August 2015

ACN welcomes New Non-Executive Director and the formation of a new Quality Committee

Australian Careers Network (ASX: ACO) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of a new non-executive director Ms Samantha Martin-Williams to the Board.

Ms Martin-Williams is a former General Manager of TAFE NSW|Hunter Institute. She is also a former CEO of University of Newcastle|NUsport. She has undertaken a number of board appointments including non-executive roles at the Newcastle Permanent Building Society, Hunter Medical Research Institute Foundation and has been a member of advisory boards including TAFE NSW|Hunter and the Salvation Army.

Ms Martin-Williams has leadership experience at CEO level and specialist skills and qualifications in Industrial Relations/ Human Resource Management and Commercial Law along with significant experience in Government Boards, Foundations and major NFP Boards. Samantha has actively grown her involvement in Board Committees with specific experience and skills including Risk Management.

Samantha is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD) and a member of the NSW|Hunter committee for the AICD and a member of the Governance Institute of Australia.

Samantha is also a conjoint lecturer at the University of Newcastle Business and Law School.

The Board also announces the formation of a Quality Oversight Committee to assist management in providing quality training by identifying areas requiring improvement and insuring best practice training within the business and quality outcomes for students.

The Quality Oversight Committee will meet on a bi-monthly basis along with ad-hoc consultation depending upon requirements.

The committee will be chaired by Ms Samantha Martin-Williams and will consist of the following additional members:

Mr Peter Hall - Mr Hall was the minister for higher education and skills under the previous government in Victoria. Prior to his ministry he held the position of opposition spokesperson on education. Mr Hall spent over 20 years in state parliament following his career as a schoolteacher in the Latrobe Valley. Mr Hall is well known for his strong views on quality and robust education as well as his defence of TAFEs against government funding cuts.

Ms Marie Vassallo - Ms Vassallo is an independent VET consultant who provides services to private RTO's including coaching, internal auditing and quality assurance. Ms Vassallo is a former VRQA panel auditor. Ms Vassallo has spent many years consulting or acting on behalf of both private and public organisations in the VET sector.

Mr Ray Griffiths - Mr Griffiths is a non-executive director of ACO. Mr Griffiths was the CEO of Kangan TAFE for approximately 10 years following a similar length reign as CEO of East Gippsland TAFE. Mr Griffiths is also a director of the VET Development Centre Ltd.

Mr Michael Jansen - Mr Jansen brings over 15 years of VET experience, having established Apprenticeships Matter (formerly Apprenticeship Melbourne) back in 2003, now being one of few Australian Apprenticeship Centres nationally. Michael's focus is on improving the opportunities for all to commence or re start a career via an Australian Apprenticeship pathway. Michael also aspires to avail Australian industry to access world class training utilising both Federal and State Government funding, where possible. Therefore, meeting the future demands on business by focusing on increasing the skills and knowledge of their employees.

Michael has had VET board involvement with other Private Training Providers over many years. Michael is also a founding and current Board Member of Bully Zero Australia, one of Australia's fastest growing charities, aimed at eradicating the scourge of bullying in schools, workplaces, the wider community and on line (Cyberbullying) through education and awareness.

Managing Director Ivan Brown stated "The forming of this committee further shows the company's commitment to quality training and education. The committee brings a wealth of experience from all aspects of the training sector and I'm sure it will assist me and the management team in ensuring we are at the cutting edge of the industry."

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Australian Careers Network Group (ASX: ACO) is a full service vocational education and training provider encompassing student marketing and recruitment, direct and subcontracted education and training delivery (registered and non-registered), the issuing of registered qualifications, tracking, processing and reporting functions under the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA).

Its primary services include workplace training and classroom based accredited certificates and diplomas, heavy equipment licensing, simulative and flexible learning, industry-experienced training and assessment and partnering with job seeking agencies to provide employment pathways to students seeking employment upon completion of a qualification.