Mr Barry John NUTTER – Chair

Barry is well known for his outstanding public service to education and training in Queensland, particularly as Chair of the Training and Employment Recognition Council for 10 years. He has demonstrated outstanding service in his leadership of the regulation of the Vocational Education and Training System in Queensland, and has shown exceptional commitment to ensuring that regulation is risk-based, targeted and consistent.

Barry Biography

- 1988-89 Commissioner QLD
- 1992-98 Industrial Commission
- 1989-92 Director General - QLD
  - Department of Employment Vocational
  - Education training & industrial relations
- 1998-2012 consultancy – various public service departments assisting in the following:-
  - Human Resource & industrial relations issues
  - Chair of a number of panels
  - Disciplinary issues at 3 universities
- Ten years- (part time) Chair of Training Employment & Recognition
- Council (QLD) whose functions included registration of Registered Training Organisations in QLD. (prior to establishment of ASQA)
- 2012-2013 part time Director of Apprenticeship performance & review - Skills Queensland
- Awarded Public Service Medal (PSM) in 2011 in Recognition of Outstanding Public Service
Bruce Callaghan led Sydney-based consultancy practice in business development, management and strategic planning for over 30 years. Prior to establishing BCA, Bruce held a number of senior posts in government. He also lectured at the University of NSW in public administration, business ethics and political philosophy. He contributed as a visiting lecturer in management for five years in the School of Psychology at Macquarie University. In 1999, Bruce established BCA National Training Group (BCA National), a registered training organisation (RTO). BCA National offers a range of training programs across Australia and is registered for Vet Fee Help and CRICOS. The company has campuses in Sydney and Darwin, but delivers courses nationally. The company has formal agreements with 4 Universities and 1 Higher Education provider for qualifications and actively creates pathways for students into undergraduate bachelor degrees. In the past 20 years, Bruce has worked closely with Aboriginal organisations and communities in delivering capacity building services. The company has developed strong position in Aboriginal training, especially in remote and rural communities. The company has worked with the NT Government on strategies to enhance Aboriginal employment in the Public Sector. It holds National contracts to train and develop Aboriginal Managers in remote communities across Australia. BCA National has been a member of ACPET since 2010 and is a member of the NSW State Committee of ACPET, the NSW Skills Board VET Reference Group and the NSW Smart & Skilled Reference Group. Bruce holds Director roles on a number of Boards and is actively involved in VET Reform, holding position on advisory, committees and task forces. The company has been involved in education and training in the Gulf states and periodically provides advice on adult education in that context.

Selection of career history highlights

- Managing Director, BCA National Training Group
- Managing Director, Bruce Callaghan & Associates
- Chair, NSW Government inquiry, NSW Police and Citizens Youth Clubs
- Member of the inaugural Medical Faculty Board at Newcastle University
- Visiting lecturer in Management, School of Psychology, Macquarie University
- Academic coordinator, management and change program, International, Professional & Continuing Education Institute, University of NSW
- Registered as an advanced mediator with LEADR Australia
Kathleen Newcombe – Committee Member
Chief Executive Officer
Sarina Russo Group

Kathleen Newcombe is the CEO of the Sarina Russo Group of Companies, incorporating Sarina Russo Job Access, Sarina Russo Apprenticeships, James Cook University Brisbane and Sarina Russo Institute. This appointment builds on her thirty years of experience in the Higher Education, Vocational Training and Employment sectors both in Australia and the USA. Kathleen also spent three years in leadership roles in the Insurance industry where she successfully managed a Health Insurance business catering to the International Education sector.

Kathleen is currently a Director of the International Education Association Australia (IEAA), Director of the Icon Cancer Research Foundation and a member of the ACPET QLD State Committee.

A passionate advocate for lifelong learning, Kathleen holds qualifications in Education and Business. She has also sought to further her skills and knowledge through professional development programs at Harvard Business School, University of Florida and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

In 1997, Kathleen was honoured to receive the Education Faculty Outstanding Alumni Award from Queensland University of Technology for her contribution to education and training. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute on Management.

Alexis Watt – Committee Member
Chief Executive Officer
Silver Chain Training

Alexis is the CEO of Silver Chain Training, a not-for-profit private RTO specialising in the nursing, health, aged care, disability and community care sectors. With more than 15 years’ experience in VET, and an extensive mixture of formal education including 2 Masters Degrees Alexis brings a passion for quality education and training to ACPET. Holding seats on various advisory boards, councils, steering groups and industry committees at state and national level Alexis is actively connected with a wide range of issues, reforms and innovations in and around the VET sector. As Director of Education with the Australian Association of Massage Therapy Alexis' governance and peak body leadership skills continue to develop, helping to create more value for ACPET and its members.
David Windridge – Committee Member

Chief Executive Officer
MEGT (Australia)

David was appointed Chief Executive Officer of MEGT (Australia) Ltd in 1992. With an extensive background in education services, organisational management and a commitment to delivery of best practice service, David has overseen the growth of MEGT to a staff 800 people and 100 offices; reaching out to students, apprentices, trainees and employers from all over the world.

David’s vision to ensure MEGT’s opportunities for expansion has seen MEGT extend its business internationally and MEGT UK was established in 2010. MEGT also owns Workforce Planning Australia (WPA), a company that provides quality advice, support and services for workforce planning and development of initiatives to Australian businesses and industry.

David’s knowledge of the Victorian education and apprenticeship system is considerable. As the leader of Australia’s largest AAC and with significant presence of MEGT’s various business arms in all states, David yields a wealth of insight and integrity to an increasingly changing environment.