

Conference Speakers

THURSDAY 30 JULY 2020

Simone Austin

Sports Dietitian, BSc, MND (Masters of Nutrition and Dietetics)

Simone has a passion for enabling people to enjoy food whilst maximising their health and performance! She has a proven track record of success as an Advanced Sports Dietitian working the last 12 years with Hawthorn AFL Football Club and previously with The Australian Men's Cricket Team, Melbourne Storm Rugby league club, Western Bulldogs, Melbourne City and individual athletes for over 25 years. She is president of Sports Dietitians Australia and an author. Her first book, 'Eat like an Athlete', released in February 2019 and encourages people to eat for their own life performance. She enjoys sharing her passion for nutrition knowledge and is featured in the media, on radio, print, television and social media, being a media spokesperson for the Dietitians Association of Australia. Simone consults to the food industry at events and is the nutrition ambassador for the Australian Almond Board and a consultant to Rokeby Farms. She has worked at Swisse Wellness for 12 years, with highlights such as presenting numerous times with George Calombaris. She is a passionate public speaker who will keep you engaged.



Simon Birmingham

Senator for South Australia, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment

Simon Birmingham has served as a Liberal Party Senator for South Australia since May 2007 and in August 2018 he was appointed as Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment as well as Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate.

Simon grew up near Gawler in Adelaide's north on his family's small horse agistment property and was educated at local schools before going on to study at the University of Adelaide where he completed a Masters of Business Administration.

Prior to entering the Senate, Simon worked for a number of industry bodies, establishing particular experience in the wine, tourism and hospitality sectors - industries that are critical to South Australia's prosperity. After less than three years in the Senate Simon was appointed to the Shadow Ministry, serving as Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for the Murray-Darling Basin and the Environment until the 2013 election. Following the change of government in 2013 Simon served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment, with responsibility for water policy, including the Murray-Darling Basin, National Parks and the Bureau of Meteorology. In 2014 Simon was appointed to serve as the Assistant Minister for Education and Training in the Abbott Ministry, with specific responsibility for vocational education, apprenticeships, training and skills. In September 2015 he was appointed to position of Minister for Education and Training in the Turnbull government. In February 2018 he was appointed Manager of Government Business in the Senate.

He is married to Courtney and has two young daughters, Matilda and Amelia. Simon is an active supporter of the Parliamentary Association for UNICEF and a proud Adelaide Crows fan.



Nick Carracher

CEO, Lachstock Consulting

In Nick's 20+ years in trading and sales, he has gained extensive skills around derivative markets (specialising in options and OTC products). Nicks' familiarity with how producers, consumers and traders work give him the unique ability to forward think and mitigate risk.

Nick was raised on a mixed farm in Lucindale, in the South East of South Australia. After studying Agricultural Business and Management at the University of Sydney, he began his career as an Agricultural advisor. For 6 years, he domestically and internationally traded physical grains and oilseeds, before moving to Singapore to run ANZ's Asian Agricultural trading desk. Nick joined Goldman Sachs in Singapore, later moving to New York and trading exposure generated by the Commodity Index and investor products. Nick relocated back to Australia to head up INTL FCStone's advisory desk. Nick, his wife Kate and 3 children are now happy to call Australia home again.



Jason Craig

Chief Marketing and Trading Officer, CBH Group

Jason was appointed CBH's Chief Marketing and Trading Officer in April 2012 and is responsible for CBH's Marketing and Trading division. Jason has vast experience in domestic and international grain markets, and customer relationships through his previous roles of President Director with PT Eastern Pearl Flour Mills and as a Trading Manager with the Grain Pool (now CBH Marketing and Trading).



Conference Speakers

Richard Crump

Global Senior Partner, HFW

Richard became HFW's Senior Partner in 2007. He has led the firm's strategic direction broadening its offerings to clients significantly in relation to aviation, commodities, construction, energy and resources, insurance and shipping. During this time the firm has more than doubled in size and has extended its network of international offices across the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. HFW's success is due to its combination of a depth of industry knowledge and pioneering a number of legal developments in those industries.



The Hon Alexander Downer AC

Retired Minister for Foreign Affairs, High Commissioner London

Alexander Downer retired from politics in 2008 after an amazing 24 years and prior to that was a highly successful career diplomat.

Born in South Australia, schooled through Geelong Grammar and Radley College in Oxford, the son of a politician, Alexander was a leader with drive and enthusiasm from an early age. His University life at the University of Newcastle on Tyne in UK provided Alexander with a very international perspective on life that he was to use extensively through his later career. He has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and Economics and is a Doctor of Civil Laws (honoris causa). Alexander also holds a Doctor of Philosophy from Bar Ilan University. His early roles of Economist to Westpac Bank and Australian diplomat serving in the Australian Missions to European Union and NATO, and as an Embassy representative in Belgium and Luxembourg, were excellent training grounds for Alexander's later role as Minister for Foreign Affairs.



Politics called in 1984 and after two senior political advisory roles, Alexander entered politics as the Member for Mayo. He has held several key positions both in Government and Opposition (including Leader of the Opposition) but it was as Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Liberal Government of Australia from 1996 until November 2007 that Alexander truly made his mark.

Alexander Downer has been at the forefront of Australian Foreign Policy in some very turbulent and also progressive times. He has seen the increase in terror around the World and orchestrated significant reforms to combat its influence; he has been instrumental in delivering independence in East Timor; he has played a pivotal role in Australia's response to the Middle East conflicts; he has been an active participant and diplomatic force on global issues of human rights, climate change, natural disasters and he still found time to represent his local constituency on Local, State and Federal issues. It was not uncommon that on one day Alexander would be in dialogue with World Leaders and his international counterparts, and the next he would be opening a school fete in his electorate back in Australia.

Alexander is enjoying speaking to business and community groups on a wide range of topics that include leadership, regional and global stability, future trends, Brexit (it's impact on the world and in particular Australia), the Trump paradigm, the art of international negotiation, to mention but a few of his topics.

The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon MP

Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Resources, Member for Hunter

The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon MP was first elected to the House of Representatives in March of 1996. During his more than 24 years as the Member for Hunter Mr Fitzgibbon has held several shadow ministerial positions as well as having served as Minister for Defence and Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Mr Fitzgibbon is currently the Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Resources. Mr Fitzgibbon knows the agriculture, mining, oil and gas industries well and is determined to emphasise their importance to the national economy and the regional jobs they create. He is committed to working with industry sectors to develop a robust strategy that fully capitalises on growing global demand for our high quality food and fibre exports.

Mr Fitzgibbon is also the founder of the Country Caucus, a group of Federal Labor MPs and Senators dedicated to promoting the interests of rural and regional Australia. Mr Fitzgibbon is driven to champion issues of importance both to the Hunter and to other regional communities providing a strong voice for country people within the Labor leadership group.



Conference Speakers

Nick Goddard

CEO of the Australian Oilseeds Federation/Pulse Australia

Nick Goddard is joint CEO of the Australian Oilseeds Federation (AOF), and Pulse Australia. Both organisations are 'whole of value chain' bodies, representing the respective industries both locally and internationally. Nick has had a long and successful career in the food industry, working for the end-user portion of the agricultural value chain, with companies such as Goodman Fielder and Unilever. Nick draws on his end-user and consumer knowledge in bringing a 'market driven' approach to the oilseed and pulse value chains.

Nick has been a panel member of the Blewitt Review of Food Labelling; a member of the Dept. of Agriculture Ministerial Task Force on Export Certification Reforms and is currently a member of the Dept. of Agriculture Grains Export Industry Consultative Committee. Nick is a current director of the Grains Industry Market Access Forum (GIMAF) recently stepped down after many years of chairing the Food and Nutrition Committee of the National Heart Foundation. Nick holds a B.Comm (Marketing), an MBA and a Grad.Dip in Rural Science, and is based in Sydney, Australia.



Andrew Goyder

Chairman, Grain Trade Australia & Co-founder and Principal, Grain Link WA

Andrew has been involved in the Agricultural sector in WA for the past 40 years. He worked on and managed the large family mixed farming operations in Broomehill in the Great Southern region of Western Australia in the late 1970's until 1994 when the decision was made to have a change in career. Andrew joined The Grain Pool of WA as regional manager in 1996. After spending 2 years with GPWA Andrew joined SGB (Seed Grain and Biotechnology) as Seed Production Manager before taking on the State Manager role in 1998.

During the last half of 1999, Andrew and two partners, John Orr and Stephan Lamond, established Grain Link WA in September of that year. He has over 40 years industry experience encompassing grain production, exporting Oaten Hay, the seed industry and the grain trade in general. Andrew is currently Managing Director of Grain Link WA.

Prior to GTA, Andrew had a history of representative Committee and Director roles in and out of the West Australian industry including NACMA, CBH committees, and numerous other voluntary office bearer roles. Andrew was appointed to the GTA Board in August 2014 as a Level C Director. He is currently the Non-Executive Chairman of GTA and sits on the Governance and Audit, Finance & Remuneration Committees.



Sharni Layton

Collingwood AFLW Player & Australian Netball Champion

Sharni played professional netball for 14 years, seven of those representing Australia. During that career, Sharni won two Premierships, two World Cups and a Commonwealth Games Gold Medal.

In 2018, Sharni retired from Netball and began playing AFLW for Collingwood. In her second season at Collingwood, she was awarded the Ruck position in the All Australian Team and was named Players Player for the club.

Outside of Sport, Sharni has worked in the media and currently working on Bounce on Fox Footy and commentating Netball for Channel 9. She also works for overseas media outlets, Sky NZ and Sky UK. Sharni is a qualified Personal Trainer and am currently studying level 1 Nutrition. She is also Head Coach and Program Manager for Netball at MLC in Melbourne.



Jean Francois Lepy

Managing Director, Soufflet Negoce

Jean-Francois Lepy started as a trader at Soufflet Negoce in 1996 before moving to Sudden where he traded on their sugar derivatives desk for a few years. He then moved to USA where he was an ag derivatives trader with AWB before trading derivatives at Natixis in London. He then became the Head of Agricultural Trading in the Commodity Derivatives Division at BNP Paribas in London before moving back to Soufflet Negoce as Managing Director.



Conference Speakers

The Hon David Littleproud MP

Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management

The Hon. David Littleproud MP - Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management was elected to the House of Representatives for Maranoa, Queensland, in 2016.

He was born and raised in Chinchilla and has three boys: Tom, Hugh and Harry. He was educated at Chinchilla State High School before finishing secondary education at Toowoomba Grammar School.

Over the past 20 years, he has owned a small business in Warwick and forged a career in agribusiness while living and working in towns such as Miles, Nanango, Charleville, St George, Stanthorpe and Warwick.

This background provides him with an acute understanding of the important role small business and agriculture plays in creating jobs and promoting economic growth in Maranoa. He understands the importance of economic development as a means of building a prosperous future for younger generations and developing the capacity of health, education, agriculture, telecommunications and small business sectors.



Ben McEvoy

Hawthorn AFL Player

Ben McEvoy is a Hawthorn ruckman who has played 207 games over 13 AFL seasons. He debuted for St Kilda in 2008 and played 91 games in six years and then in 2013, he was traded to Hawthorn. He has played in two Premierships, 2014 and 2015 and in 2017 was Runner Up Best & Fairest.

Ben grew up on a small beef farm in Dederang, North East Victoria, and in 2013 purchased a small farm in Joel South near Stawell, Wimmera. He has since added additional properties and now farm 2150 acres. The land is used for mixed farming - sheep, grain and hay, and he has 800-1000 acres of canola, oats, wheat and barley. Ben is 30 years old, married with 3 children.



Seth Meyer

Research Professor and the Associate Director for the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI)

Dr. Seth Meyer is a Research Professor and the Associate Director for the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) at the University of Missouri. FAPRI is well known for its agricultural policy and market analysis being called on by Congress and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for its insight into commodity production, price and trade impacts from various agricultural policies including trade and market disruptions.

Dr. Meyer was also most recently the head of the World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB), the agency at USDA charged bringing together USDA resources in the assessment of crops around the world. The WAOB also publishes those findings in the 'WASDE' report which is closely watched by agricultural markets here and abroad.

Seth was also an economist with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and has served as a visiting scholar at several research institutions around the world.



Anne-Marie Mooney

Feed Business Director, Inghams Enterprises

Anne-Marie joined Ingham's in May 2018 as the General Manager Milling Operations. Anne-Marie brings 13 years' of experience at Ridley Corporation Ltd, where she held a number of executive roles in both the commercial and feed areas. In May 2019, Anne-Marie was appointed as the Feed Business Director and is responsible for feed procurement, milling and by-products.



The Hon Barry O'Farrell AO

High Commissioner to India

Mr O'Farrell was announced as Australia's High Commissioner to India on Tuesday 18 February 2020. He served in the Parliament of New South Wales from 1995 to 2015, including as the State's 43rd Premier between 2011 and 2014. Australia's most populous and multicultural State, New South Wales generates a third of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. As Premier, Mr O'Farrell initiated and led annual trade missions to India to promote economic, cultural and social links between New South Wales and the states of India. He has also served as NSW's Special Envoy for India and has made a significant contribution as the Deputy Chair of the Australia India Council Board. Mr O'Farrell has a Bachelor of Arts from the Australian National University, Canberra. Born in Melbourne, Mr O'Farrell grew up in Darwin. He is married to Rosemary and they have two adult sons.



Conference Speakers

Pat O'Shannassy

CEO, Grain Trade Australia

Pat is the current Chief Executive Officer of Grain Trade Australia. He has previously been a Director of Grain Trade Australia and a past Director of the Australian Grain Exporters Association (AGEA) and Member of the Commodity Markets Council (USA). Pat has vast industry experience, having spent more than 20 years in the grains industry in Australia and USA. He has a diverse experience across the entire value chain, with roles in management, grain origination, trading, trade policy and business strategy, gained from working for trade houses, financial institutions as well as customer service and information focused businesses.



Brian Perrott

Partner, HFW

Brian has worked with international commodities clients, trading houses, financial institutions, brokers and high net worth individuals across the supply chain for over 25 years. His practice has taken him all over the world and he has been involved in and/or project managed cross border litigation in many jurisdictions from India through to Iran, the Middle East, the Far East, North America and Europe. He is named amongst a select few in the Commodities Legal 500 Hall of Fame, which highlight law firm partners who are at the pinnacle of their profession.



Caroline Rhodes

CEO, Grain Producers SA

Caroline Rhodes has two decades of professional experience in agribusiness, specialising in stakeholder management and regulatory affairs. She has held senior roles in both the corporate and government sectors, while forging a career with State and Federal farmer representative bodies in Australia.

Caroline has a particular interest in the non-profit sector and serves as Chief Executive Officer of the peak industry body, Grain Producers SA. Her current external board appointments include the South Australian Cricket Association, the umbrella charity, Foodbank South Australia and the rural service provider, Rural Business Support.



Hugh Riminton

Author and investigative journalist

Hugh Riminton is an author, investigative journalist, and a staple on Australian television and radio for more than 30 years. Hugh is the national affairs editor with Network 10. He has an insider's view of federal politics as an influential reporter and commentator. He was formerly host of Ten's Meet The Press, he hosts SUNDAY EXTRA on ABC Radio National - and he's one half of the popular politics podcast THE PROFESSOR & THE HACK, with Peter Van Onselen. His career includes more than twenty years as a foreign correspondent for CNN and the Nine Network. Hugh has reported from numerous war and conflict zones, from Afghanistan and Iraq to Somalia, Rwanda, South Sudan, East Timor, the Balkans and Israel's wars with its neighbours, among others. He reported the Port Arthur massacre, the Thredbo disaster, China's Sichuan earthquake, and once bought hundreds of slaves in Africa in order to set them free. He was also the Canberra-based political editor for the TEN Network. Hugh's journalism honours include a Logie, two Walkley Awards, the United Nations Media Peace Award and awards from the Australian Human Rights Commission. He is the recipient of a prestigious US Award, The DuPont-Columbia Award, for his coverage of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.



Simon Stead

Chair, CBH Group

Simon Stead was appointed as a Director of the CBH Board in February 2015, as Deputy Chair in April 2019, and as Chair in April 2020. He is currently a member of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee. Simon runs a mixed sheep, cattle and cropping operation in Cascade and Dalyup in the Esperance port zone. He is a member of the Industry Advisory Board of the UWA Institute of Agriculture and is also a founding member and a past Chair of the Association for Sheep Husbandry, Excellence, Evaluation and Production (ASHEEP). Simon holds an Executive Certificate in Agribusiness Marketing from Monash University and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Ron Story

Chairman, Pulse Australia

Ron Storey is an agribusiness consultant with specialist grains industry experience. Ron spent 20 years in international grain marketing, before establishing his own consulting business in 2000. Since 2000, Ron developed Australian Crop Forecasters (ACF) as a leading grains information business, which he sold in 2009. Later, he managed a market intelligence business introducing real-time pricing to the Australian grain industry. Ron was a founding director and Chairman of AGT Plant Breeding (2002-2014), Australia's largest breeder in broadacre crops. Ron is currently Chairman of Pulse Australia, and a director of Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre (AEGIC). Ron knows many of Australia's grain customers and markets, and provides advisory services across the supply chain from farmgate to consumer. He has often represented the Australian grains industry at conferences and workshops, both in Australia and overseas. He grew up on a grain and sheep farm in Victoria, where he retains a farming interest.



Conference Speakers

Stephen Thompson

Partner, HFW

Stephen is a commodities partner at HFW, with more than 20 years' experience in the grains industry. His clients include Australian and international grain trading companies, port & rail operators, ship-owners / operators, as well insurers and financiers. Across 19 international offices, HFW has a strong track record of acting for the grains industry and provides a full service to clients from transactional matters to commercial disputes. Stephen is qualified in both Australia and England.



Patrick Vizzone

Head of Food, Beverage & Agribusiness, International, ANZ

Patrick Vizzone is the Head of Food, Beverage & Agribusiness, International at ANZ where he is responsible for sector leadership across Asia, North America and Europe and the Middle East. Patrick also serves as Head of Coverage, Hong Kong where he leads client-facing activities within corporate banking. He is a Member of ANZ's International Leadership Team and Hong Kong Branch's Executive Committee.

Patrick was born in Australia and has resided within Greater China and Japan since 1994. Early in his career, Patrick co-founded a vertically integrated agribusiness enterprise in China which focused on farm-to-fork supply chain management for quick serve restaurants, institutional food service and supermarkets in North East Asia.

Patrick progressed into financial services in the late 1990s. Since then he has held numerous senior corporate and investment banking leadership positions including Head of Institutional Banking, Asia and Head of Food & Agribusiness, Asia at National Australia Bank where he was the Alternative Chief Executive of the Branch. Patrick was Managing Director and Head of Food & Agribusiness, Asia and Head of Food & Agribusiness Advisory & Research, Asia at Rabobank and NPI/Product Leader, Asia-Pacific for GE Capital.

From 2007 – 2020, Patrick served on the Board of Directors of China Agri-Industries, which was the flagship listed subsidiary of the COFCO Group, China's largest food and agribusiness enterprise and the world's largest soft commodity trader by volume. In 2009 Patrick was part of the Board of Directors of China-Agri Industries who were awarded with the Hong Kong Directors of the Year for non-Hang Seng Index Constituents. Patrick was inducted as a Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors in 2013.

Patrick was the Chairman and previously Vice-Chairman of the Global Development Committee of the Produce Marketing Association and also chaired the organization's Global Strategy Task Force. Patrick continues to serve as a Board Member of the PMA. Patrick is a Member of the Advisory Board of Agfunder and has previously served as a China Advisory Board Member of the ASA100.



Alison Watkins

Group Managing Director, Coca-Cola Amatil

Alison joined Coca-Cola Amatil as Group Managing Director in March 2014. Alison is a non-executive director of The Centre for Independent Studies and the Business Council of Australia. She is also an Independent Panel Member of the 2018/2019 Independent Review of the Australian Public Service.

Alison's previous roles include Chief Executive Officer of agribusiness GrainCorp Limited and of Berri Limited, the market leader in Australian juice, and Managing Director of Regional Banking at ANZ. Alison spent 10 years at McKinsey & Company from 1989-1999 and became a partner of the Firm in 1996 before moving to ANZ as Group General Manager Strategy. Alison has been a non-executive director of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited, Woolworths Limited and Just Group Limited. She is a former Victorian President and National Board Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Alison holds a Bachelor of Commerce (University of Tasmania), is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Financial Services Institute of Australasia, and the AICD.



Richard Yetsenga

Chief Economist and Head of Research, ANZ

Richard Yetsenga is Chief Economist and Head of Research at ANZ, based in Sydney. He leads the Bank's global research team, which focuses on Australia, New Zealand and Asia. Richard joined ANZ in 2011 from HSBC in Hong Kong, where he was Managing Director of Emerging Market Strategy. Prior to his seven years at HSBC, Richard held economics roles with Deutsche Bank and the Australian Government. The ANZ Research team has been recognised with more than 40 top-three rankings in major industry surveys across Australia, New Zealand and Asia in the past six years, alongside numerous industry awards.

Richard publishes on issues of broad economic relevance, including climate change, technology, inequality and the benefits of diversity.

Richard regularly appears on CNBC, Bloomberg TV and other regional media, his work has been published by the Lowy Interpreter, and he is an editorial contributor in the Australian Financial Review, The Australian newspaper and the Hong Kong Economic Journal.



On Demand Session Speakers

Marcos Amorim

Chair of the External Contracts Committee, Brazilian National Association of Grains Exporters (ANEC)

Brazilian born, Marcos Amorim has lived 45 from his 49 years of age in the city of São Paulo in Brazil. A language and culture lover, he fluently speaks Portuguese, French, English and is almost fluent in Spanish. Having worked for Cargill for 31 years, he has spent his entire career in the agricultural sector and a big part of it in the Trading Execution. When he left the company in 2017, he was the country leader of a team of more than 70 people responsible for the import and export of feed, food and other items. After a sabbatical period of 2 years, Marcos has joined ANEC, the Brazilian National Association of Grain Exporters, as the head of the External Contracts Committee (a committee of which he has been a member of for several years).



Iliana Axiotiades

Secretary General, COCERAL

Iliana Axiotiades is the Secretary General of Coceral, which represents European traders in agri-commodities and agrosupply, Euromalt, which brings together the European malting industry, and Unistock, the European association of portside storekeepers of agri-bulk commodities. This involves managing the three associations and representing their interests with the European institutions, Member States and third country Permanent Representations to the EU. Iliana is also currently the Vice-President of the IGTC - the International Grain Trade Coalition, and Lead of the IGTC's Plant Breeding Innovation Policy Team. Prior to her current role, Iliana was with Johnson Controls where, as Director of Government & Trade Relations Europe, she worked very closely with the Power Solutions, Automotive and Building Efficiency businesses of the company to identify the policy drivers impacting their growth, and design strategies aimed at seizing the opportunities and mitigating the risks created by political decisions. She was also the company Lead for the TTIP negotiations. Before joining Johnson Controls, Iliana held several positions in the agri-food sector over a 20-year period, as a consultant, at the helm of the European starch industry association, and in Cargill. She joined Cargill as Director of Government Relations for the starch and sweeteners businesses where she played an active role in anticipating changes to the sugar regime. Thereafter, she was appointed as Director for Business Development, leading an investment project in bio-ethanol, as well as a project aimed at determining the strategy for all Cargill's food ingredient businesses in Central & Eastern Europe.



Jaine Chisholm Caunt

Director General, Gafta & Chair, Federation of Commodity Associations

Jaine Chisholm Caunt was appointed Director General of Gafta in 2014. She is also the current Chair of the Federation of Commodity Associations. Jaine was previously the Chair of the International Agri-food Network (IAFN) which co-ordinates the work of the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) at the UN Committee on World Food Security from 2015-2017. Jaine was Secretary General of the Tobacco Manufacturers Association from 2011 to 2014 and was previously the Director of Stakeholder Relations and Policy for Cogent, the skills body for the UK's science-based and process manufacturing from 2006 to 2011. Jaine has been a member of a wide range of government working groups, and has served as a Trustee on several charity boards. Jaine has a BA (Hons) in Politics & English and a PGCE in Further Education, and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a Member of the Institute of Directors.



Austin Detmer

Business Operations Analyst, Covantis

Austin's role at Covantis is to onboard platform participants and users and support them in the adoption of the platform. Austin completed a Bachelor of Sciences in Business Administration at Northeastern University, D'Amore-McKim School of Business in Boston, USA in 2019. Before joining Covantis he worked as commodity Trade Operator at Global One Energy. He has a very strong interest in new technologies including cryptocurrencies and blockchain and has a very international background, being born in Peru, and grown up in various countries including Colombia, Russia and Azerbaijan. He is native English, and speaks proficiently Russian and French.



On Demand Session Speakers

Ian Hanrahan

Head of Food, Beverage & Agribusiness, Australia
ANZ Institutional Banking

As Head of Food, Beverage & Agribusiness, Australia at ANZ Ian leads a national team that is responsible for managing ANZ's relationships with institutional and multi-national customers in the agribusiness, FMCG, branded food and beverage, and supermarket retailing sectors. In his 10+ years in the FBA business, Ian has worked with a number of Australia's premier food and agribusiness companies with a particular focus on the grains, beef, cotton, sugar, FMCG and branded food industries.

During his career with ANZ Ian has also worked in the structured debt and corporate finance businesses. Prior to joining the bank Ian practised banking and finance law for 5 years with Allens Arthur Robinson and Blake Dawson Waldron (now Ashursts), as well as spending a period with the Queensland Government in their Trade and Investment Office in London. Ian has previously lectured for Kaplan Australia's Masters of Applied Finance program.

Ian holds a Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from Bond University where he was a Vice-Chancellor's Scholar, as well as a Masters of Applied Finance from Kaplan Australia. He completed the Harvard Business School Agribusiness Seminar in January 2015.



Jay Holland

Business & Product Development Manager, NGR

With over a decade of experience in the Australian Ag sector across logistics, manufacturing, sales and product development, Jay Holland is driven to find and implement solutions that improve the lives of customers. As the Business and Product Development Manager of NGR, Jay brings his passion for stakeholder engagement to build valuable relationships that unearth real problems faced in the industry and then follows this through from conceptualising to delivery of the needed products that solve those challenges. Including the very successful my eDOCS and the latest addition to the portfolio of the CVD Trade to Trade innovation. A drive for continuous improvement in every aspect of life makes Jay an outstanding role-model to both his young family and colleagues.



Gustavo Idígoras

President, Argentine Chambers of Edible Oilseeds Industry & Grain Exporters (CIARA-CEC)

Gustavo Idígoras was government negotiator for 18 years on international agriculture market access negotiations including a position as Agricultural Minister at European Union, based in Belgium. After that, he used to work as Regional Public Affair manager for MONSANTO as well as founder Director of Business Issue Management (A Consultant group on agribusiness and bioenergies in Argentina).



Konrad Keyser PhD

Chairman, South African Cereals and Oilseeds Trade Association (SACOTA)

Konrad was elected Chairman of SACOTA in 2017 and is Director of Brisen Commodities, a company that provides various agricultural commodity trading services to end users and producers of agricultural commodities. In 2018 Konrad was awarded by SACOTA for exceptional services rendered to the cereal and oilseeds industry, and in 2011 was awarded by the South African Animal and Feed Manufacturers Association (AFMA) for his special contribution to the animal feeds industry with specific reference to the contributions to the development of the futures markets. Prior to this Konrad helped to establish the South African Futures Exchange, an organisation of which he later became Chairman. He also worked at the South African Maize Board as an Economist. Konrad has been involved in the analysis of commodity supply chains for over 30 years and his PhD was entitled "An analysis of commodity option strategies using the Black Commodity model with specific reference to maize".



Andrew Kotzur

Managing Director, Kotzur Pty Ltd

Andrew joined the family company in 1981 and has over 30 years' experience in design, fabrication, construction and installation of grain and bulk solid storage/ management facilities. Andrew is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the engineering and project management for projects undertaken by Kotzur Pty Ltd.



On Demand Session Speakers



Trevor Lucas

Head of Accumulations, CBH Group

Trevor is an experienced Grain Industry Manager with a history of working in logistics, storage and handling, marketing, trading and currently grower accumulations and sales as the Head of Accumulations for the CBH Group.



Gary C. Martin

President and Chief Executive Officer, North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA)

Gary C. Martin has served since June of 2000 as President and Chief Executive Officer of the North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA,) www.naega.org. Since 2104 he has served as the President of the International Grain Trade Coalition www.igtglobal.com. In addition, his many industry leadership activities include service as a Co-chair of U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialog for Trade Agreements, and a Co-Chair of the Canada-U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Task Group www.canada-usgrainandseedtrade.info.

Before assuming the presidency of NAEGA, Gary was a NAEGA Board Director and officer, representing Farmland Industries, Inc. At Farmland he had several responsibilities including Director of Trade and International Relations, Director of Grain Marketing, and Founder and President of Farmland Graños in Mexico. From 1990 to 1992 Mr. Martin served the Administration of George H.W. Bush at the US Department of Agriculture as Deputy Administrator of Commodity Operations and as an officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation. In the first year of the Clinton Administration, from 1992 to 1993, he served as an advisor to the Special Ambassador to the former Soviet Union at the US Department of State. Gary earned a B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics, with highest honors, from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He is also a graduate of the University of Missouri, Institute of Cooperative Leadership, and has graduate studies in International Transactions at the George Mason University. Gary and his wife Denise reside in Ashburn, Virginia USA.



Daniel Marshall

Director, ATQ Consulting & Advisory

As founder and Director of ATQ Consulting & Advisory, Daniel Marshall brings more than 20 years experience devising business growth and strategic solutions for private, industry and government sectors.

Daniel continues to share his record of success for end to end business solutions connecting local and international markets for more prosperous outcomes. Daniel Marshall has a successful track record of working in partnership with stakeholders in the identification, evaluation, planning and progression of industry, business and infrastructure projects and strategies. With further experience in successfully marketing banking and finance products and services to agribusiness and commercial sectors. ATQ Consulting & Advisory is a unique collective utilising expert knowledge and networks across multiple sectors and Australian and Asian regions to guarantee the best outcomes for every business opportunity.



Debbie Newmarch

General Manager, NGR

NGR's General Manager, Debbie Newmarch has farming in her blood, having grown up and then raising her own family on a diversified property in Zimbabwe before relocating to Australia. With an intricate knowledge of undertaking agricultural-based business in global markets, Debbie brings an unparalleled understanding and pursuit of finding ways to simplify business processes, that has resulted in the ongoing innovation delivered by NGR. Debbie's passion for health and wellbeing not only transcends all aspects of her personal life but is an integral part of the family-based and supported team culture of NGR. With a desire to experience life, and understand the why and way we do things, Debbie embraces the challenges placed in front of her, whether they be in the business world, on a hike, or out in the African bush!



Petya Sechanova

CEO, Covanti

Prior joining Covantis Petya was working at Cargill for the last 11 years in several countries and positions across the globe. Her recent role at Cargill was the Global Head of Trade Operations for Cargill Agricultural Supply Chain. She has 20 years of experience in multinational companies across diverse industries (Consulting, IT, Logistics, Commodity Trading & Operations). She has a Master's Degree in International Business and MBA from SDA Bocconi in Milan, Italy.



On Demand Session Speakers



Ranjani Sundar

Senior Associate, HFW

Ranjani specialises in contentious matters with a focus on insolvency and the Corporations law generally. Ranjani has experience in complex litigation led in the state Supreme Courts and in the Federal and High Courts of Australia. Ranjani's clients include liquidators, financial institutions, companies in the mining, construction and commodities sectors, as well as secured and unsecured creditors. Ranjani also has experience in domestic and international commercial arbitrations, including under the GTA, GAFTA, SIAC and UNCITRAL rules. Ranjani is a Graduate Member of the Australian Restructuring, Insolvency and Turnaround Association, having completed the Insolvency Education Program in 2013. In 2018, Ranjani was the winner of the Lawyers Weekly 30 under 30 Award in the dispute resolution category.



Ian Waddell

Manager, ASX, Energy & Commodities

Ian joined the ASX in October 2018 as Manager for Energy & Commodities. His role is to develop the commodity product that is offered by the ASX and ensure it fits with their client needs. Ian leads the Grain product suite. He brings 24 years market experience with a focus on financial and commodity exchange traded derivatives, having previously worked for Bloomberg (8 years), JPMorgan (4 years) and Cargill (11 years).



Michael Whitehead

Head of Agribusiness Insights, ANZ

In his current role, Michael focuses on mapping industry based trends and analysing the impact of these sectoral changes and dynamics on stakeholders across the agribusiness sector. Previously, Michael was the Product Specialist for Macquarie Agricultural Funds Management in New York, as well as Executive Director of Rabobank's Food & Agribusiness and Advisory team in North America, providing industry research and corporate strategy. Michael has also worked with the United Nations and the International Red Cross in Switzerland, as well as in regional economic development in Australia and China. Michael has been featured widely in the global media outlets, including CNBC, the Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal. He has a background in agricultural production and consulting, particularly in Australia and China. Michael has a BA from La Trobe University, and MBA from the Melbourne Business School and the Rotterdam School of Management, and has also completed the Harvard Business School Advanced Agribusiness Course.



Frank Zhang

Deputy Secretary-General, China National Association of Grain Sector (CNAGS)

His educational background includes EMBA, University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) and Bachelor of Economics, Faculty of International Economics cooperation, UIBE. Mr Zhang has been working in COFCO Corporation for 29 years. Successively engaged in affairs such as: personnel, legal, import & export business, stock-holding system reform, Exhibition, governmental work for aid for Tibet, etc. His main posts include Deputy General Manager, COFCO (Chengdu) Oils & Grains Industries Co., LTD. and Secretary-General, Corporate Youth Federation, COFCO Corporation.

