



Media release

For immediate release
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AusBiotech announces new Board after election

Following the Annual General Meeting held today, AusBiotech has announced a new Board line up, which is set to lead the industry organisation in its advocacy and support continued efforts to grow and sustain the biotechnology industry.

AusBiotech held elections for two positions on the Board, and has announced that Dr Deborah Rathjen has been re-elected, and Mr Peter Turvey has been elected.

In the general meeting that followed the AGM, Dr Deborah Rathjen was also re-appointed as Chairman of AusBiotech, and Dr Meera Verma was appointed as the chair of the Risk and Audit Sub-Committee (RaSC).

Dr Rathjen said: "I'm delighted to be serving again on the Board of AusBiotech. I'm also pleased and humbled by the confidence the members have shown in me and I look forward to working as Chair of AusBiotech for a further term."

Mr Peter Turvey, former Manager of Intellectual Property and Company Secretary of CSL, was elected.

After completing his law degree at the Australian National University in 1976, Peter went into private practice for eight years and in 1984, joined Biotechnology Australia, then Australia's largest biotechnology company, as their Manager of Intellectual Property and Company Secretary.

In 1992, Peter joined CSL as its first in-house Corporate Counsel and was appointed Company Secretary in 1998. Both as a member of the Executive Management Group as well as in his position of Company Secretary on the CSL Board, Peter was heavily involved in CSL's transformation from a government-owned enterprise to a global plasma and biopharmaceutical company. Peter was also integrally involved in CSL's largest commercial transactions, including the acquisition of ZLB and Aventis Behring and divestment of CSL's animal health business to Pfizer.

Peter also had responsibility for the protection and licensing of CSL's intellectual property and for risk management within CSL, which included management of the internal audit function, reporting to the Audit & Risk Management Committee of the Board as well as being the Chairman of the Corporate Risk Management Committee. Peter has recently retired from CSL and is looking to remain involved with the biotechnology industry.



“I believe Peter’s experience is without peer, and will be invaluable to AusBiotech. To have someone of his calibre and standing join us on the Board is a great coup,” Dr Rathjen said.

Dr Rathjen thanked departing Board members Ms Geraldine Farrell and Dr Stewart Washer.

Ms Farrell, who has been on the Board and on the RaSC for the past three years, was Chair of the RaSC for the past 12 months.

“Geraldine has helped in so many ways, in particular in framing the constitution, which has now been adopted in its new form. She has also brought a deep understanding of corporate governance and risk management, to ensure that AusBiotech’s systems and processes are appropriate.

Dr Washer has contributed three years’ service to the Board and has been a member of the RaSC for one year.

“Stewart brought to the Board and the RaSC an understanding of the investment community, and of what being a CEO of a small biotech company means in reality. He had a pragmatic approach to the issues faced by small companies.

The new Board is as follows:

Dr Deborah Rathjen (Chair)
Dr Anna Lavelle (Chief Executive Officer)
Dr Peter Isdale AM
Dr Meera Verma
Dr Paul Walton
Mr Peter Turvey
Dr Greg Roger

ENDS

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