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## Threshold Standards Audit Committee Membership

The current membership of the Threshold Standards Audit Committee is 5 members (as at *September 2021*) –

[Assistant Professor Jotsana Roopram](#) – Chair (Internal)

[Assistant Professor Natasha Jacques](#) – Secretary (Internal)

[Professor Andrew West](#) (Internal)

[Associate Professor Felix Stravens](#) (Internal)

[Anurag Kanwar](#) (Internal)

[Professor Jim Mienczakowski](#) (External)

A profile on each member is provided –

## CHAIR



### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR JOTSANA ROOPRAM**

Jotsana has lectured for a number of years in the field of Hospitality Management at higher education institutions in South Africa. During this time, she worked closely with industry associates, developing and preparing students for junior management roles in the hospitality sector and mentoring junior staff for progression into senior roles. In the latter part of her career in South Africa she worked in academic administration and management as Head of Department managing a faculty of lecturers from diverse fields such as business, hospitality, tourism, sport and journalism. She has a national diploma in hospitality management, certificates in assessment design and development and a moderators' license from the sector training authority of South Africa.

She attained a Postgraduate Diploma and a Master of Education, specialising in *Higher Education* (University of Kwa-Zulu Natal in Durban, South Africa) before immigrating to Australia in 2014. Prior to joining UBSS in 2016, she was the College Operations Manager at Navitas in Sydney.

Jotsana is the **Deputy Dean – Student Experience** at UBSS. She is a professional member of the Institute of Managers and Leaders. In 2019, she completed a Graduation Certificate in Higher Education Academic Practice at the Higher Education Leadership Institute (HELI) and a Graduate Certificate in Business Administration at UBSS. Jotsana has lectured the subject Team Leadership and Change Management in the Bachelor of Business program at UBSS. Her research interests include leadership in higher education, student engagement and online learning; and governance and quality assurance in higher education.

Jotsana's expertise is in developing academic systems, policy implementation in administrative processes and procedures, online examination management and college operations.

Jotsana chairs the Threshold Standards Audit committee and is Secretary of the GCA Executive and Management committee and the Audit and Risk committee.

## **SECRETARY**



### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR NATASHA JACQUES**

Natasha completed her Bachelor of Arts degree (Major in Communicative English) in India and worked at HSBC Bank India as a Customer Service Representative, subject matter expert and Supervisor, ensuring a high quality customer experience for HSBC customers across the globe. Her experience in this field led her to the role of Training and Development Specialist, where she specialised in analysing training needs and the effectiveness of training. In this role, she also delivered soft skills and developmental and leadership training to employees within the organisation. Having gained nine years of corporate experience, Natasha moved to Australia to enhance her qualifications and skills in order to pursue a career in a dynamic organisation. Her goal is to utilize her knowledge and abilities in a career that will provide her with opportunities for continuous improvement, learning and growth, to enable her to leverage her full potential.

Natasha has worked as a Student Volunteer at the UBSS Graduation Ceremonies, as a Student Assistant at UBSS during the orientation weeks as well as a Peer Assistant Student Support Representative (PASS) for the Bachelor of Accounting program. Natasha was also a student representative of the Academic Senate and Academic Integrity committee at UBSS. She gained valuable experience with academic processes and practices in the business school and corporate higher education sector that enriched her skills set. Natasha also represented UBSS at the TEQSA conference in Melbourne 2019 where she contributed ideas from a student perspective towards student challenges and Partnership in Education.

Natasha completed an MBA (Accounting) in 2019 at UBSS and is employed as an **Administration Coordinator** in the Office of the Dean at UBSS. Natasha is also currently a lecturer at UBSS in the Undergraduate programs.

Natasha is a member of the International Managers and Leaders association (MIML), CPA Ambassador and a member of the Research Association of Australia.

Natasha is also Secretary of the Academic Senate and the Threshold Standards Audit committee.



## PROFESSOR ANDREW WEST

Andrew is the **Provost of the Executive Campus at UBSS**, drawing on his experience as an academic for 12 years and previously as an entrepreneur and business owner for 10 years. He lectures at *UBSS* in the MBA program in Economics. Andrew is also a Lecturer at the *New York University Sydney Campus*, where he lectures in Marketing, reporting to the *NYU Stern Business School*. He was involved in the establishment and the continued delivery of the NYU Internship Seminar, a workplace integrated learning subject, in Sydney as part of the *NYU Global Partner Program*.

Prior to his current positions, Andrew was Dean of UBSS during 2015. From 2010 to 2014 he was a Lecturer at *Macquarie University* in Strategic Marketing, introducing two innovative workplace integrated learning initiatives. A team based business simulation game was incorporated into the Capstone Marketing Strategy subject in which Andrew was the Lecturer. He was involved in the development and implementation of the Participation and Community Engagement for the Marketing Projects. This involved identifying marketing projects and fostering partnerships with Corporate Partners which included *Reckitt Benckiser*, *Optus* and *Special Olympics*. Previously he has also been an Adjunct Lecturer in Business Statistics at *University of Technology Sydney* and in marketing at *Newcastle University*.

From 1995 to 2005, Andrew was the founder and CEO of an IT development company, with clients Australia wide and internationally. His company successfully commercialised two products in the mining equipment inspection and wine sales management spaces. His marketing career has included working at multi nationals *Shell Oil Company* and *Commonwealth Bank of Australia*. Industries Andrew has consulted to include pharmaceuticals (*Australian Self Medication Industry*, *Reckitt Benckiser*) finance (*Commonwealth Bank of Australia*, *American Express*), and not-for-profit organizations *Amnesty International* and *Special Olympics*.

Andrew has completed a Bachelor of Accounting (*Macquarie University*), and Masters of Business Administration (*Newcastle University*) and a Doctorate of Business Administration (*Newcastle University*). His research has led to 12 peer reviewed journals and conference papers published. Andrew's areas of ongoing research in marketing include marketing of high technology, industry report of the Australian pharmaceutical industry, intangible organisational capabilities and innovation ecologies. His higher education research is in aspects of workplace integrated learning including internship pedagogy and business simulation. Andrew's professional and community memberships are with *Australian New Zealand Academy of Management*, Fellow of the Institute of Marketing and Leadership, Chairman of *UTS Northern Suburbs Athletic Club* and on the Marketing Advisory Panel for *Athletics NSW*.

Andrew is currently the **Dean** at UBSS.



## **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR FELIX STRAVENS**

Felix has an MBA in Strategic Management from the University of East London. His entire career has been in Marketing. His move into academia started off at the University of Canberra as an Associate Professor in Advertising and Marketing. He was also Program Director for the UG and PG Marketing Communication degrees. At the University, he served on a number of Committees including the University Council.

After eight years, he moved to the UK and was Managing Director with NCC Education. This is an awarding body that develops and markets Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas and Post Graduate Diplomas through 250 centres worldwide. In 2010, he was recognised by the Chartered Institute of Marketing and awarded Fellow status (FCIM).

On completion of his contract, he returned to Singapore and was on a contract with NYU – Tisch School of the Arts where he lectured in Marketing to post graduate students on the International Media Production course. He was then retained by the Marketing Institute of Singapore to conduct courses on Strategic Marketing and Global Brand Management.

He returned to Australia, and was on a short contract as Head of School with Southbank Institute of Technology in Brisbane. This is a vocational (TAFE) level college and he headed the School of Business and IT.

He then moved to Sydney and was Deputy Dean/Director of Teaching and Learning at King's Own Institute, a higher education provider offering courses in Accounting and TESOL.

In May 2015 he accepted position of Chief Operating Officer at the Australasian College of Health & Wellness.

Felix is currently the **Deputy Dean – Academic**, overseeing the MBA and the Bachelor of Business at UBSS, a Fellow of the Australian Marketing Institute (FAMI) and a Certified Practising Marketer (CPM).



## **ANURAG KANWAR**

*BEd, LLB, LLM, GDLP, MAID, AARPI, FIML*

Anurag has over 15 years' experience in higher education all within the private higher education space. She is the executive secretary of the GCA Board of Directors. She is a former member of the IHEA Audit and Risk committee.

She is a prolific commentator on LinkedIn with over 5000 followers commenting on international education, technology and continuous experience. She is a practicing lawyer specializing in the area of corporate governance and risk. She is also an experienced lecturer and publishes in the area of international education and business law.

She is an associate of the Australian Risk Management Institute and a member of their education committee. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Managers and Leaders and a member of the Change Management Institute of Australia. She is also a member of Law Ninjas online networking group for in-house lawyers and the former deputy convener of the admissions and compliance working group of IEAA. Outside of the international education and law space, Anurag is a member of the Career Progress Network Sydney Chapter a group dedicated to helping young people and immigrants gaining employment.

Anurag is currently the **Compliance and Continuous Improvement Director** at Group Colleges Australia.



## **PROFESSOR JIM MIENCZAKOWSKI**

*Dip CSSD. Royal Central School of Speech & Drama (Uni Lond), Cert. Ed. (Lond), B.Ed (Uni Lond), MA (King's College Lond), PhD (Griff)*

Jim has lived and taught in a number of countries during a career in education which spans more than 40 years. Earlier working in commercial theatre and radio in London he eventually moved fulltime into education in 1979.

Jim is internationally recognised for his contribution to, and work in, founding an academic research methodology combining performance and research (critical ethnodrama) which is intended for use by graduate arts students and arts and health practitioners seeking to voice the concerns of marginalised communities. He has published extensively in this area.

From 2013 Professor Mienczakowski was CEO, President and Pro Vice Chancellor of Curtin Malaysia until he and his family returned to Australia in early 2020. Prior to joining Curtin, Jim lived in the UAE for several years where he was Executive Director of Higher Education in Abu Dhabi and then later Vice-Chancellor of the Abu Dhabi Education Council's Emirate's College.

Earlier in his career he also held senior leadership positions in a number of higher education institutions in Australia, including Deputy Vice-Chancellor roles at Victoria University and Central Queensland University.

Much of Jim's work in the last decade or two has entailed successfully taking institutions through accreditation processes and improving the quality of learning, research and service offered to students.

Currently a Higher Education Consultant, Jim continues to serve on the Editorial Board of Sage's *Qualitative Research* and as a reviewer for a number of other journals. In 2019 he was made an Emeritus Professor of Curtin University for his contributions and services to higher education and the university.