

PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCE & ACCOUNTING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

KEY LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR
CAREER ADVANCEMENT

7 - 10
MAY 2019

BOAT HOUSE BY THE LAKE
CANBERRA

LEARN FROM



Robert Hanlon
Chief Financial
Officer



Lisa Harris
Assistant Secretary
Financial
Compliance
Branch



Lawrence Hosking
Director Financial
Reporting and
Grants Policy



Pranay Lodhiya
Chief Financial
Officer



Damien Adler
Assistant Secretary,
Budget Analysis
Branch



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INVEST IN SUCCESS

Digital advances and demands for agile business practices have triggered the evolution of finance and accounting. Similarly, the public sector is facing increasing pressure to achieve more with less.

As a result, finance professionals are facing new levels of accountability and high expectations. To keep pace with progression, you must have a firm understanding of industry trends and a forward-thinking approach to decision making.

This is your chance to hear from some of Australia's most accomplished finance professionals as they share their expertise and advice. Our lineup of experts will reflect on their journeys and explore the turning points that shaped their careers.

- ▶ **Key** leadership skills for finance professionals
- ▶ **Transition** from ledger to leader
- ▶ **Strategic** tools for budgeting, forecasting and planning
- ▶ **Advance** as a strategic business partner

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- ▶ Finance Managers
- ▶ Officers / Coordinators / Executives
- ▶ Financial Controllers
- ▶ Chief Financial Officers

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8 MAY

CONFERENCE DAY 1

EARN CREDIT AS AN AUTHENTIC LEADER

KEYNOTE

9:00 - 9:50

Strong leaders manage others in a way that complements the strongest aspects of their personality. Developing a confident leadership style takes time, but feeling comfortable with your ability to communicate will help you lead others effectively.

Lisa Usback

Assistant Secretary, Financial Management Branch

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



EVOLVE FROM A TECHNICAL EXPERT INTO A CONFIDENT LEADER

CASE STUDY

9:50 - 10:40

Transitioning into a leadership position requires you to draw upon your technical knowledge and confidently confront challenges. To achieve this, you will need a combination of technical abilities, commercial acumen and positive influence.

Lawrence Hosking

Director Financial Reporting and Grants Policy

Attorney-General's Department



EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF PUBLIC FUNDING

EXPERT COMMENTARY

10:55 - 11:45

Communicating complex information in a simple way can be a daunting challenge. This session will help you communicate effectively, increase retention and boost engagement.

Sheena Ireland Director **Specialists in Communications**

DRIVE CHANGE AS A STRATEGIC BUSINESS PARTNER

CASE STUDY

11:45 - 12:35

The finance function is expected to drive performance within an organisation. To succeed, you must support business priorities by delivering insight and value that stimulates growth.

Thao Le

Chief Financial Officer

ACT Government

ENHANCE DECISION MAKING AND FINANCIAL FORECASTING

PANEL

1:35 - 2:25

As a leader, strong decision-making abilities are a powerful way to make your team better. Financial forecasting is an essential element in helping you make decisions confidently and quickly.

Lawrence Hosking

Director Financial Reporting and Grants Policy

Attorney-General's Department



Andrew MacFarlane

Director, Sport Financial Advisory

Sport Australia



Bernadette Thompson Assistant Director,
Public Financial Management Advisory Services
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Damien Adler

Assistant Secretary, Budget Analysis Branch

Department of Finance



TAKE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR CAREER

EXPERT COMMENTARY

2:25 - 3:15

A forward focus isn't just a characteristic of the finance function - it's an essential part of being a leader. To reach your goals, you must define your vision and devise a strategy for success.

Dr Derek J Ambrose Principal **Smart Public Leadership**

KEY ISSUES FOR EXECUTIVE FINANCE PROFESSIONALS

EXPERT COMMENTARY

3:30 - 4:30

Senior finance professionals face many challenges with a backdrop of new regulations and developments in technology. Being prepared to confront these issues with a constructive mindset will improve your leadership style.

Adam Coonan

Principal & Director

Coonan Consulting

NETWORKING RECEPTION

4:30 - 5:30

Make the most of your experience, join us to network over complimentary canapés and drinks.

9 MAY

CONFERENCE DAY 2

LEAD WITH TRANSPARENCY IN PUBLIC FINANCE

KEYNOTE

9:00 - 9:50

The availability of timely, relevant and reliable information offers clarity on your government organisation's financial position. With this clarity, you can recognise the cost and benefit of government activities.

Jason McGuire

Chief Financial Officer

National Archives of Australia



ACCOUNTING ASSURANCE AND MANAGING LARGE PROJECTS

EXPERT COMMENTARY

9:50 - 10:40

Large public projects can be challenging to manage due to cost, disputes over responsibility, new regulations, and operational requirements. With all of these variables, it's necessary to identify the most pressing issues and communicate effectively.

Chris Puschak

Principal Consultant, Governance and Assurance

Synergy 360

ANALYSING THE BIGGER PICTURE AS A FINANCE PROFESSIONAL

CASE STUDY

10:55 - 11:45

In the rapidly changing public sector environment, it's essential to look beyond the present and search for the next steps. Looking at the bigger picture allows you and your organisation to achieve your goals with clarity.

Pranay Lodhiya

Chief Financial Officer

Australian Bureau of Meteorology



ENSURE REALISTIC BUDGETING PROCESSES AND MANAGE EXPECTATIONS

PANEL

11:45 - 12:35

A comprehensive and efficient budgeting process is critical for management success. Effective budgeting can elevate your organisation and improve team productivity.

Peter Dunlop

Chief Financial Officer

Sport Australia



Charles Wann

First Assistant Secretary, Financial Management Division

Department of Health



Nick Hetherington

Finance Manager

Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House



BUILD YOUR VALUE AS A LEADER

CASE STUDY

1:35 - 2:25

Hard work and measurable output contribute to career progression, but don't make up the full equation. Your ability to build value and visibility will enhance career advancement opportunities.

Robert Hanlon

Chief Financial Officer

Department of the Environment and Energy



THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCOUNTABILITY

CASE STUDY

2:25 - 3:15

Accountability strengthens team culture, breeds excellence, and ensures ownership. As a leader in the public sector, it's essential to understand the importance of building relationships with trust and authenticity.

Lisa Harris

Assistant Secretary Financial Compliance

Department of Defence



INVEST IN YOUR SUCCESS

ROUNDTABLE

3:30 - 4:30

In this final interactive discussion we will summarise the takeaways from the event and develop strategies for career progression.

Mark Butz

Principal

Futures by Design

7 MAY

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

STRENGTHEN YOUR CAPABILITIES

Discover how to communicate confidently as a strategic leader, improve your leadership skills and maximise your influence.

Develop an authentic leadership style and brand

- ▶ Lead with purpose and influence
- ▶ Exude executive presence
- ▶ Project your leadership style and voice

Strategic communication and relationship management

- ▶ Build rapport and prioritise key relationships
- ▶ Strengthen interpersonal communication to influence those around you
- ▶ Anticipate different leadership styles and navigate different personalities

Effective career planning and career challenges

- ▶ Define the steps to successfully transition into your next role
- ▶ Explore a comprehensive tool-kit on how to successfully develop your leadership career
- ▶ Identify common leadership challenges

Lead with resilience in challenging times

- ▶ Maintain a positive attitude
- ▶ Demonstrate resilience
- ▶ Focus on strategic action

Mark Butz Principal **Futures by Design**

10 MAY

POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

FINDING THE BALANCE BETWEEN TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND LEADERSHIP ROLES

Strategies to navigate your career and tackle the critical transition from specialist to leader. You'll gain a greater understanding of your leadership strengths and learn how to leverage these for success.

Position yourself for promotion

- ▶ Embrace feedback and fast-track your development
- ▶ Create opportunities by expanding your professional network
- ▶ Strengthen the soft skills necessary for career progression

Prepare for an executive career

- ▶ Understand the value that you add to your organisation
- ▶ Learn to communicate effectively as a strategic business partner
- ▶ Identify your strengths and transform them into exceptional leadership skills

Cement your skills as an effective decision maker

- ▶ Adapt to the importance of accountability
- ▶ Transform challenges into opportunities
- ▶ Navigate honest and difficult conversations

Find your voice as a leader

- ▶ Influence different personality types
- ▶ Develop effective negotiation and persuasion techniques
- ▶ Identify how to utilise your optimal leadership style within the context of your organisation

Kevin Riley Managing Director **Capital Training College**

