

FINSIA BOARD 2023 - Candidates for election

Nominations for the FINSIA board elections closed on 2 March 2023.

There are three (3) vacant positions available, as three (3) directors are retiring in 2023. Of these three directors, two* (2) are seeking re-election. One (1) director will retire at the end of the 2023 Annual General Meeting, and in accordance with FINSIA's Constitution.

Election process

Therefore, in the election process there are five (5) candidates for three (3) vacant positions.

Vero Voting, has been engaged as FINSIA's Returning Officer and will be responsible for an on-line ballot.

Voting is due to open at 9 am (AEST) on Monday, 8 May 2023 and will close at 5:30 pm (AEST) on Friday, 19 May 2023.

In accordance with FINSIA's By-Laws, the director candidates are listed in alphabetical order:

- Ms Vanessa Beggs, F FIN
- Mr Grant Cairns, F FIN*
- Mr David Cox, F FIN*
- Mr Jason Smith, F FIN
- Ms Gloria Yuen, SA FIN

The candidates elected through this process will be announced by the Chair at the upcoming Annual General Meeting to be held at the Auditorium, Dexus Place, Level 5, 1 Margaret Street, streamed via Zoom at 5:30 pm on 29 May 2023. The persons elected will take office from the conclusion of that Annual General Meeting.

The candidates' application statements (up to 200 words in length) are set out below, and are recorded in alphabetical order:

VANESSA BEGGS, F FIN

Vanessa has worked in the banking industry for over 20 years, predominantly in executive roles with the Commonwealth Bank, and recently as the Chief Operating Officer and Deputy CEO at the Australian Banking Association.

With a depth of experience and knowledge in governance, strategy, finance and developing capability, Vanessa is keen to contribute to FINSIA and see it strengthen as the industry association for finance professionals.

Vanessa's understanding of the industry, its issues and opportunities coupled with her drive for excellence will put her in good stead to represent FINSIA members on the board and strive for continuous improvement in the operation, effectiveness, and value proposition of FINSIA.

VANESSA BEGGS, F FIN (continued)

Vanessa's executive experience spans banking, government and not for profit sectors, holding roles in strategy, business transformation and organisational development predominantly with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and previously held the position of the CEO for the YWCA NSW – leading a significant structure change from a federated model to a united national organisation.

Vanessa also serves as Company Secretary at the Australian Banking Association with strong working relationships across the banking industry, regulators and key stakeholders.

Vanessa seeks appointment to the FINSIA board to continue the drive to raise standards of capability.

GRANT CAIRNS, F FIN*

I've had the privilege of serving FINSIA members for three years on the board and two years as Vice President. I joined the board as I was passionate about raising professional standards and excellence in the industry that I have served for over twenty years. During my time on the board, I'm very proud to see us expand and develop our professional education programs including the NAB accredited career pathway, appoint a new CEO and leadership team who have worked with the board to refresh and renew FINSIA's strategy and have actively worked with the board to reengage and inspire our regional and industry councils. I am deeply committed to FINSIA and supporting the team to deliver our strategy to grow the membership base and improve the member experience.

I have worked for 17 years at CBA, holding senior leadership roles in Regional & Agribusiness banking, product management, operations, and relationship management. I lead the Business Lending team, giving me insights into the challenges facing Australians, and the needs of financial services professionals, which I bring to the Board.

I am a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Director of the Australian Business Growth Fund (ABGF).

DAVID COX, F FIN*

A key motivation for joining the FINSIA board was my desire to see FINSIA improve its relevance to members. During my time on the board, I have worked with the board, CEO and management team in refreshing our strategic plan, understanding member needs, redefining our member value proposition and enhancing the board's engagement with our member community.

However, we are still in the early stages of this journey, and there is much more that needs to be done. I look forward to continuing to lead the FINSIA board to ensure FINSIA is more relevant for the benefit of members.

Outside of FINSIA, I am an audit partner with PwC, where I have spent more than 20 years working with clients in the financial services sector in Australia, New York and the Middle East. This gives me a strong knowledge and appreciation of the issues that are important to members.

I have previously served as a member of the Consumer Finance Advisory Group and as Chair of the Institutional Markets Council.

JASON SMITH, F FIN

Since 1993 I have enjoyed extensive support from FINSIA as a member for my ongoing career development and professional education. The thought of now having the opportunity to give back to an organisation that has supported me throughout my career gives me a deep sense of pride and satisfaction.

I was enthused to see the experience and attributes that you are seeking for this current NED election given my five years of service as a Director of the Risk Management Institute of Australasia and during that time I served as the RMIA's Acting CEO for 12 months throughout the height of the Pandemic. I have a passion for education, and I have harnessed this to play a leading role in bringing the RMIA to the cusp of finalising an agreement with a top ranked Australian University for the provision of a co-branded post-graduate Risk Management qualification.

I have been working with Finstro (a B2B SME lending Fintech) for approximately two years and I've had significant exposure and hands on implementation accountability for leading edge technologies supporting financial services. I would think that this would again auger well regarding the experience and attributes that FINSIA is looking for from NED applicants.

GLORIA YUEN, SA FIN

I am determined to bring greater diversity and representation to our industry in meeting the fast-changing needs of multicultural customers and communities.

With over 15 years' experience working with NAB, JPMC, Santander and CMB, I offer policy development expertise and cultural intelligence succeeding in business development and risk roles in Australasia financial markets. I will also draw upon my strategy and program development experience supporting Deakin University Leadership Futures Hub, Victorian Pride Centre, Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, Women on Boards and Asia Risk Congress through my advisory and board committee roles.

People are at the heart of everything I do. Our profession needs to take an experience-centric and purpose-driven approach. I will collaborate across industries and bring the voice of community to the FINSIA Board.

I was recently awarded Women's Agenda Leadership Award, recognised by APOC as Community Champion of the Year, and honoured in AA122 List of Most Impactful Asian Australians. I was the Women in Banking and Finance Rising Star Award winner and one of the 40 under 40 Most Influential Asian Australians in 2021. I obtained my law degree from the University of Hong Kong and am a fellow member of International Compliance Association.