Program Overview

Governance in the Vocational Education and Training Sector

Welcome to this unique program for Directors in the VET sector (Vocational Education and Training). It is unique as there has never been a program especially designed for Board members in the wide range of VET organizations in Australia and New Zealand. This day is designed to provide information and food for thought whether you are an experienced Director in other industries and now on a VET Board or a TAFE Council member or Board member. Even if you have had many years on a VET Board and know the industry well you will find useful tips about better corporate governance for your organization.

Historically the various State owned TAFE Institutes provided the bulk of VET Training for students and apprentices. In recent years with the introduction of Federal Government funded subsidies for VET students there has emerged a growing number of private providers offering courses. That number is now in excess of 4000 across Australia and the market has become highly competitive for all providers. More recent concerns with some providers in relation to quality has led the Government to introduce more and more changes to how they fund such courses and it is likely there will be more to come. On top of that some State Governments have made many changes to how they fund the VET sector in their State. Some of these have been successful and some not.

At the same time some State Governments have made changes to the governance structures of their TAFE providers. Many now have commercial Boards and operate independently from the previous Departmental connection. Private providers are nearly all Companies or Incorporated Associations which means they are accountable to their respective regulators for their governance standards. This means the VET Directors in these cases are subject to the same laws that any Director in any other industry would be subject to with the same liability. This means that all Directors must be aware of all the governance issues and trends that apply to their role more than ever. They also need to understand the particular issues within the VET sector so they and their Board can add value in a competitive market with its own set of risks and keep track of the changes ahead. Today the typical VET student has different demands and expectations than those a generation ago. The growing International student market also brings its own set of issues for Boards.

So this one day workshop is designed to cover all of these topics by way of information sharing and case study discussions. It is hoped that you will participate fully in the day and share your knowledge with others under the guidance of the facilitator. He has conducted many such workshops and is an experienced Director and Chairman with many years on Boards in the VET sector and other industries. His role is to assist you to gain maximum benefit from your attendance on the day. It will be fun and informative and we hope you enjoy the workshop.

Thank you for joining us!

Warren Tapp
Overview

In 2016, the LH Martin Institute offers a series of focussed symposia for leaders and managers in the Vocational Education and Training Sector, addressing issues of governance and structure.

The Vocational Education and Training sector is going through more volatility than ever before. There are many changes happening with Federal and State Government policies and a change to the governance structures of the TAFE sector in Australia. Private providers are facing more challenges than have happened previously and all of this means challenges for the Directors of any VET organization. The LH Martin Institute, along with facilitator Warren Tapp, have recognized this and developed a program that will assist Directors to meet these challenges, whether they be in the TAFE role or that of a private VET provider.

The day is structured to be highly interactive, challenging and informative. It will provide the basic information on being a Board member while stimulating issues relevant to the VET sector.

Whether you are new to Boards or the VET sector or experienced as a Director on a VET Board you will find this day useful in your professional development from a program that is unique in Australia. The day will allow for group discussion on a number of real world case studies in the VET sector and provide information and guidance on the corporate governance issues Directors face.

Learning outcomes

Participants will have developed and/or refined the capacity to demonstrate their understanding and ability to negotiate governance issues such as:

- Government policies and the future policy landscape
- The International market and opportunities
- Work Place Health and Safety
- Risk Management
- Managing Finances
- Developing Strategies
- Board best practice
- CEO relationship
- Challenges for TAFE Boards
- Issues for private provider Boards
- Corporate Governance 101
- Role of the Chair
- High performing Boards

Who should attend?

- TAFE Directors
- Private Provider Directors
- Group Training Organisations
- Advisory Council Members

Some links that may interest you:

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governance_in_higher_education](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governance_in_higher_education)
**Program schedule**

**Required Pre-Reading:** (included in attached Reading Pack)

2. Honeywood, P., Step up with Caution, Campus Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Registration, Tea and Coffee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Setting the Scene: Governance in the VET Sector</td>
<td>Welcome and introductions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45am</td>
<td>VET Policy Landscape and TAFE and Private Providers</td>
<td>Case Study 1 and Discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45am</td>
<td>Corporate Governance 101 and best Board practice</td>
<td>Case studies 4 and 6 and Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>CEO Relationship and the Role of the Chair</td>
<td>Case Study 5 and Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>Risk Management and Managing Finances</td>
<td>Case studies 2 and 3 and Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>Developing Strategies</td>
<td>Case studies 7 and 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45pm</td>
<td>International markets</td>
<td>Case Study 8 and Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15pm</td>
<td>High Performing Boards</td>
<td>Case Study 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Conclusion and recap</td>
<td>Harvesting thoughts and concluding remarks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15pm</td>
<td>Workshop Close</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Further Readings and References:** (included in attached Reading Pack)

Facilitator Biography

Mr Warren Tapp

Warren is a Senior Fellow with the LH Martin Institute and has many years intensive experience as a Chairman or Director on more than 20 Boards. He is currently the Chairman of TAFE Queensland which is an independent Statutory Body responsible for the delivery of vocational training to more than 100,000 students. He is also the Chair of all the TAFE Chairs in Australia, a forum for all State Chairs to discuss VET policies and issues. Prior to his current appointment he was a member of the TAFE Reform Board and before that Chairman of Southbank Institute of Technology, the largest statutory TAFE in Queensland. He is also a member of the Council of the Queensland University of Technology and had a strong interest in Higher and Tertiary Education.

For 10 years he was a facilitator of the Company Directors course for the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has lectured in a range of forums in Australia and overseas. He has been the Chairman of 10 companies in a range of industries with extensive corporate governance experience.

He is the author of the book “So you want to be a Company Director” and has been a keynote speaker in forums across Australia and overseas. His qualifications include an MBA and Master of Laws as well as a Graduate Diploma in Applied Corporate Governance. He has consulted to a range of Boards in the VET space and is an informative and stimulating workshop leader.
Workshop Venue

Citadines on Bourke
131-135 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000
(03) 9039 8888

Public Transport:
The closest public transport stops are located on [street name / stop number]. To plan your journey please visit:

Accommodation:

Citadines on Bourke
131-135 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC
+61 3 9039 8888
www.citadines.com/australia/melbourne/bourke.html

Rydges on Swanston
701 Swanston Street, Carlton, VIC 3000
+61 3 9347 7811

Quest on Bourke
155 Bourke St, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
+61 3 9631 0400