

Humanities and GLAM sector not represented on ARC Advisory Committee

6 April 2022

DASSH notes with serious concern the complete lack of representation of the humanities or GLAM sector within the advisory committee established by the Australia Research Council.

We acknowledge the inclusion of both Distinguished Professor Maggie Walter and Professor Deborah Terry AO, Vice Chancellor and President, University of Queensland both of whom have backgrounds in the social sciences.

The decision to exclude the humanities and GLAM sector from this distinguished list further entrenches the lack of representation for these sectors at the ARC.

With the implementation of the Commercialisation of Research Action Plan, the research environment is already undergoing a significant shift towards industry affiliated research, putting our disciplines at a disadvantage.

The Humanities and Arts industries, particularly, history, heritage, galleries, libraries, archives and museums provide a rich array of industry experience on which ARC can draw and from which it can benefit.

The neglect of these is damaging both the intent of the Ministerial direction to gain more insight into the end users of research as well as to those researching in these fields

DASSH argues that the inclusion of representatives from our disciplines will fundamentally boost the effectiveness of the consultation process through well rounded advice from highly recognised professionals in their fields.

Without this advice this consultation process will result in skewed findings that do not represent the whole of the Australian research sector nor even Australian society.

DASSH is calling on the ARC to appoint at least two members of Australia's distinguished humanities and GLAM sectors to this committee.

Examples of possible inclusions can be found below.

[Dr Marie-Louise Ayres FAHA](#)

Director-General and Executive Member National Library of Australia

“Dr Ayres has worked in research libraries for more than 25 years, after completing a PhD in Australian Literature at the Australian National University. Dr Ayres is the Chair of National and State Libraries Australia (NSLA), having previously been a leader and participant in many NSLA projects, including NED, the National eDeposit service that was jointly developed by Australia’s national, state and territory libraries. Dr Ayres is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

[Dr John Vallance](#)

State Librarian for NSW

“Dr John Vallance attended the University of Sydney where he studied classics and archaeology, followed by Cambridge where he completed his MA and PhD in classics at St John’s College. After graduating with starred First Class Honours in Classics, he became a Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge and taught in the Faculty of Classics at Cambridge for eight years. He has published widely in the field of ancient Greek science and medicine. Between 1999 and 2017 he was Headmaster of Sydney Grammar School. He has served as a member of the Library Council of NSW and as a Trustee of the State Library Foundation, and is currently a non-executive director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He is also Honorary Professor for the Public Understanding of the Humanities at the University of New South Wales.”

[Seb Chan](#)

*President Australian Museums and Galleries Association
Chief Experience Officer at ACMI Melbourne*

“He is an Adjunct Professor, School of Media and Communications, in the College of Design and Social Context at RMIT, and is an international advisory board member of Art Science Museum (Singapore), and board of the National Communications Museum (Melbourne), and National President of the Australian Museums and Galleries Association. He is an alumni of the Getty Leadership Institute, Salzburg Global Seminar, and UNSW. He also leads a parallel life in digital art, writing, and music.”

[Patrick McIntyre](#)

CEO NFSA

“Prior to joining the NFSA as CEO, he served as Executive Director of the Sydney Theatre Company for over 11 years. His earlier roles include Associate Executive Director of The Australian Ballet, General Manager of the Sydney Film Festival and Marketing Manager of the Sydney Opera House Trust and of the Sydney Dance Company. Patrick has held positions on a number of boards and advisory boards, including the Executive Council of industry body Live Performance Australia, the advisory board of the CREATE Centre at the University of Sydney, SCOPE for Artists, ArtsReady and the Deakin University arts management program. He was Chair of Streetwise Communications, a non-profit community publishing enterprise, and was a member of the NSW State Creative Industries Task Force. Holding a BA (Communications) from UTS.

Janet Carding*Director Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery*

Ms Carding is currently Director and CEO of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada, a position she has held since 2010, and was previously Assistant Director, Public Programs and Operations at the Australian Museum in Sydney. She has been a museum professional for over two decades, and is originally from the UK, where she studied at Cambridge University and the University of London before beginning her museum career as a curator at London's Science Museum. Ms Carding was the first woman to be appointed Director and CEO of the Royal Ontario Museum.

Ross Latham*State Archivist, Manager of the Tasmanian Archive & Heritage Office**[Chair GLAM PEAK](#)*

“GLAM Peak brings together the representative bodies for Australia’s galleries, libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, cultural heritage organisations and research peak bodies. Its members have been working together since 2015 to connect Australians with our cultural heritage and national collections; secure support for collection preservation and access; and promote the achievements of the GLAM sector. Read the position statement for 2022.”