

Sarah Richardson adds sports education and indigenous health to her decade of board experience

In May 2016 Sarah Richardson was appointed to the Boards of member alliance Australian University Sport (and Finance Committee) and indigenous health entity Filling The Gap. She currently serves on the Board and Advocacy Committee of Canberra based advocacy body Parkinson's Australia and is Director of her own SME consultancy. She has participated on six boards in the last decade since completing the Company Directors Diploma supported by the *Women on Boards/AICD Corporate Governance Scholarship*.

Queensland headquartered sports championship peak body Australian University Sport is an alliance of 40+ university sports organisations representing more than one million students. It aims to foster university sport as a relevant and important part of university life through its 'healthy body healthy mind' ethos, provide sector leadership and policy, offer competition participation opportunities and promote career pathways. In addition to coordinating 40,000 participants in the Unigames series, the organisation provides research, education, events, membership services, accreditation and awards.

Established a decade ago, indigenous dental health entity Filling The Gap's objective is to improve oral health in regional indigenous communities. In partnership with Aboriginal health centres, Filling The Gap offers a practical volunteer service to areas with limited dental treatment access and great patient need. More than 250 dental professionals have volunteered their time with Filling The Gap and provided over 11,000 dental appointments covering both emergency relief and comprehensive treatment.

Parkinson's Australia is a healthcare advocacy peak body representing 80,000 Australians living with Parkinson's. It operates a federated model with the six states and ACT as members, collaborates with the Shake It Up Australia Foundation, Friends of Parkinson's and international Parkinson's organisations, and is a World Parkinson's Coalition Partner.

Sarah brings to these organisations three decades of board and executive experience in not-for-profits, the SME sector and large multinationals. Initially practicing as an accountant, then after 15+ years of senior marketing, sales and strategy roles in FMCG firms in the US, France and Australia, in 2004 she set up her boutique consultancy supporting SMEs across for-purpose, government, tourism, consumer/b2b, franchising, resources, industrial and technology sectors. Established in Perth in 2004, the consultancy relocated to Sydney in 2010 when Sarah began an executive career in the charity sector (St James Ethics Centre, Wesley Mission).

In commenting on these recent board appointments, Sarah said, "I'm looking forward to contributing strategic, financial and corporate governance skills, digital/fundraising nous and diversity appreciation, and to collaborating with my highly experienced colleagues on each of the Boards. Australia's for-purpose sector is experiencing significant change and I'm excited to be part of building a thriving, relevant, accountable and sustainable sector."

Sarah is a former Board Member of a Melbourne headquartered entrepreneurial health sector supplier (2015–16, Advisory Board), a Sydney tech start up connecting wine club members with boutique Royal Agricultural Society prize winning wines (2013–14) and Western Australian award winning mid-size disability services not-for-profit (2009–10).

Sarah holds a BA, BCA and MBA (Hons). She is Member of Australian Marketing Institute (Fellow, CPM, Awards Judge), Women on Boards, Australian Fulbright Alumni Association and University of Chicago Alumni Association (Founder and former Chair, Perth Branch). She has received a number of awards for her not-for-profit, consultancy and corporate work.