

# Enterprising Places & Ecosystems

This Symposium will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and academics to explore innovative strategies for attracting, retaining, and developing talent and industry through the actions of enterprising businesses.

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## KEY SPEAKERS



**Deputy Premier Susan Close, MP**

Susan Close is the Deputy Premier of South Australia and the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water; Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science; and Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy. Susan has been the Member for Port Adelaide since 2012. Before entering parliament, Susan was an executive in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and played a key role in the establishment of the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary as a community advocate. She previously worked at the University of Adelaide managing student services and holds a PhD from Flinders University.



**Professor David Audretsch**

Distinguished Professor | Indiana University  
Director | Institute for Development Strategies

Visiting Professor David Audretsch will be part of the day's proceedings. He is a Distinguished Professor and Ameritech Chair of Economic Development at Indiana University, where he also serves as Director of the Institute for Development Strategies. He also is a part-time Professor at the Department of Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship, University of Klagenfurt, Austria and an honorary professor of Industrial Economics and Entrepreneurship at the WHU-Otto Beisheim School of Management in Germany.



**Professor Roy Green**

Professor | University of Technology Sydney  
Former Dean | UTS Business School

Roy is Special Innovation Advisor and former Dean of the UTS Business School. He has pursued a career in universities, government and industry, and has published widely on innovation and industrial policy, including with the OECD and European Commission. At various times, he chaired the Australian Government's Innovative Regions Centre, CSIRO Manufacturing Sector Advisory Council, Queensland Competition Authority and NSW Manufacturing Council. Currently, Roy chairs the Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing (ARM) Hub and Port of Newcastle, and he is a board member of CSIRO and SmartSat CRC.



**Dr Antje Fiedler**

Business Scholar |  
University of Auckland

Dr Antje Fiedler is a Senior Lecturer in Management at the University of Auckland Business School, specializing in entrepreneurship and International Business. She is also the Associate Director of the New Zealand Asia Institute (NZAI), and Director of the Board of the Small Enterprise Association of Australia and New Zealand (SEANZ). Her research interests center around how Western SMEs can productively engage with Asia. Her research has informed practitioner workshops around New Zealand.

*Supported under the Seeley International Visiting Research Fellowship scheme*

**Date** Fri 1 Nov 2024 8:30am (9am start) - 1:30pm

**Venue** Yungondi Building. 61 North Terrace. Adelaide

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## PANEL SPEAKERS

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**Jodie Van Deventer**

Business Leader | Branding |  
Journalist

Jodie van Deventer is the national Chief Operating Officer of Australia's peak industry organisation, Australian Industry Group. Ai Group represents the interests of more than 60,000 businesses employing more than 1 million staff from traditional, innovative and emerging industry sectors. Jodie joined Ai Group in 2021 as its Head of South Australia.

Prior to this, she was the Chief Executive Officer of the Committee for Adelaide, ran a successful branding and communications, held senior executive roles in Government and private industry and was a journalist for the BBC in the UK.



**Dino Vrynios**

Architect | Founder |  
Managing Director | Advocate

Dino has spent the last 16 years leading projects and teams across large and small architectural practice in South Australia and around the country.

As a fierce advocate within his community, Dino has committed across his career charity and activism that has propelled him to being a trusted leader within South Australia, and to his beloved Das teammates. His acknowledgement being awarded the National Emerging Architect Prize by the Australian Institute of Architects in 2021 is testimony to that.



**Dr Ariella Helfgott**

Director | Strategic Foresight |  
Engineer | Scholar | Systems Thinker

With over 20 years of experience, Ariella has worked across 26 countries, guiding governments, industries, and communities through complex, multi-actor processes to create sustainable, equitable, and resilient futures. Her previous roles include Director of Scenarios with the World Energy Council, member of the Shell Scenario Team, Senior Fellow at Oxford, Utrecht, Wageningen, and Adelaide Universities, and Strategic Analyst with the Australian Department of Defence.

Ariella's foresight work is deeply rooted in her belief that the future belongs to everyone.



**Kirrakee Watson**

Architect | PhD Candidate |  
Integrating Aboriginal knowledge

Kirrakee Watson is a Tnganekald, Meintangk, Bungandidj woman from the Southeast. She holds a master's degree in architecture and has several years of experience working in the architectural industry and gained extensive experience in aboriginal community housing, and other large scale commercial buildings. Currently, Kirrakee serves as an Academic Developer where her primary focus is on integrating Aboriginal knowledge and decolonising the curriculum across various university programs.

Kirrakee is pursuing a PhD exploring the intricate connections between architecture, colonial placemaking, and the relationship of Aboriginal communities with their ancestral lands.



**Ben Fee**

Regional Leader | CEO |  
PhD Candidate | Ecologist

Ben has been Chief Executive of RDAMR since October 2019, leading the organisation and supporting the region through some of the most complex and challenging times including COVID-19 and the 2022-23 River Murray Flood Event.

Ben evolves his systems approach to regional development, influenced by thinkers like Kate Raworth and Donella Meadows. and through experience gained from consultancy in the food-energy-water nexus, ecological training and field work, economics research, and roles as a senior government science advisor and manager of major programs.

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