CISWA Annual Conference Presenters

CISWA
Council for International Students of Western Australia • Est. 1963

Proudly sponsored by navitas

Navigating the Future of International Education: Connection, Innovation and Student Success

Celia Cornwell

Conference host | President, CISWA | Principal, Osprey Professional Consulting



CONFERENCE HOST

Celia Cornwell brings more than 20 years' experience in international relations across government, business and higher education.

Fluent in Mandarin, she has led international partnerships, mobility programs and collaborative initiatives at Curtin University, Murdoch University and the WA Government. Through Osprey Professional Consulting and CISWA, she supports stronger global engagement and professional capability in WA's international education sector.

Celia is the current President of the Council for International Students Western Australia

Venue: Boola Katitjin 360.4.003, Murdoch University
Friday 27th November
9:00AM-4:00-PM

0411 913 730

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Navigating the Future of International Education: Connection, Innovation and Student Success

Hon. Parwinder Kaur MLC

Deputy Chair of Committees, Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs



MINISTER'S OPENING ADDRESS

Hon Dr Parwinder Kaur is a trailblazing scientist, advocate, and political leader deeply committed to advancing science, community, and inclusive leadership. Her journey from the lab bench to the Western Australian Legislative Council—as a first-generation migrant, mother, and woman of color—reflects her passion for innovation and transformative change. Elected in May 2025 as a Member of the Legislative Council for the Australian Labor Party, she brings a powerful voice for progress and inclusion.

Recognised with prestigious awards—including the Australian Academy of Sciences' Science and Innovation Award (2013), Microsoft's AI for Earth Award (2019), and induction into the Western Australia Women's Hall of Fame (2023)—Dr Kaur champions diversity in STEM and evidence-based policy.

As Deputy Chair of Committees and member of the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs, she inspires others to believe that science and service together can create a better future for all.

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Navigating the Future of International Education: Connection, Innovation and Student Success

The Hon Phil Honeywood

Chief Executive Officer | International Education Association of Australia



SECTOR UPDATE

The Hon Phil Honeywood has been IEAA's Chief Executive Officer since November 2011. Previously, he was a Member of the Victorian State Parliament (1988–2006), Minister for Tertiary Education, Training and Multicultural Affairs (1996–1999) and Deputy Leader of the Opposition (2002–2006). Since leaving politics, Phil worked at Stott's Business College and Cambridge International College. Phil is the Co-Convener of the Federal Government's National Council for International Education, Chairman of the Roundtable of International Education Peak Body CEOs, Deputy Chair of the Tuition Protection Services Board and a member of the Education Visa Consultative Committee. He also sits on the New South Wales and StudyPerth International Education Advisory Boards.

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Jonathan Chew
Chief Insights Officer, Navitas
IEAA Incoming President



KEYNOTE + WORKSHOP

Jonathan Chew leads insights and data-driven strategy at global education provider Navitas. Recognized for his analysis of international education trends, he received the 2022 IEAA Excellence Award for Professional Commentary. Before Navitas, he spent a decade in management and policy consulting following an early career as a public-sector economist.

SESSIONS
Keynote: International Education in the Era of the Digital Childhood
Workshop: How does digital childhood change the roles of tertiary institutions, agents and partners?

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Creating the Future: Innovative Practices that Empower International Student Success

Panel Chair: Danielle Rock
Campus Manager | Kaplan Business School, Perth



PANEL SESSION

Danielle Rock is the Campus Manager at the largest school within the Kaplan Business School network, overseeing the Perth campus in delivery of business and industry-related Undergraduate and Postgraduate programs, ranging from AQF 5 to 9.

Having worked for over a decade in a number of senior academic and professional roles within ELICOS, Pathways and higher education, she understands the need for international students to feel welcomed, supported and empowered with the confidence to succeed in Higher Education, and aims to create a rich and holistic study experience for all students.

Alongside supporting students to reach their full potential, she is particularly passionate about developing high-performing teams, one of the many reasons which has led Danielle to enrol in a HDR program at UWA, within the School of Psychological Science. Her research interests are leadership and leadership development, supporting junior leadership emergence with individuals from culturally and racially marginalized backgrounds, leadership identity and Self-Determination Theory.

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CREATING THE FUTURE / PANELLISTS



Krishan Shah
Curtin Volunteers! | Curtin University
Krishan coordinates community programs and volunteering at Curtin. He supports opportunities that help international students develop confidence, connections and a sense of belonging through meaningful community participation..



Katarina Zerzan
NIT Connect | National Institute of Technology
Trainer and Assessor | National Institute of Technology
Katarina is a project and program manager, trainer and assessor with strengths in collaboration, facilitation and practical problem-solving. She focuses on building supportive relationships and helping people and teams succeed.



Alisha McLean
Passport into Independence | UWA College
Student Life and Wellbeing Manager
Alisha Maclean develops transition, engagement and employability initiatives for young people, particularly culturally and linguistically diverse students. At UWA College, her work includes Passport into Independence, a life-skills program for under-18s. Her research interests span international student experiences and trauma-informed educational practice.

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Derryn Belford
Chief Executive Officer | StudyPerth



Derryn is the Chief Executive Officer of StudyPerth, the destination marketing organisation for Western Australia's international education sector. Since joining in February 2022, she has focused on raising Perth's global profile as a study destination and connecting international students with educational, cultural, and work opportunities. Before StudyPerth, Derryn spent 13 years at Tourism Western Australia, where she led the development of quality hotels, the cruise industry, and Aboriginal tourism. She holds a Bachelor of Science (Psychology) from UWA, an MBA from Edith Cowan University, and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

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Nara de Souza
Student Success Manager | StudyPerth



Nara de Souza is an experienced international education professional committed to student success and wellbeing. As Student Success Manager at StudyPerth, she provides strategic direction and leads initiatives that strengthen student engagement, employability and wellbeing across Western Australia.
A former international student from Brazil, Nara combines lived experience with an empathetic, collaborative and practical approach to leadership. She works closely with government, education providers and industry partners to build strong partnerships, develop innovative support services and create meaningful opportunities that enhance the international student experience, helping students feel welcomed, connected and empowered to thrive.

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Human Skills for a Digital Future: Student and Graduate Voices on Connection, Belonging and Employability

Panel Chair: Dr Linda YangManaging Director Intercultural Development Institute (ICDI)



PANEL SESSION

Dr Linda Yang is the Managing Director for the Intercultural Development Institute (ICDI), a research-led and practice-oriented intercultural training and consulting organization based in Perth, WA.

With over 25 years' experience working in China, U.K., France, Ireland and Australia, Linda has extensive experience in delivering intercultural consultancy and training to diverse participants from more than 100 nationalities from higher education and business sectors. Linda is an energetic educator with a PhD in intercultural studies who brings dynamism to every discussion. She works hard to effectively enhance the performance of individuals and teams across disciplines, cultures and borders. Linda is well known for her research-led, engaging training and out-of-the-box thinking.

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Navigating the Future of International Education: Connection, Innovation and Student Success

Panelists | Current Students



Syed Taqi Abbas Razvi
Bachelor of Cyber Security
Edith Cowan University
PAKISTAN



Rubina Bishunke
Australia Awards; Master of Community Development
Murdoch University
NEPAL



Botao Liu (Austin)
Diploma in Commerce
UWA College
CHINA



Emmarin Bierman
Diploma of Civil Construction Design
Employability
Keystone College Business & Technology
SOUTH AFRICA

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Panelists | Graduates



MD Redwan Hossain

Surveys & Analytics Officer | Murdoch University
Murdoch University international graduate

BANGLADESH



Precious Tanatswa Tuturu

Service Desk Technician - Kinetic IT
NIT international graduate

ZIMBABWE

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