

AIST announces new CEO

Thursday 23 March, 2017

The Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST) is pleased to announce that **Eva Scheerlinck** has been appointed as AIST's new Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately.

Ms Scheerlinck – whose appointment follows an extensive search – has been in the role of acting CEO since former CEO, Tom Garcia, stepped down earlier this month after nearly five years in the role.

Ms Scheerlinck headed up AIST's governance and stewardship department for the past six years, and most recently led the development of a new governance code (or code of practice) for AIST profit-to-member funds, which is set to take effect from July 1, this year. She has also been pivotal in driving industry-wide initiatives to improve outcomes for Indigenous Australians, having been the inaugural chair of the Indigenous Superannuation Working Group.

AIST President Mr David Smith said Ms Scheerlinck has deep appreciation of the challenges and opportunities facing the superannuation industry as well as the leadership qualities to ensure that AIST continues to be strong and influential advocate for Australia's \$700 billion profit-to-member super sector.

"Eva is highly-respected across the superannuation industry and beyond for her significant contribution to key policy and governance debates, including her dedication to improving retirement outcomes for low income earners and disadvantaged groups – such as Indigenous Australians," Mr Smith said.

Ms Scheerlinck said she was excited to be taking on the role of leading AIST, working with the board and staff.

"The year is shaping up to be busy and significant one for AIST, with the launch of our governance code, our ongoing work and ensure smooth implementation of the new super tax changes and, most importantly, our advocacy on default fund selection to ensure that our compulsory super system continues to offer the highest level of consumer protection," Ms Scheerlinck said.

In addition to her past roles at AIST, Ms Scheerlinck has previous experience heading up professional associations, including six years as CEO of the Australian Lawyers Alliance, a role that saw her named by BOSS Magazine as one of seven top young executives of the year.

Ms Scheerlinck holds a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Law, Graduate Diploma in Community Management, as well as governance qualifications from AIST (GAIST) Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), and the University of Toronto.

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AIST is the peak industry body for the \$700 billion profit-to-member super sector which includes industry, corporate and public sector funds.