

## 2016-2017 ACBC COMMITTEE MEMBER BIOS



### **Robin Chambers AO**

Co-Founder & Senior Partner, Chambers & Company International Lawyers. The University of Melbourne, B.A., 1964. The University of Melbourne, The Melbourne Law School, LL.B., honors, 1965. Duke University School of Law, LL.M., 1968. Robin H Chambers AO is the Co-Founder of Chambers & Company and has been the Senior Partner since its establishment in 1984. He served as Chadbourne & Parke's Special Counsel – China since 2003 - 2016. He was formerly General Counsel of CRA Limited (now Rio Tinto Limited) for 14 years and lead lawyer on major mining projects in Australia involving billions of dollars of equity investment and export sales contracts. His practice primarily involves acting as the Leader Lawyer on international projects, with particular focus on China. Robin was appointed as lead lawyer to the Chinese Government's AUD\$420 million Channar joint venture investment in 1984 which was China's first major overseas investment. Mr Chambers has advised a number of major Chinese state-owned enterprises on their investments in Australia over 32 year period. He has also advised U.S., European and Australian corporations on a range of projects in China. He has leading edge experience on the negotiation and documentation of numerous joint ventures in Australia and overseas, together with project management experience coordinating the participation of numerous interested parties at all stages and the project financing of major projects by international banking syndicates. His involvement extends to projects in more than 30 countries.



### **Jason Chang**

Jason is the Managing Director and CEO of EMR Capital. Previously, he was the Partner in Charge of Asia Markets at KPMG and has been with KPMG in Australia for over 20 years specialising in cross border investments and the Asian markets. He has significant experience in advising Australian companies entering the Chinese market in different sectors and has led a significant number of cross border deals involving China/Australia. Jason is also a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria.



### **David Chu**

David is a Partner (International) at ShineWing Australia. ShineWing Australia is a member firm of ShineWing International, an accounting and advisory group started by ShineWing China (the largest indigenous accounting firm in China). David brings over 35 years of professional experience in Australia, Hong Kong and China. He is attuned to the Australia/China mergers and acquisition market, due diligence requirements, international taxation issues, and various stock exchange requirements. David has assisted a number of large Chinese corporations to collaborate with Australian companies in the energy and resources, agriculture & food processing, property, and technology sectors. David currently serves as a member of the Victoria Committee, as well as deputy chair of the Financial & Investment Services Working Group, of Australia China Business Council. David has also served as the National President of the Hong Kong Australia Business Association. David has been a regular presenter on Australian economic affairs on the Cantonese program of SBS Radio. He speaks fluent English, Cantonese and Mandarin.



### **Dr Mona Chung**

B International Trade, Beijing Renmin University, Grad Dip, International Business, Swinburne University, Master of International Business, Deakin University, Grad Cert Higher Education, Doctor of Philosophy, Monash University.

Dr Mona Chung is a bi-cultural business expert in doing business with China in particular negotiations. She addresses the major issues - overcomes the cultural gap between Westerners and Chinese in the fields of commerce and education.

Dr Chung specialises in strategic planning, management and marketing practice for international organisations with the understanding of the culture of Chinese market first. As a bi-cultural consultant she short-circuits processes and produce results that increase efficiency by between 70% and 50%.

Dr Chung is on the executive board of the Victoria branch of the Australia China Business Council. Being highly experienced in a large number of industries and a frequent visitor to China, Dr Chung is a guest speaker at many public forums and author of a list of over 80 publications in cross-cultural business studies. Her first book was 'Shanghai'd: Why Foster's Could Not Survive China'. Her second book was 'Doing Business Successfully in China'. Her third book 'Doing business with China: getting ready for the Asia century'. Her latest book is 'Dancing with the Dragon: doing business with China'.



### **Charles Curwen CVO OBE LLD**

Charles Roderick Curwen was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1945 in Cumberland, England and educated at Harrow before attending Mons Officer Cadet School in 1964 and serving in the 11th Hussars (P.A.O.). In 1967 as a Captain he was posted to Melbourne, Australia as ADC to the last British Governor of Victoria. At the conclusion of his tour of duty as ADC he left the British Army, became an Australian citizen and remained at Government House where he has served 10 Governors in the role of Private Secretary (1976-84) and as Official Secretary and Chief Administrator of the Office of Governor since 1984 during the term of eleven Premiers. In 2014 his position as Official Secretary was enhanced to provide an advisory and "Ambassadorial role" to the Premier and Government in trade, investment and biotechnology especially in North Asia and the United States of America.

In August 2012 the Premier appointed Charles as the Melbourne-based Commissioner for China. In Nanjing, China in October 2008 he was awarded Honorary Citizenship of Jiangsu Province, and in February 2009 he was inducted as an Advisory Professor at Southeaster University, Nanjing. In Malaysia in October 2013 he was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 5<sup>th</sup> World Chinese Economic Forum. In 2015 he was appointed as a Guest Professor by Tongji University in Shanghai.

In 1974 he married Sandra Harvey of South Australia and together they developed a stud property of cattle and fine wool Merino sheep in Central Victoria.

In 1989 on a scheme of arrangement for executive development within the Government of Victoria, he took leave of absence to gain commercial experience. This was achieved working in Market Research, during which time he was appointed as a Director of Roy Morgan Research Ltd. and A.C. Nielsen in Sydney.

His other interests have been in aviation as an instrument rated pilot of both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, and he has a continuing interest in medical research. From 1998 until 2004 he

was on the Advisory Board of the Monash Institute of Reproduction and Development (an institute for medical research, respected worldwide as a leader in Prostate Cancer, Infant and Child Health, Women's Reproductive Health, Human Genetics and Animal Husbandry, especially the preservation of endangered species). He was President of their successful \$10 Million Appeal, and continues to have a close association with them.

He was awarded the OBE in 1977, the LVO in 1988, C. St.J. in 1992, the CVO in 1998 and was made a Doctor of Laws honoris causa of Monash University in 1998. He is a fellow of the Victorian Division of The Institute of Public Administration, Australia. He was a sworn Clerk of The Executive Council. He retired as the representative of the State of Victoria on the Order of Australia Council in February 2015, having been first appointed in 2000. In February 2003 he joined the Board of the Howard Florey Institute, and he was appointed a Governor of the Florey Neuroscience Institute in 2007. In November 2009 he was elected as a Director of the Australia China Business Council (Victoria). He has been a Councillor of Monash University from 2005 to 2011, and in January 2010 joined the Monash University Malaysia University Board, where he served for 5 years.



### **Wilkin Fon**

Wilkin is a director of the retailing company Jeanswest, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the publicly listed Glorious Sun Enterprises Ltd in Hong Kong. Jeanswest, with over 230 stores spread across all states and territories of Australia as well as New Zealand, is the Australasian flagship in the multinational and integrated business network of Glorious Sun, which, on top of its huge garment production facilities network around the world, also owns the largest casualwear retail chain in China with more than 2,500 stores spread across all 30 provinces.

Wilkin was born in Hong Kong and educated in the US respectively at University of Oregon and Iowa State University. From an early career in the banking and finance sector, he has wide management consultancy experiences in major project management, financial advisory and debt restructuring areas.

Wilkin joined the Glorious Sun Group in 1988 and first came to Australia in 1991 upon the group's acquisition of the Jeanswest business operating out of Perth, and moved to Melbourne in 1994 with the relocation of the Jeanswest head office.

Wilkin was the Victorian President of Hong Kong Australia Business Association from 1999 to 2002 and the National President from 2005-2007. He was elected the Honorary Treasurer of the Federation of Hong Kong Business Associations Worldwide for the period from 2006 to 2008.

Wilkin has been a member of the Victorian Board of the Australia China Business Council since 2005 and he is also currently a member the Museums Board of Victoria as well as the Multicultural Business Ministerial Council in Victoria. He is also the Chairman of the newly established Salvation Army Chinese Corporate and Philanthropic Committee.



### **Ben Foskett**

Ben is currently the Executive Director at Pathway Services Pty Ltd. Ben was Deputy Secretary, Industry & Trade and CEO, Invest Victoria in the Vic Dept of Industry, Innovation & Regional Development (DIIRD) 2004-2008. As Deputy Secretary, Ben was responsible for developing Victoria's multi-sector export markets, attracting new international investment into Victoria as well as having primary responsibility for the development of a range of industry sectors in the State. After leaving DIIRD (now DSDBI) Ben completed a term as Victoria's Special Trade Envoy to Latin America and to North Asia. Through his private company, Pathway Services Pty Ltd, he acts as a consultant to the private sector and government organisations. Ben is on the board of the Burnet Institute and is a member of the Institute's Budget & Investment Committee and the IP& Commercialisation Committee. He is also Chair of two Burnet subsidiaries in China –

BioPoint Hong Kong and Nanjing BioPoint. Ben has been a Vice President of the Victorian Branch of the Australia China Business Council (ACBC) since 2004 and was appointed to the national Board of the Council in 2015. In Dec 2013 Ben retired from the Board of the Australia Latin America Business Council (ALABC) after 4 years as Vice Chairman. Ben was a member of the Health Exports Advisory Committee during 2013/14 advising the Ministers of Health and State Development on the development of a Health Exports Strategy. Between April 2008 and Dec 2011 Ben served on the Council of Victoria University during which time he was a member of the Council's Resources Committee, served as Chair of the Council's Strategy Committee and was a member of the Chancellor's Committee. Prior to joining DIIRD, Ben spent over 30 years in the financial services industry, predominantly with the AMP, spending 3 years in China as AMP's Chief Representative (Country Manager) based in Beijing. He was also Chairman of the Australia-China Chamber of Commerce in Beijing. Prior to that he was State Manager and Investment Manager, Victoria for the AMP (1992 - 1999).



### **Ying Hou**

Ying Hou is a senior manager with KPMG and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. As a member of KPMG China Practice, Ying has assisted inbound and outbound investors to and from China with their tax and accounting compliance needs. As the operations manager of the KPMG Private Enterprise Melbourne division, her roles include review of monthly financial performance, analysis of actual and budget variances and reporting to partner group. Ying is also the KPMG Private Enterprise National risk management representative who is assisting in review and redesign of the new risk management system of KPMG. Ying has over 15 years of experience in providing accounting, financial reporting, taxation compliance and advisory services to a wide range of industries and clients, including private businesses and not for profit organisations.



### **Lyll Howard**

Lyll Howard joined Blackmores in May 2016 as Head of Government Relations. He is responsible for Blackmores' policy and regulatory concerns with the federal government in Canberra. He also manages relations with governments in Blackmores' export markets through Australia's overseas missions. Prior to joining Blackmores Lyll was Senior Policy Advisor in the office of Australia's Minister for Trade & Investment, the Hon Andrew Robb AO. In this role Lyll was accountable for Australia's FTAs with Korea, Japan and China. Before joining the Government Lyll spent six years as Senior Government Relations Manager for Rio Tinto and four years in the same role with BHP Billiton. From 1996 to 2002 Lyll was Deputy CEO and Director for International Trade Policy at the National Farmers Federation in Canberra. Prior to NFF Lyll was National Purchasing Manager for McDonalds' Australia Limited and before that worked as a Corporate Planning Executive with the global agribusiness company Dalgety plc, in London, San Francisco and Sydney. Lyll has an MBA, M.Sc. (Agric Econ) and a Diploma in Agricultural Science.



### **Liming Huang**

Liming Huang is Special Counsel at Corrs Chambers Westgarth. Liming acts for Chinese energy and resource State-owned enterprises, banks and private companies. He specialises in cross border mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings, banking and corporate dispute resolutions, corporate advisory and project finance. Liming has extensive experience in providing bilingual legal advice and documentation in both Chinese and English languages. He has an unparalleled understanding of how Chinese clients conduct business and what they think. Whether drafting bilingual legal advice and documentation, or presenting commercial and insightful solutions, Liming's guidance enables his Australian clients to feel confident in their dealings with foreign parties. He offers clarity and insight when working on cross border

transactions and is able to provide valuable cultural context. Liming was nominated as the vice president and committee member of Australia China Business Council Victoria Branch in 2015. Liming is Non-executive Director and Chairman of Audit and Risk Committee, Grange Resources Ltd, Tasmania from September 2014 to present. Liming completed his Juris Doctor and Master of Laws degrees at The University of Melbourne and his Executive Master of Business Administration at Monash University.



**Grace Ji Xinyu**

Grace Ji works as Director, China Practice with PwC in Melbourne. Working together with colleagues from different service lines, Grace Ji has assisted clients with many transactions - guiding clients through the transaction process, performing financial and tax due diligence reviews, project management, tax and financial structuring, valuation, post-deal integration, tax compliances, accounting and HR services etc. Grace has developed a good understanding of China/Australia industry and the economic environment, Chinese/Australian Government policies and initiatives relating to international trade, investment and industry development as well as Chinese decision making processes. Grace also has fairly good understanding of the investment environment of Switzerland and its key selling points as one of the attractive investment destinations. She has extensive experience in dealing with people at all levels of both large and small organisations/companies, as well as related industry, government agencies and industry associations.



**David La Ferla**

David is the Executive Chairman of SENSAND and the Managing Director of NEGOTIATION. He has over 20 years of experience in industry, academia and consulting and has focused on leading and developing high-growth businesses in various sectors including agriculture and energy & resources. He also serves as the Senior Vice President of the Australia China Business Council (Vic). David graduated with a BSc (Hons) from The University of Melbourne and an MBA from the Melbourne Business School.



**Tim Lu**

Bachelor of Engineering, Graduate Diploma of Economics, Graduate Diploma of Accounting CPA, MAICD, NATTI

Trained as chemical engineer, Tim has more than 23 years of working experience with 18 years advising Australian and Chinese clients on cross-border trade and investment issues. Before joining EMR Capital, he worked for Chinese corporation, Austrade, Chevron Corporation and KPMG. Tim has been involved in a large number of China-Australia cross border transactions and is familiar with most Chinese investment in Australia and most Australian investment in China.

Tim is experienced in merger & acquisition, tax and finance.  
He is also a board member Australia China Business Council Victoria.



**David Olsson**

David is a lawyer and China practice consultant to international law firm King & Wood Mallesons. He was head of the firm's China practice in Beijing for 6 years until 2013 and prior to that an Australian Managing Partner. He has been actively engaged in Asian and China related business for over 25 years. He was Chairman of the Australian Chamber of Commerce, Beijing from 2010 – 2013, founder of its Financial Services Working Group and has worked with the Australia Government on a range of policy development initiatives – particularly in the financial services sector, as well as being a regular participant in a number of senior level Australia China dialogues. He is currently the Chair of the Australian private sector led working group looking at all aspects of the internationalisation of the Renminbi in Australia. He was appointed to the

board of the Australia China Council in 2013 and has been on the executive committee of ACBC Victoria since October 2013. He chairs the Finance & Investment Services Working Group.



#### **Tom Parker**

Partner, China Advisory at Bastion S+GO, Tom Parker is a China specialist helping others overcome cultural and business barriers when working or dealing with China. Tom's long term engagement with China has resulted in an impressive network and the ability to enable successful business outcomes. A Mandarin speaker and cross-cultural facilitator, Tom has worked in numerous China-focused program roles, including; The Asialink Centre, Austrade (Beijing), and as writer and reporter for the ABC in both China and Australia for Radio National's Asia Pacific program. Tom has managed projects and facilitated business and government partnerships in China for the City of Melbourne, NSW and Victorian State Governments. He was the AFL's China consultant delivering the Shanghai Showdown exhibition match during the 2010 World Expo and also works at the Strategic Partnerships Manager at the Melbourne Football Club. Tom was an Honorary Adjunct at the China Research Centre at University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and sits on the Australia China Business Council Board (Victoria).



#### **Frank Paton**

Frank Paton focuses on China transactions at Hunt & Hunt, a law firm with offices across Australia and in Shanghai and representation in Beijing. He is an honours law graduate and has also studied economics. Frank has been travelling to and working in China since 1987. Working in tandem with Hunt & Hunt's own Shanghai office he has advised many Australian corporations on setting up business in China and investing in JVs and other trading arrangements. Frank provides commercial advice for a variety of clients in different sectors, including the education sector, food industry, R&D clients and manufacturers and traders generally. This includes advice on international transactions, preparing contracts, risk management by minimising and transferring risk, compliance with all regulatory requirements and negotiating and advising on technology licensing and other commercial arrangements. He is a former President of the Law Institute of Victoria and a former Chair of the executive of the Victoria Law Foundation and has been on the ACBC Board in Victoria for 9 years.



#### **Theo Sakell**

Theo Sakell is a Partner/Executive Director of Tax Consulting at Pitcher Partners. Medium to large sized privately owned businesses and small listed public companies derive maximum business benefits from working with Theo and relying on his more than 25 years experience providing tax consulting and advisory services. His skills and expertise cover the full spectrum of tax consulting services, and focus on advising clients on international tax issues such as cross border transactions and international structuring. His thorough understanding of the complexities of Australian and international tax regimes and the great respect he receives both from within Pitcher Partners and with external agencies led to his appointment to head of Pitcher Partners Tax Consulting division in 2011. Theo is a recognised authority on tax matters and is regularly called on by Government and other regulatory bodies for advice.



### **Bruce Sheng**

Mr. Sheng has been in Australia for over 20 years and is the Chairman of the ASIPAC Group, a Melbourne based diversified investment group of companies with a primary focus on resources and property. ASIPAC is also the owner of an Australian Financial Services Licence (AFSL 300767) and works closely with key high profile organisations in Australia and China. Mr. Sheng has been associated with ACBC since 1990 and under his leadership, the ASIPAC Group is a State Sponsor of the ACBC Victoria branch.



### **The Honourable Ken Smith MP**

Ken Smith is a Director of kensmith@chinasolutions a business developed to assist businessmen and women find the right solution to meet their needs to do business in China. Ken has developed this initiative following his retirement in 2014 after 26 years in the Victorian State Parliament having established high level Business and Political relationships in China over a period of 20 years. During his Parliamentary career Ken served as Speaker, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Gaming and Fisheries, Whip, Chairman of an All Party Parliamentary Committee and Party Secretary. Before entering Parliament he was a Councillor on the Hastings Shire Council, a self-employed Plumbing Contractor, a founding Director then Chairman of The Independent News Group. He also served as an Executive officer of the Master Plumbers Assoc. of Victoria then Federal Secretary of the Federated Master Plumbers of Australia. His relationship with China commenced in 1995 as a delegate to Jiangsu Province (Victoria's Sister State) and he has since led more than 30 Business and Political Delegations to many parts of China inc. Tibet and Inner Mongolia. He has also through many contacts welcomed delegations of Chinese Politicians inc. Governors, Vice Governors, Provincial Congress Chairmen and members and Mayors as well as leading Businessmen and women all looking to do business in Australia. Ken was recognised for his work in China by being awarded Honorary Citizenship in both Shandong and Jiangsu Provinces.

In June 2016, Ken was inducted as the first International member of the 6th Council of the Jiangsu Provincial Peoples Association of Friendship with Foreign Countries. Ken Smith said he was delighted to accept this Honorary position as it would allow him to further promote the friendship between Victoria and Jiangsu Province which has been working extremely well since 1977.

Ken believes works with established and potential SME's from Australia to develop thriving partnerships with Chinese businesses as a for a win-win for both.



### **Susan Su**

Susan Su is Business Development Manager – Greater China at Melbourne Airport. As a culturally sensitive and commercially astute bilingual professional, she has worked at Telstra and gained substantial experience at developing and executing Australia –China business strategies before joining the airport in 2013. At airport, Susan is responsible for the growth of air services at Melbourne, working with current and potential airlines on business development and cooperative marketing opportunities, with a key focus on airline growth in Greater China, and also playing a lead role in the delivery of Melbourne Airport's "China Strategy" across the whole business. She has been successfully at developing good working relationships across the organisation, Chinese Airlines and relevant stakeholders.



### **Professor On Kit Tam**

On Kit Tam is Professor of Finance at RMIT University and has been undertaking academic research and commercial consulting work for major corporations and international organisations on China's economic transformation, financial development and foreign direct investment since the start of the country's economic reform.

Prof. Tam was previously Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor Business International at RMIT, Deputy Dean International, Faculty of Business and Economics, and Director of China Research Centre, Monash University. On Kit has held executive/academic positions in the Australian Federal Government Department of the Treasury, University of New South Wales, and Philips Hong Kong. He has held visiting positions with Australian National University, University of California Berkeley, Renmin University of China, Nanjing University, and the University of Hong Kong, as well as being Adjunct Professor of Finance in Beijing's Central University of Finance and Economics, and Tianjin University.

He has published extensively on China's economic and financial reform, foreign investment, and corporate governance. His research has won grants and awards from key Australian and international bodies including the Australian Research Council and the Ford Foundation. On Kit has served as consultant and adviser for major multilateral organisations, Chinese and Australian government organisations, and international corporations, and an independent director of a joint venture fund management company in China set up by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, and a director of the board of the Royal District Nursing Services. He has been the chair of ACBC Victoria's Education and Training Committee for several years.



### **Barry White**

Barry has been a board member of the ACBC since 1996 and prior to this was a member of the Boards of the predecessor organisations (Australia China Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Australia China Business Council) since 1988. He is a Life Member and was previously President of ACBC (Vic) and National Vice President. His experience in China dates back to 1978 at the time of China's 'Open Door Policy' when he was responsible for international market development for the Australian Wool Corporation. He was subsequently responsible for the AWC's China offices and managed several major industry projects with China. During this period he acted as a wool industry advisor on ministerial trade missions. China is now Australia's largest wool export market. In 2001 he became international projects manager for ACIL Tasman Consulting during which time the company undertook a number of projects for international clients in China. He was then appointed CEO of the International Fibre Centre in 2003. In 2008 he established a private consulting company ProEx Developments Pty Ltd through which he continues his relationship with the China market providing agribusiness advice, trade and investment services on behalf of Chinese and domestic parties. He is also involved in the development of a joint ACBC/Regional Development Victoria program to assist regional businesses to strengthen relationships with the China market.



### **Celina Yu**

Dr Celina Yu as the Managing Director of Global Business College of Australia (GBCA), has overseen the establishment of the first international campus of the Huashang Education Group in Australia. She is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Business Administration, Northeastern University, China, and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).

She also holds the position of Founder and President of Australia-China Association of Scientists and Entrepreneurs (ACASE), with over 460 members of scientists and entrepreneurs. ACASE works with high level research institutes, government organisations, financial institutes and professional bodies both in Australia and China, to connect innovation with entrepreneurship,



through instigating a platform for entrepreneurs and scientists globally to exchange ideas and create products.

She was also the first elected female President of the Chinese Association of Professionals and Scholars Australia (CAPS Australia), currently with over 580 members of academics across Australian universities. During her presidency she led and initiated academic, research and business collaborative partnerships across and between China and Australia, including 'Academic and Business Mission' trips to prestigious education institutes, such as Peking University, Tsinghua University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the annual flagship Research Symposium.

She obtained her PhD in Finance at RMIT University and a Masters of Professional Accounting at Monash University. Her PhD research was awarded RMIT University's prestigious Best Doctoral Research Excellence Award in 2014.