



Media release

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ANZIIF WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS, AWARDS HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD WINNERS AT AGM

The Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance (ANZIIF) today announced at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) the appointment of two new board members: Diego Ascani, CEO Sedgwick Australia and John Lyon, CEO Ando Insurance.

'We are extremely delighted to welcome Diego and John to the board,' says Prue Willsford, ANZIIF CEO. They have both been great advocates of ANZIIF for years, and will provide a world of knowledge and insight to our board.'

'I look forward to working with my fellow board members to support our industry navigate the changing insurance landscape, says Ascani. We will need to evolve to remain relevant and sustainable into the future. I am particularly interested in the attraction, development and retention of the best talent to grow our exciting and multi-faceted industry.'

'I look forward to joining the board of ANZIIF and playing a role in furthering professional development across the industry,' says John Lyon. People remain the driving force of the insurance sector, and there's never been a better time for insurance professionals to learn new skills and acquire new capabilities. Otherwise, the robots will get ya!'

Karl Armstrong (Fellow) CIP, was recognised with Honorary Life Membership for his long-term contribution, service, and proactive influence to the insurance industry.

Karl has shown incredible dedication and commitment to ANZIIF for many years. He is a fellow of ANZIIF, the most prestigious level of membership, and has previously spent time on the Board. Most notably, Karl was President of ANZIIF from 2015 to 2017.

Recently interviewed, Karl was asked what his career highlights have been over his 46 years in the industry and he responded:

"There are probably two career highlights that will always sit with me. Running NZI from 2008 to 2014 a company I joined as an office boy 37 years prior. More latterly



becoming President of ANZIIF, the first time a Kiwi has received this honour. It was my time to give back and what better way than to head the Industry body.”

Even in “retirement”, Karl continues to support ANZIIF in South East Asia, serve on the ICNZ Scholarship judging panel as well as being involved in various development programs for insurance professionals in Asia.

The annual ANZIIF Service Award was presented to ANZIIF Senior Associate (CIP) Michelle Ashby Learning Program Manager at Vero New Zealand for her significant contribution to the organisation.

The E.E Vines Prize was presented to John Sloan (ANZIIF Fellow CIP and Honorary Member) who authored the most meritorious paper published in the ANZIIF Journal Members’ Centre, ANZIIF’s quarterly publication.

This year, attendees connected to the AGM via online webinar due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Megan Beer, Group Executive, Insurance at AMP will continue her role as ANZIIF President in 2020. Tim Plant, CEO General Insurance Australia and New Zealand Zurich Financial Services Australasia Limited will remain as Deputy President.

ANZIIF Board

Megan Beer (President)	Group Executive, Insurance	AMP
Tim Plant (Deputy President)	CEO - General Insurance AUS / NZ	Zurich Financial Services Australasia Limited
Allan Reynolds (Immediate Past President)	Executive General Manager – Asia, New Zealand, Direct	Steadfast Group Limited
Diego Ascani	CEO	Sedgwick Australia
Tim Considine	Managing Director	Austbrokers Countrywide
Catherine Dixon	Executive General Manager, People Experience	Suncorp Group New Zealand
Simone Dossetor	Chief Operating Officer	Munich Re Australasia
Daniel Fogarty	Chief Executive Office & Founder	Evari
Fiona Hayes-St Clair	Chief Strategy Officer	QBE Insurance NZ
John Lyon	Chief Executive Officer	Ando Insurance
Chun Ming (Tony) Lee	Assistant Vice President	Allied World Assurance Company Ltd
Prue Willsford	Chief Executive Officer	ANZIIF

For more information, please contact:

Ari Charilaou | Corporate Communications Coordinator | ANZIIF
E: acharilaou@anziif.com