



Inspiring  
Innovation

# annual review 2021





STEM sidebyside Leading with Courage workshop  
with Dina Pozzo



at a glance 04



veski operations 06



veski strategy 08



veski board 10



chair's report 12



MD & chief executive's report 14



veski connection 16



veski fellowships 17



veski delivered 20



inspiring women 25



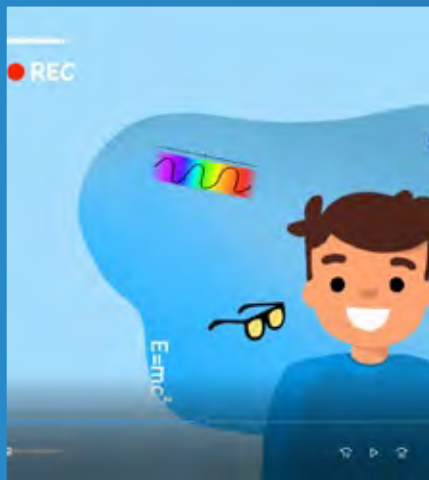
veski skills, training and education 28



public outreach and global engagement 29



# at a glance



## 15-23 Aug

Keysborough College student wins **veski** STEM filimators video of the year competition

**veski skills, training & education**

## September

STEM sidebyside group chat on career strategies

**conversation**

STEM sidebyside delivers Authentic Leadership in a VUCA world program

**veski diversity & inclusion**

## 15 Oct

Agreement signed for DAAD (German-Academic Exchange Service) to develop a Bilateral Research Exchange Program with Victoria

Focus on building relationships with DVCs from Victorian universities for DAAD

**veski activation**



## 27 Oct

STEM sidebyside delivers Values, Character and Impact session with Michael Page

**veski diversity & inclusion**

## November

Emma Hendry delivers Innovation & Entrepreneurship session for STEM sidebyside

**veski diversity & inclusion**

STEM sidebyside features Board Pathways & Insight panel

**veski connection**

## 25 Nov

First-ever virtual delivery of Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation and Victoria Fellowships Announcement including questions being asked by Minister Jaala Pulford and other leaders from around the state.

**veski delivered**



## 1 Dec

Concept for **veski** career recovery grants developed

**veski fellowships**

## 8 Dec

Michelle Gallaher delivers Becoming an online influencer & Digital Etiquette session for STEM sidebyside

**veski diversity & inclusion**

## February

Dina Pozzo delivers Leading Self with Courage session and Sue Rosen explores Difficult conversations for STEM sidebyside program

**veski diversity & inclusion**



## 15 Mar

STEM sidebyside participants gather to celebrate the end of the 2020/21 program at the residence of the British Consulate General Melbourne

**veski connection**

## 13 Apr

**veski** convenes a roundtable to discuss best approach for inspiring women career recovery grants

**veski conversation**

## 10 May

Special event with **veski**, the Tel-Aviv office of Victorian Government Trade and Investment and the Israeli Ministry of Science

**veski public outreach**



## 20 May

**veski** website launched providing a new home for inspiring innovation in Victoria

**veski communications**

## 24 May

Call opens for career recovery grants resulting in considerable interest from across Victoria

**veski fellowships**

## 16 Jun

Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation and Victoria Fellowships in 2021 call opens

**veski delivered**



## July

STEM sidebyside program debrief dinner

**veski diversity & inclusion**

Study Melbourne Research Partnerships program (delivered by **veski**) call opens

**veski delivered**

## 16 August

After months of preparation, **veski** hosts Falling Walls Lab Victoria event

**veski public outreach**

## September

Germany - Victoria: DAAD Bilateral Research Exchange Program call opens after being delayed due to ongoing border closures

**veski activations**

# veski operations

**veski's** well-developed processes and sector-wide perspective have allowed it to adapt to the changing needs of its community and deliver programs and activities both virtually and in person.

## veski funding

**veski** secured funding from the State Government of Victoria through the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions to continue to deliver its core activities for 2020/21.

**veski** continues to benefit from tax concession charity status on the grounds that it is a charitable institution.

**veski** gratefully acknowledges the support of its founding partner the State Government of Victoria.



## Trustee for the veski foundation Trust

In 2020/21, the **veski foundation** continued to operate as a deductible gift recipient (DGR) fund that can receive tax deductible gifts from philanthropic organisations and private donors.

A generous contribution from the John T Reid Charitable Trusts in previous financial years supported the establishment of the **veski** sustainable agriculture fellowships.

**veski** collaborated with Yoinki, a free mobile app, as a fundraising solution to support Agtech projects in Australian regional, rural and remote communities.

## Other support

**veski** continues to develop its relationship with the philanthropic and business sectors and is constantly pursuing opportunities to secure collaborative funding for our activities.

For the 2020/21 financial year, **veski** would like to thank all organisations, including host organisations, for their financial and in-kind support and continued encouragement of **veski** and its programs, including the **veski** inspiring women **STEM sidebyside** program supporters in 2020.



## veski marketing and communications

**veski** embraces digital communications as its primary avenue for reaching its growing audience. Key channels include regular **veski** bulletins, video content, and an active share of the social media conversation on Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Facebook.

## Social media @veskiorg

In the past 12 months, **veski** has increased its Twitter followers from 2,629 to 3,800. All channels have grown and continue to be used to promote a range of **veski** events and broader innovation activities.

@veskiorg #veski #veskifellows #STEMsidebyside

## veski website

**veski's** website was redeveloped in early 2021 to provide a new home for inspiring innovation in Australia. It continues to provide a platform for showcasing the work of **veski** and members of the **veski** connected community.

**veski** has also continued to publish regular **veski** email bulletins, with the subscription list growing substantially in the past 12 months to over 5000 members.

## Promotion of veski fellowship recipients

**veski** fellows have continued to attract significant media attention. They are also actively contributing to social media conversations and participating in public events.

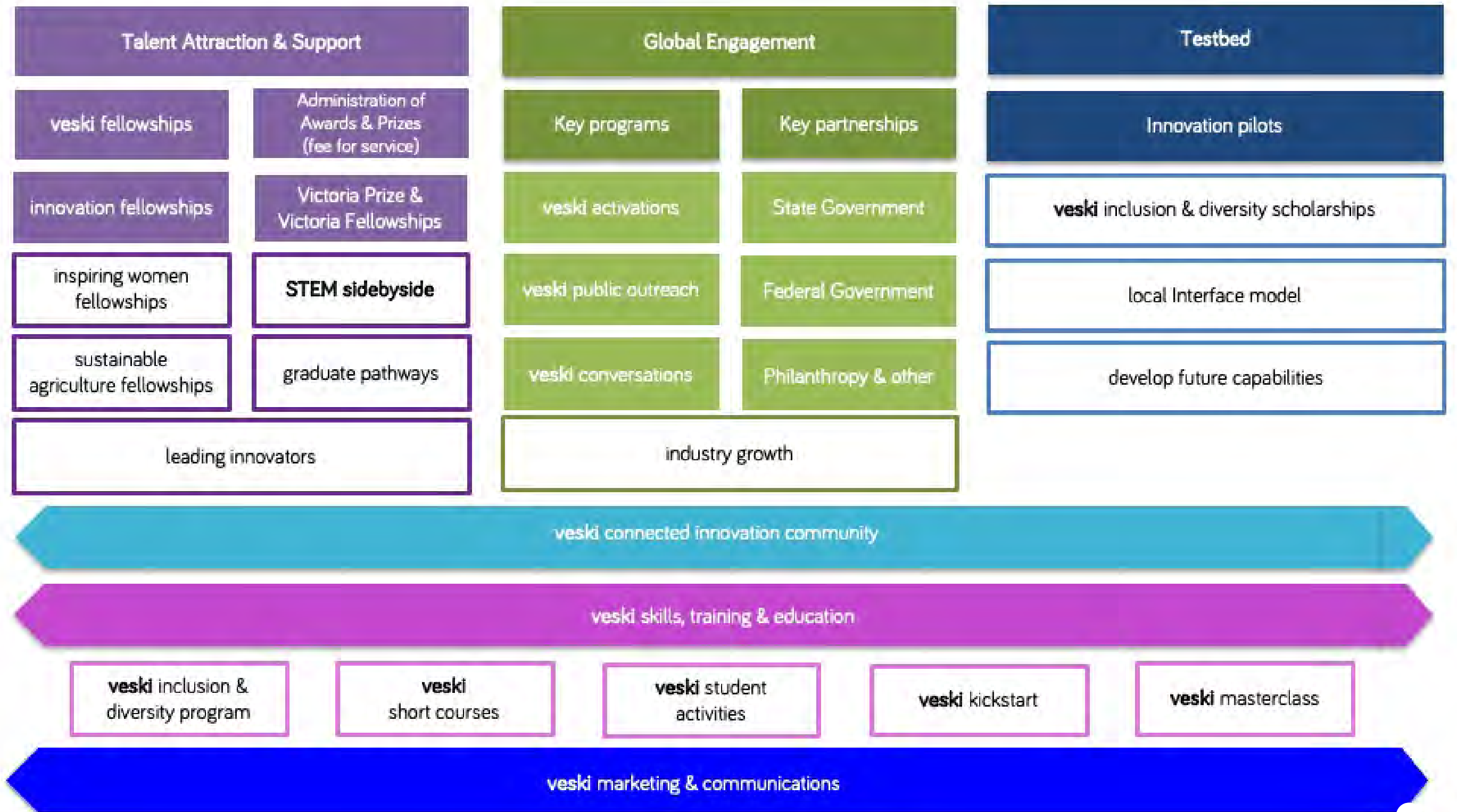
**veski** coverage is regularly collated on the **veski** website under the **veski** family in the media section.

## veski staff

A small, dedicated team of staff with specific skills in administration, finance, events and project management support the **veski** MD & chief executive. The team supports the delivery of **veski's** programs and activities including the flagship **veski** innovation fellowship program.



# veski strategy



# veski board



Directors in office during 2020/21 and not shown in this image:

Ms Anna Burke AO (retired March 2020)

Mr Mark Cassar (resigned July 2020)

Ms Sue MacLeman (resigned February 2021)

\* Appointed July 2020



# chair's report

Innovation communities around the world, including in Victoria, continue to wrestle with the impact of COVID-19. Significant research projects have been impeded, or have stalled, due to limited access to laboratory and other facilities as well as the near-total loss of mobility for international researchers and students. This decline in research activity has, in turn, seen researchers leave the sector altogether, compounding the fallout. Further, and concerningly, we see negative effects on inclusion and diversity in the community, for example with women disproportionately taking on additional caring and family responsibilities on top of, and often replacing, their usual workloads.



While **veski** has faced its own challenges – including border closures leading to the continued postponement of our flagship innovation fellowship program – we have also had the opportunity to demonstrate the value of our unique approach to solve emerging issues for our state and our partners.

Given the brief windows allowing face-to-face connection, **veski** has adapted to harness digital tools to design and manage a significant program of online events and resources. With virtual networking now the norm – enabling us to keep connected to colleagues in Victoria and further afield – **veski** has been able to deliver world-class opportunities that have garnered support and praise from partners and collaborators around the world.

Crucially, **veski**'s ability to adapt and reimagine its offering of resources and events has been enabled by the **veski** connected community, and by

our stakeholders. The support and commitment of this broader network has been integral to the achievements of the team.

The agility of the team has been highlighted by the transformation of delivery of our awards programs including the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation and the Victoria Fellowships; the development of new programs for government; and repurposing and reallocating funding to tackle emerging issues. This shows that **veski** continues to provide support where the innovation community needs it most.

After nearly two decades of achievement and quest in inspiring innovation, it is timely for there to be a review of our operations, to ensure **veski** continues to address stakeholder priorities and to further the innovation agenda thus ensuring **veski** remains, 'fit for purpose'.

## career recovery grants call OPEN for applications

For female mid-career leaders or emerging leaders in STEM in Victoria disproportionately affected by COVID-19



inspiring  
women

While this review is underway, however, **veski** continues to pursue opportunities and forge new partnerships, including exciting new projects with organisations such as Study Melbourne. A significant part of 2021 has been focused on leveraging our highly-regarded systems and processes for the benefit of these new programs.

A phenomenon such as a pandemic presents innovators and researchers with new problems to solve and unprecedented challenges to meet. It highlights the importance of science and innovation in a context that was previously only imagined. As communities and economies more forward to recover, the task will be not only to make up lost ground, but to venture into and investigate new areas of discovery and innovation.

I would like to acknowledge the Victorian Government for its continued commitment to an innovation agenda and to express my gratitude for its support of, and confidence in, **veski**. This has provided the foundation for **veski** to maintain its delivery of an ever-expanding range of programs.

I also take this opportunity to thank our MD & chief executive Julia L Page and the **veski** team for their perseverance and professionalism throughout the year. Given the climate, their important work to facilitate and foster community connection has been invaluable and considering the challenges of COVID-19, remarkable!

I also extend my sincere thanks to **veski** members and **veski foundation** board for their time, dedication and commitment. I would also like to make, special mention and to express my sincere thanks to Sue MacLeman who retired in the past 12 months.

**Professor A. Ian Smith**  
**veski** chair



# MD & chief executive report

While COVID-19 has shaped the environment in which **veski** has operated in the past year – agility, resilience and creativity have characterised **veski's** response to these circumstances. This led to **veski** reimagining many of our programs, including our flagship innovation fellowships, and responding to the limitations of constrained financial circumstances. As a result, **veski's** achievements – and the impact for our members and stakeholders – have surpassed our expectations. This year has provided a rigorous testing ground for the **veski** model, which has continued to demonstrate its value.



Virtual **veski**, delivering programs and events from home to the homes of Victorian scientists and innovators

With international borders closed, **veski's** flagship program that brings scientists and researchers to Victoria was grounded, with no resumption date in sight. While these activities naturally remain an essential part of our work, and **veski** continues to collaborate with universities to identify future opportunities, during the year our team took the opportunity to refocus. With international opportunities less available, **veski** looked further to the needs and goals of the domestic market.

Using existing funds, **veski** developed an inspiring women career recovery grants program to respond specifically to the extraordinary challenges and obstacles created by COVID-19. A hallmark of **veski's** program is to prioritise and solve real and current problems – and this program will see its first pool of recipients funded in 2021/22.

These grants continue our work inspiring women across Victoria, and attracted the interest of many applicants, including some previously involved with **veski's** STEM activities. By creating these grants, **veski** itself has been able to enrich the diversity of our community by specifically supporting female researchers. Further, we have been able to deliver more activities and resources to support high-performing and deserving mid-career researchers at a critical point in their careers.

Integral to our ability to deliver programs are the individuals and organisations who gave their time and experience to help design and facilitate them. These programs address diversity and inclusion issues, as well as leadership, entrepreneurship, and digital media and marketing skills so necessary in the innovation sphere. I extend my thanks to all those who collaborated with **veski** in these programs.



Event with **veski**, the Tel-Aviv office of Victorian Government Trade and Investment and the Israeli Ministry of Science.

Globally, **veski** has continued to build strong international networks. We have used these to deliver exciting events to keep our innovation fellows and other members of the innovation community engaged while the world remains physically disconnected. A recent example was the event with **veski**, the Tel-Aviv office of Victorian Government Trade and Investment and the Israeli Ministry of Science.

In addition, we have continued to build our portfolio of **veski** delivered projects including a virtual announcement event for the Victoria Prize and Victoria Fellowships in 2020 - incorporating a special series of interviews with the Victoria Prize recipients, and the recently launched **veski** - Study Melbourne Research Partnerships. The latter is an outstanding illustration of how **veski's** innovation programs reach beyond universities and research institutes into

the vocational and technical education sector, which will only serve to deepen and broaden the knowledge and skill base of our innovation community in the longer term.

With the need for digital engagement greater than ever, we have used the past 12 months to build a new home for innovation at [veski.org.au](https://veski.org.au). The new website design is a key component in **veski's** digital infrastructure and resources. These are pivotal to our engagement with stakeholders and to the delivery of a growing range of resources and services, for example new programs.

Despite (countless) video calls and virtual events replacing physical interaction and collaboration, I have been struck by the undiminished enthusiasm and engagement of the **veski** community, and by its continued

camaraderie despite the vicissitudes of the times. Not only have we seen members of our community sharing their time as mentors and speakers, we have also seen people stepping into support colleagues in need.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to **veski's** board of directors, which has been unwavering in its support for me and my team throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the **veski** team – a small and dedicated group that has inspired me by its capacity to reimagine, regroup and move forward to keep our community supported, connected and engaged.

**Julia L Page**  
**veski** MD & chief executive



# veski connection



Members of **veski** connection gathered for closing celebration of STEM sidebyside program

The **veski** connection is an exclusive and prestigious group of the brightest minds, thought leaders and innovators from across academia, research industry, media, philanthropy and government.

The group now includes more than 560 members of the national and international science, business and innovation communities representing a range of sectors.

During the year, as part of our ongoing commitment to members of the **veski** connection, **veski** hosted a number of virtual and in person events to encourage collaboration and networking among peers, like-minded colleagues, key stakeholders, and key policy makers, including:

- conversations with program participants from the STEM sidebyside program to inform development of the new career recovery grants
- a networking event, coinciding with the closing of the STEM sidebyside program, at the residence of the British Consulate General Melbourne.

# veski fellowships

**veski** delivers a number of Victoria's most prestigious fellowship programs, including our flagship **veski** innovation fellowships, further strengthening collaboration between Victoria and the rest of the world.

During 2020/21, **veski** was unable to award a **veski** innovation fellowship due to continued border closures. However, some of the funding was redirected to support women in research adversely impacted by COVID-19.

Over the 17 year period in which **veski** has been awarding **veski** innovation fellowships, collectively, the innovation fellows have leveraged additional funds to the State of Victoria in excess of 18.4:1 to support their research efforts from federal and international funding bodies. That's a little over \$68.2 million in return for a modest \$4.15 million investment in Victorian research<sup>^</sup>. **veski's** call for applications for the innovation fellowships continue to attract large numbers of applications from the top 5% of researchers globally.

#### Independent Benefits Assessment

In 2018 an Independent Benefits Assessment was conducted on the **veski** inspiring women fellowships program and the **veski** sustainable agriculture fellowships program - with findings showing a significant return on the initial investment for both programs.

**veski** inspiring women fellows have delivered a 14.5x return on **veski's** initial investment and significantly enhanced opportunities for women in research by promoting increased female participation in research and innovation and by providing support that is uniquely flexible in enabling individual women to balance career and family commitments.

The national **veski** sustainable agriculture fellowships have delivered a 5.7x return on **veski's** initial investment, attracting co-investment and advancing the sector through community engagement and research translation, developing innovative and sustainable practices.

<sup>^</sup>Figures based on an independent review in 2015.

#### veski innovation fellows since 2004

- A/Prof Timothy Scott - Monash University
- Prof Benjamin Marsland - Monash University
- Prof Pierluigi Mancarella - University of Melbourne
- Dr Vihandha Wickramasinghe - Peter MacCallum
- Prof N. Jon Shah - Monash University
- Prof Roger Pocock - Monash University
- Prof Richard Sandberg - University of Melbourne
- Prof Colby Zaph - Monash University
- Prof Kenneth Crozier - University of Melbourne
- A/Prof Ethan Goddard-Borger - WEHI
- Prof Colette McKay - The Bionics Institute
- A/Prof Luke Connal - Australian National University
- Prof Mark Dawson - Peter MacCallum
- Prof Cameron Simmons - Monash University
- Prof Tiffany Walsh - Deakin University
- A/Prof Seth Masters - WEHI
- Prof Christopher McNeill - Monash University
- A/Prof Matthew Call - WEHI
- Dr Edwin van Leeuwen - Norilsk Nickel
- Prof Mark Shackleton - Monash University
- A/Prof Ross Dickens - Monash University
- Prof Ygal Haupt - Peter MacCallum
- Prof Sarah Hosking - National Breast Cancer Fdn.
- Prof Michael Cowley - Monash University
- A/Prof Alyssa Barry - WEHI
- Adj A/Prof Gareth Forde - QUT
- Prof Marcus Pandey - University of Melbourne
- Prof Andrew Holmes AC - University of Melbourne



# veski sustainable agriculture fellows

The **veski** sustainable agriculture fellowships supports industry partners, research organisations and industry collaborators seeking to stimulate and further develop Australia's food and agricultural industries with innovative solutions. The inaugural **veski** sustainable agriculture fellowships were funded by the John T Reid Charitable Trusts and have already delivered transformational outcomes.



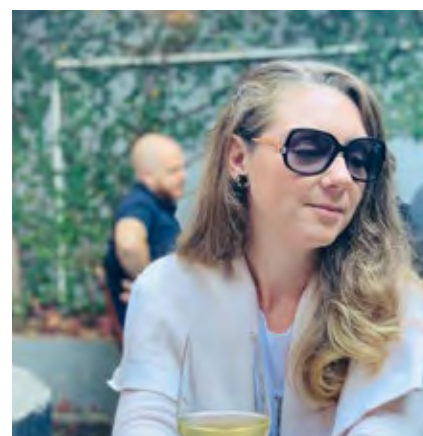
Dr Pangzhen Zhang  
- The University of Melbourne



Professor Luca Corelli Grappadelli  
- The University of Bologna



Dr Terry Griffin  
- Kansas State University



Dr Kirsty DiGiacomo  
- The University of Melbourne

# veski inspiring women fellows

The **veski** inspiring women fellowships program provides female leaders an opportunity to remain competitive in their field, enhance the current talent pool and affect cultural change. The fellowship forms a part of **veski's** broad range of programs and activities in supporting diversity and inclusion in STEM industries.



A/Prof Emily Nicholson  
- Deakin University



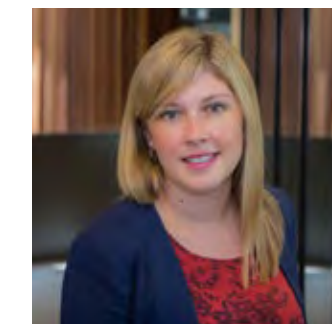
A/Prof Natalie Hannan  
- The University of Melbourne



A/Prof Maria Liaskos  
- La Trobe University



A/Prof Catherine Satzke  
- MCRI



A/Prof Emma Sciberras  
- Deakin University



Dr Cara Doherty  
- CSIRO

A final report was published in December 2020 providing a summary of **veski's** performance in delivering the six **veski** inspiring women fellowships formerly known as veski Career Interruption Fellowships as part of a broader Women in Science program delivered between 2015 - 2020.



# veski delivered programs

## veski delivered fellowships, scholarships and awards

veski administers a number of fellowship and award programs on behalf of the Victorian Government – including the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation and the Victoria Fellowships.

In November 2020, a virtual ceremony was attended by 260 people to celebrate the prestigious Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation and the Victoria Fellowships. The fully virtual event was attended by The Hon Jaala Pulford MP, and included special profiles of the recipients and stories which connected them back to their start in science.



## Victoria Fellows

In recognition of the important role of innovation to Victoria's economic future and the need for Victorians to be skilled in science, technology, engineering and mathematics the Victorian Government is proud to support the Victoria Fellowship program. Each Fellow receives a travel grant of up to \$18,000 to undertake a short-term overseas study mission to assist in developing a commercial idea; undertaking specialist training; or career development not available in Australia. There are 12 Victoria Fellowships comprising:

- Six fellowships in the Life Sciences
- Six fellowships in the Physical Sciences.





# accolades & achievements

**World Mosquito Program finalist in global competition for \$US100 million 100&Change grant**

Professor Cameron Simmons  
August 2020

**77% reduction in dengue incidence in Wolbachia treated communities**

**RNA in Cancer**

Dr Viandha Wickramasinghe  
Nature Reviews Cancer  
October 2020

**TDP-43 Triggers Mitochondrial DNA Release via mPTP to Activate cGAS/STING in ALS**

Asso Prof Seth Masters  
Cell  
October 2020

**Prime Minister's Prize for Science, 2020 Frank Fenner Prize for Life Scientist of the Year**

Prof Mark Dawson  
October 2020

**The auditory breakthrough that could help newborns hear for the first time**

Professor Colette McKay  
ABC Evenings  
September 2020

**ARC Discovery Project funding**

Professor Kenneth Crozier &  
Associate Professor Timothy Scott  
November 2020

**Social and Economic Costs of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Across the Lifespan**

Professor Emma Sciberras  
Journal of Attention Disorders  
December 2020

**The Methyltransferase DOT1L Controls Activation and Lineage Integrity in CD4+ T Cells during Infection and Inflammation' in Cell Reports**

Professor Colby Zaph  
Cell Reports  
December 2020

**Nanoparticles in pregnancy: the next frontier in reproductive therapeutics**

Professor Natalie Hannan  
Human Reproduction Update  
December 2020

**Six NHMRC Ideas Grants for veski fellows**

Various  
December 2020

**Protection against asthma from gut metabolism by-product**

Professor Ben Marsland  
January 2021  
Nature Immunology

**First-ever global catalogue of ecosystems to enable coordinated conservation efforts: Global Ecosystem Typology**

Prof Emily Nicholson  
February 2021

**Australian Academy of Science honorific awards for outstanding contributions to science**

Professors Andrew Holmes AC  
FRS FAA and Mark Dawson  
March 2021

**Elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science**

Professor Mark Dawson  
May 2021





Above: STEM sidebyside competitively selected participants in 2020/2021

Below: STEM sidebyside stakeholders recognised at closing event hosted by British Consul General



# inspiring women STEM sidebyside

The **veski** inspiring women **STEM sidebyside** program is a dynamic professional development leadership program that supports women wanting to progress or extend into leadership positions within STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) industries. The program is led by **veski** with the support of the British Consulate General Melbourne.

## veski inspiring women STEM sidebyside program in 2020/2021

### In person and virtual training for STEM sidebyside - September 2020 to February 2021

Training sessions focused on Authentic Leadership, Values, Character and Impact, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Becoming an online influencer & Digital Etiquette, Leading Self with Courage and Difficult Conversations. A session on Board Pathways & Insight panel was proudly supported by Michael Page.

### Closing event – March 2021

The program in 2020/21 was brought to a close at an event hosted at the residence of the British Consulate General Melbourne attended by 90 people. The event was also a platform for the participants to receive their certificates of participation followed by a networking session.

### Career recovery grants roundtable - April 2021

**veski** hosted a roundtable discussion with key stakeholders to qualify the proposed design of the NEW **veski** inspiring women career recovery grants. The grant will aim to provide female mid-career leaders or emerging leaders in STEM, in Victoria, with vital and timely support via short-term flexible funding to boost research and help restore pre-pandemic competitiveness.

### STEM sidebyside debrief dinner – July 2021

This debrief session with STEM sidebyside stakeholders/financial and in-kind supporters of the program, workshop facilitators and selection panel members provided an opportunity to test viability of ongoing STEM program offerings.





Images from the closing event for STEM sidebyside - Top: Panelists with MC and moderator; Bottom left: Certificates presented to all supporters of the STEM sidebyside program from 2018-2020 and Bottom right: British Consul General Melbourne, Mr Steph Lysaght



Below: STEM sidebyside final session at the Residence of the British Consul General Melbourne

Above: STEM sidebyside values, character and impact workshop with Josh Jones





# skills, training and education

**veski's** skills, training and education program fosters a culture of curiosity and knowledge development from school students right through to mid-career emerging leaders.



## Educating the veski connected community about board pathways and opportunities

In partnership with Michael Page, the STEMsidebyside program hosted a panel discussion and webinar, attended by more than 230 people, providing insights and pathways for joining a board of directors. The panel included Genevieve Overall AM, who moderated a discussion with executives serving on a variety of boards: Stacey Ong, Andrew Pipolo and Dr Leonie Walsh. They each provided insights to their experiences during the session, with challenges such as board diversity and expectations explored.

## veski STEM filminators video of the year competition

An important responsibility for any scientist, budding scientist, or science communicator is sharing the science and passion for their subject. Science communication is a powerful tool to provide people with information that inspires and informs. The **veski** STEM filminator program was designed to support Victorian high school scientists and science communicators. More than 30 entries were submitted to the **veski** STEM filminator competition, with young Victorians choosing a STEM subject and creating a video on a new scientific discovery or a topic they had been learning in a STEM lesson – anything...animation...film... as long as it was about STEM!

The **veski** STEM filminator of the year (2020) was Ryan Le, Keysborough College who explored How We See the World in Colour. Videos have been viewed on YouTube more than 1000 times.



# global engagement

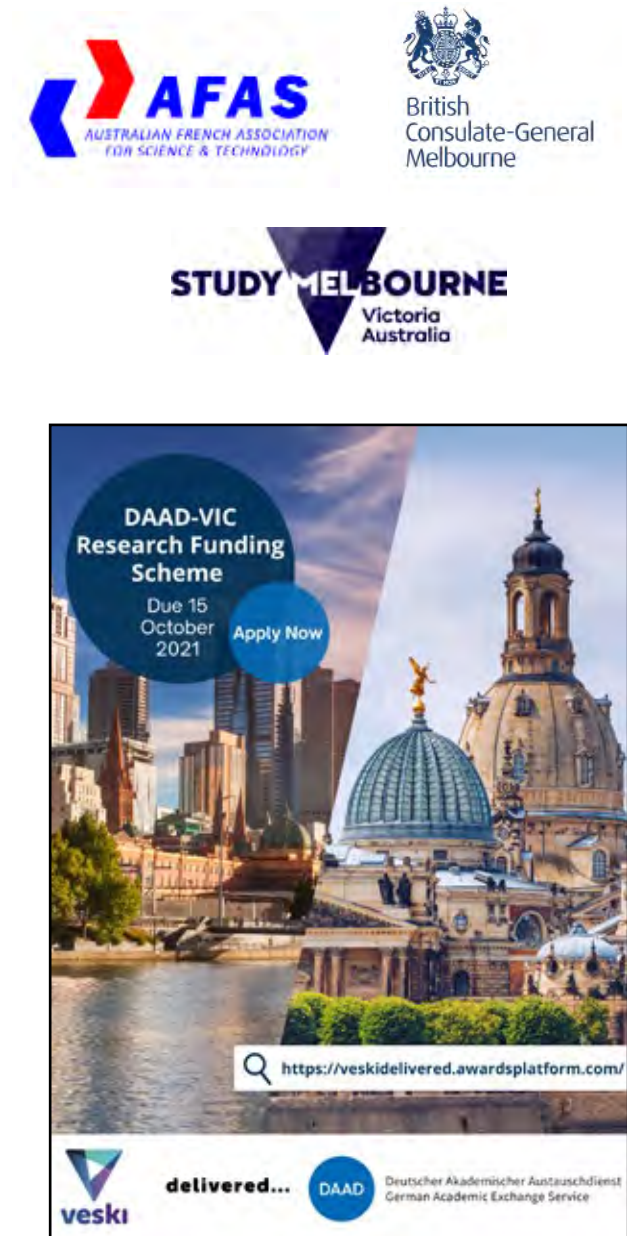
## Global events and activities

Our global events stimulate discussion and debate by bringing together the brightest minds from overseas, around the country and locally for the benefit of the State of Victoria. These engagements included:

- Nov 2020 – **veski** supported the Australian French Association for Science and Technology (AFAS) to administer the AFAS Associate Award, to a Victoria Fellow to travel to France to undertake a study mission
- March 2021 – With the support of the British Consulate General Melbourne, **veski** successfully delivered the STEM sidebyside closing ceremony
- May 2021 – **veski** co-hosted an industry academia forum; emceed by the **veski** MD & chief executive, and the Tel-Aviv office of Victorian Government Trade and Investment and the Israeli Ministry of Science
- June 2021 – **veski** established the Study Melbourne Research Partnerships program (delivered by **veski**) with Study Melbourne.

## veski outreach activities including conversations & activations

- September 2020 – a **veski** activation enabled the **veski** team to pivot its otherwise face to face **veski** inspiring women STEM sidebyside program to be delivered virtually via Zoom - including the additional hosting of seven Group chat sessions; the first a **veski** conversation on career pathways with 8 inspiring leaders across Industry and academia, providing participants with a unique environment to foster their peer networking - despite being physically distanced
- October 2020 – **veski** signed an AOC with the German Academic Exchange Service - DAAD to act as the onshore partner in the delivery of a **veski** activated Germany - Victoria Bilateral Research Exchange Program in 2021
- Nov 2020 – The Board Pathways and Insights webinar (supported by Michael Page) was delivered as a public outreach activity to more than 230 attendees as part of the broader **veski** inspiring women STEM sidebyside program
- July 2021 – **veski** hosted its second **veski** conversation - a debrief dinner with 12 key **veski** stakeholders of the 3yr STEM sidebyside program including a focusing on what future activities may look like.



# global engagement



## veski delivered...

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on social gatherings, **veski** implemented the following alternative activities to replace those we were unable to deliver face to face - ensuring our engagement with key national, local and international leaders and commentators continued albeit virtually...

- August 2020 - during National Science Week 2020, **veski** delivered the inaugural **veski** STEM filminators video of the year competition - a science communication activity for Victorian high school students
- August 2021 - with the support of the Australian Academy of Science, **veski** delivered the Victorian heat for the Falling Walls Lab Victoria receiving 23 entries from across 7 Victorian universities, winners of this 3-min pitch competition participated at the Australian Finale vying for their chance to present at the Global finale held annually in Berlin, Germany.

# statement of financial position

**veski** and its controlled entities as at 30 June 2021  
ABN 93 104 711 272

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,225,710	1,407,433
Receivables	339,902	25,931
Other assets	20,045	88,022
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>4,585,657</b>	<b>1,521,386</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant & equipment	5,610	6,873
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>5,610</b>	<b>6,873</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>4,591,267</b>	<b>1,528,259</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Payables	55,652	17,584
Provisions	133,343	148,011
Other liabilities	4,359,705	1,224,495
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>4,548,700</b>	<b>1,390,090</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Provisions	2,415	1,957
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>2,415</b>	<b>1,957</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,551,115</b>	<b>1,392,047</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>40,152</b>	<b>136,212</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated surplus	40,152	136,212
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>40,152</b>	<b>136,212</b>

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified for consistency with current year disclosures.



Approved by the  
**veski** board of directors  
on 6 October 2021

**veski**  
Level 2, 116 Hardware Street  
Melbourne Vic 3000  
Australia

**T** +61 3 9635 5700

**W** [veski.org.au](https://veski.org.au)