



Science &  
Technology  
AUSTRALIA



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT







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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am delighted to present this annual report for Science & Technology Australia.

The past year has been incredibly tough for everyone. Lives have been lost and turned upside down, economies have faltered, and leaders around the world have been tested and challenged.

These challenging times have manifested in the STEM sector with jobs lost on an historic scale, and ever more of our research community struggling with insecure work on short-term contracts, increased workloads and decreasing resources.

STA has not been immune to the challenges facing the sector over the past year. But even as these challenges unfolded, the organisation has consistently advocated for STEM professionals, and excelled despite the troubled times.

This is my last foreword for an annual report, with my term as President ending and passing the baton to Professor Mark Hutchinson.

For me, it marks the end of a decade on or around the board of STA. It's a decade where the organisation has grown from a small operation into a significant force on the policy and advocacy landscape. One that consistently and powerfully represents the interests of tens of thousands of members.

The growth and impact of the organisation over the past year has been outstanding. From tackling the challenge of delivering Science meets Parliament in a country with internal borders closed, to continuing to influence public policy discussions through our regular submissions and engagement with government and funding agencies, STA has achieved great things.

A highlight over the past year has been the launch and implementation of our Reconciliation Action Plan. When I took over as President I said I wanted the organisation to apply the same effort and expertise that it has in raising the profile of women in STEM to amplifying First Nations' voices and creating opportunities for Indigenous people.

The Reconciliation Action Plan is an important step on that journey. But it is one of many the organisation has taken to offer opportunities and amplify the voices of our First Scientists.

These steps have included Indigenous Scholarships to Science meets Parliament, and consistently showcasing the outstanding work of Indigenous-led member organisations such as Deadly Science and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance.

I'm incredibly proud of the work that STA has done to rise and meet the challenges of our times, and this annual report details some of the many achievements of the past year.

It has been an honour to lead the organisation and watch it grow, both in size and membership, and in its now-significant influence.

**Associate Professor Jeremy Brownlie**

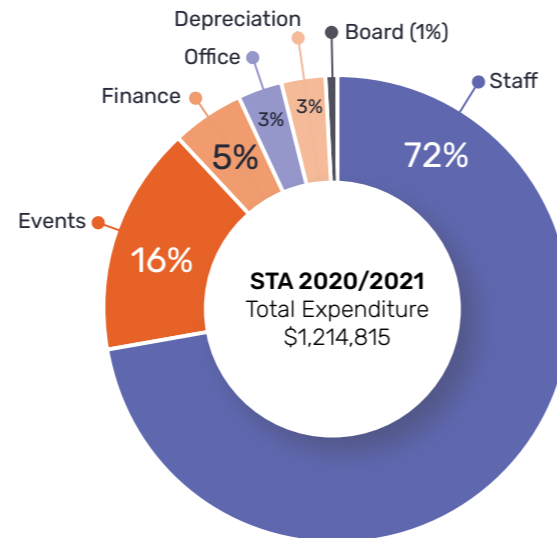
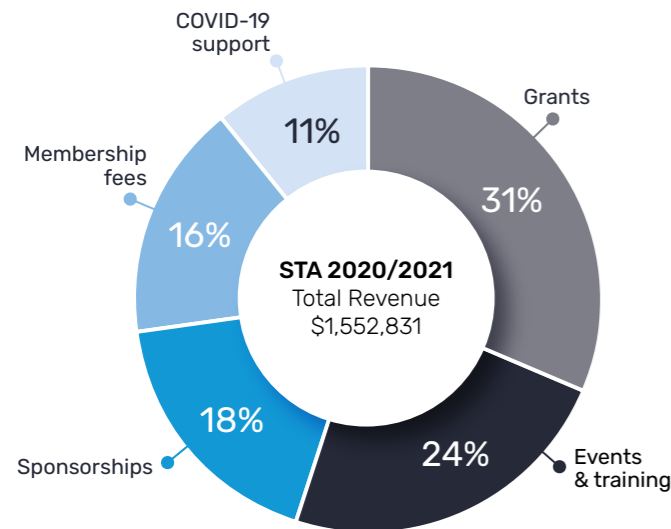
President  
Science & Technology Australia



# FINANCES AT A GLANCE

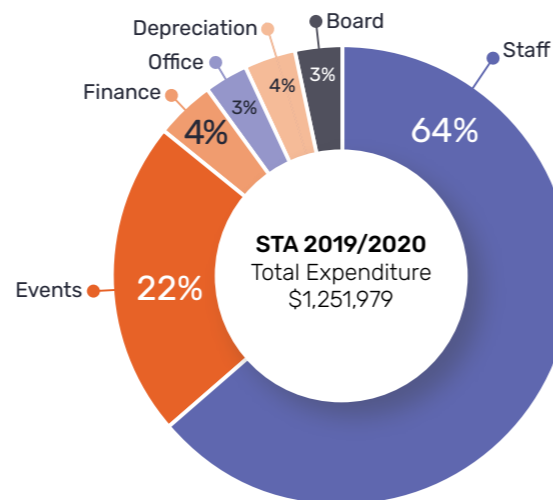
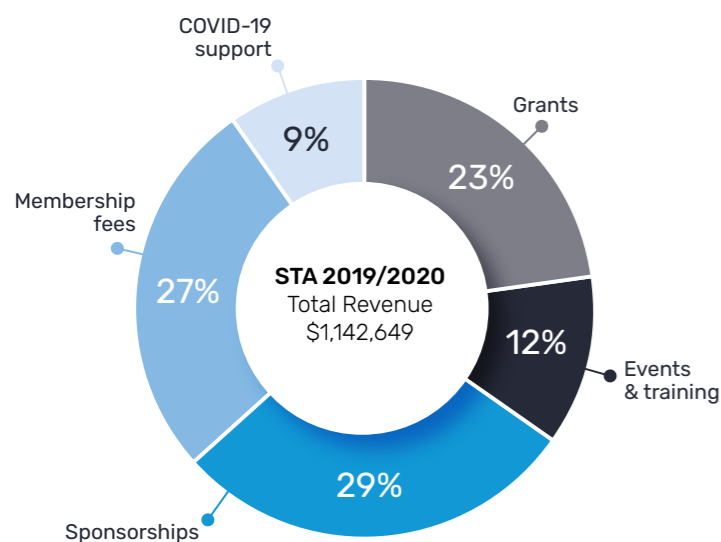
## Financial year 2020-21

**\$338,016 surplus - Revenue increase of \$410,182**



## Financial year 2019-20

**\$109,330 deficit (amid the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic)**



# FROM THE CEO



What a remarkable story of resilience and renewal.

In the midst of a pandemic, Science & Technology Australia grew our membership, built our media profile, deepened our policy influence, strengthened our diversity, expanded our programs – and posted a strong budget surplus. STA is now truly the leading voice for science and technology in Australia. We are a respected influencer at the centre of the national policy discussions in STEM, with strong relationships across the sector, politics and the public service, and a growing staff team.

In the past year, STA has shaped policy and media debates on research and development, higher education, and research translation and commercialisation – including our bench-to-boardroom scientists proposal.

We shone a spotlight on scientists' perilous morale and job security amid the devastating toll of the pandemic on our workforce.

And we highlighted the strong trust Australians have in science and scientists – a vast reservoir of respect and public support on which to draw.

We innovated in our flagship programs Science Meets Parliament (which turned 21 in 2021), Superstars of STEM and STA's STEM Ambassadors – and secured the honour of building an alumni program for Australia's Science Policy Fellowship scheme.

We delivered the official launch of National Science Week in 2020 and 2021, and expanded delivery of our acclaimed Super STEM Communicator training to nurture talent and skills in the sector.

And we marked STA's 35th birthday in November 2020 – celebrating three and a half decades of respected advocacy.

STA deepened our role as a champion for equity, diversity and inclusion. In an historic milestone, this year we launched STA's first Reconciliation

Action Plan – developed in partnership with our First Nations members – and we are poised to celebrate the election of the first Indigenous STA Board director.

In governance and operational reform, we resumed work on constitutional modernisation, updated contracts and reporting systems, and delivered a refreshed strategic plan, annual work plan, risk register and code of conduct.

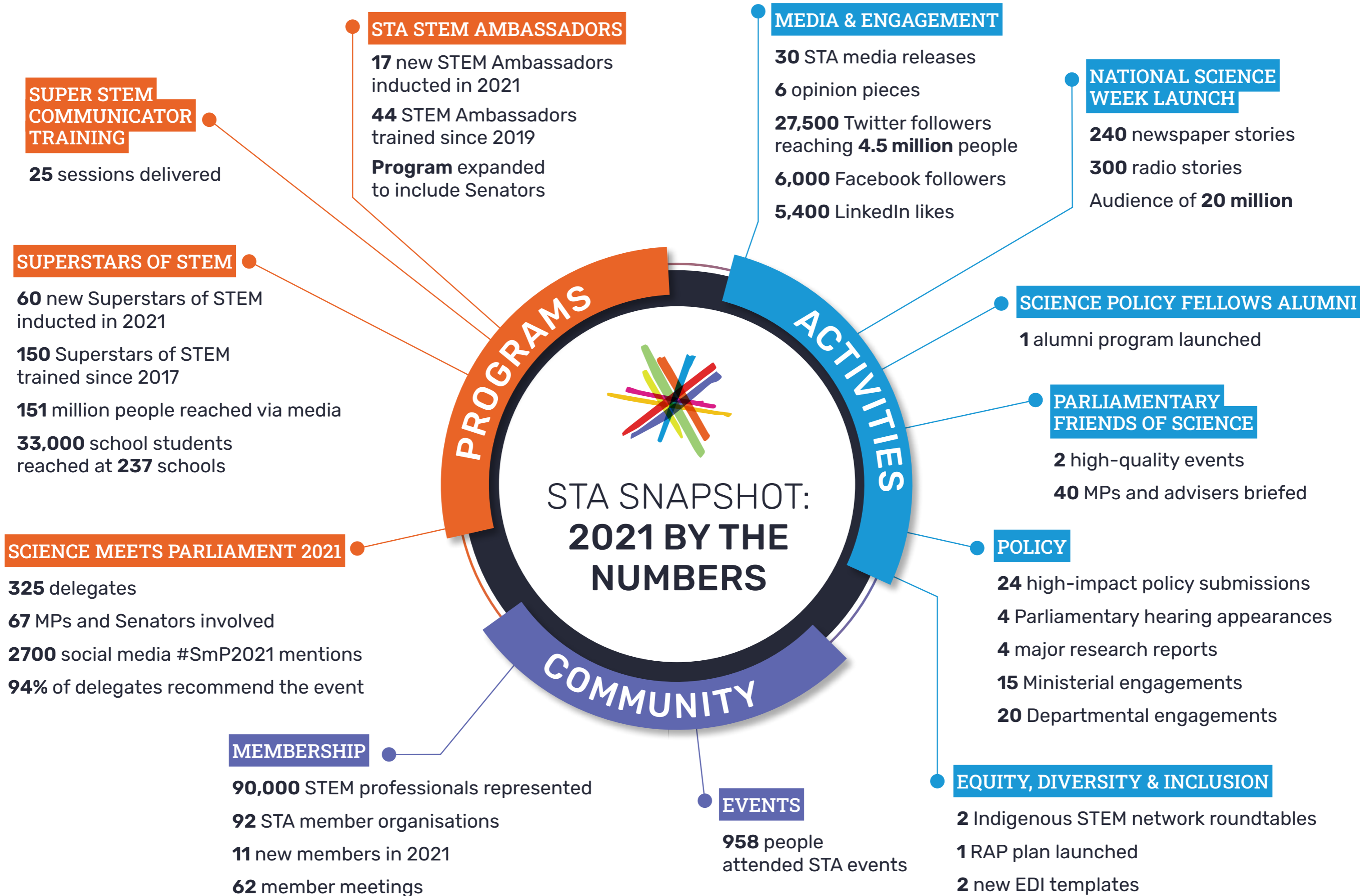
Throughout the year, STA's staff worked with vast energy, passion and skill to support our members, our sector, and the organisation.

We are deeply grateful for the superb contribution of our high-calibre Board and committees, and our inspiring members.

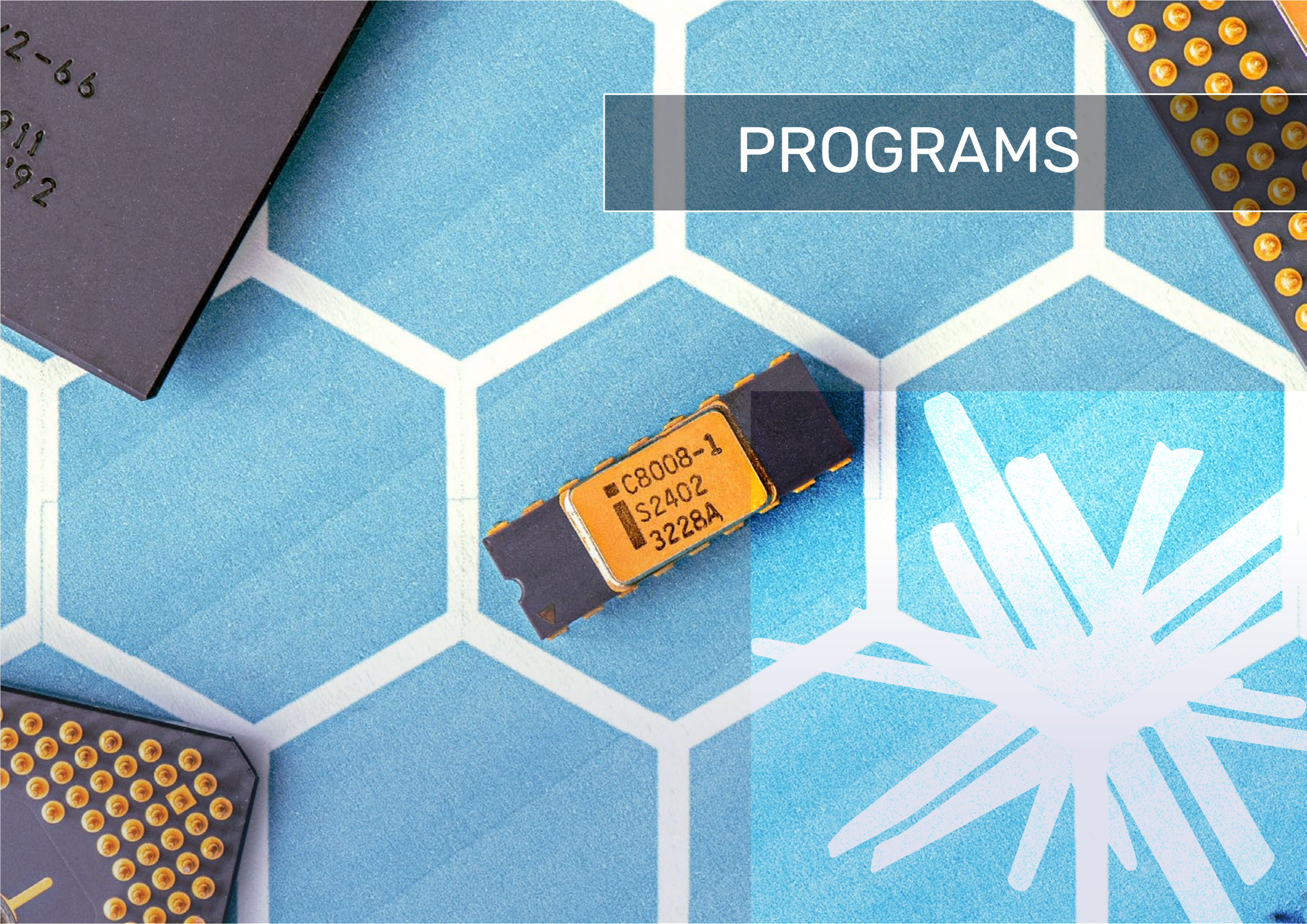
As we say thank you and farewell to our outgoing President Jeremy Brownlie after 11 years on the STA Board, we honour his principled, skilled, thoughtful and inclusive leadership. He has made STA a respected, influential and well-connected voice in the halls of power. And he has nurtured STA's membership, mission and people in countless ways large and small to leave it profoundly stronger. We cannot thank him enough.

As we reflect on the shared achievements of the STA staff, Board and community in another remarkable year, we thank each of you for your commitment, hard work and outstanding efforts.

**Misha Schubert**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Science & Technology Australia







# PROGRAMS

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# SCIENCE MEETS PARLIAMENT 2021

In 2021, our flagship event went both virtual and nation-wide. It featured a superb online program, an agenda-setting National Press Club address, and simultaneous gala dinners in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

The event attracted 325 delegates and an inspiring diversity of talent and expertise across its 61 speakers. Engagement with the nation's leaders was strong. 67 Parliamentarians attended – and 62 MPs took meetings with delegates. Nearly 300 people attended the gala dinners.

Our virtual format delivered greater accessibility, allowing for an extra 100 delegates, and enabling speakers who would not otherwise have been able to travel to Canberra to share expertise and insights.

The event was a huge success. A stunning 94 per cent of delegates said they would recommend it to a colleague and 88 per cent would attend again. And 96 per cent of delegates said attending SmP had improved their understanding of the Parliamentary process.

Science & Technology Australia thanks all sponsors, partners, participating MPs and Senators, speakers, and the event's delegates for making Science meets Parliament 2021 such a success.



Images (anticlockwise from top): Science Minister Karen Andrews speaks at the Sydney dinner; STA's Mitchell Piercey, Sharath Sriram and Tanya Ha hosting the Melbourne dinner; the Superstars of STEM meet Minister Andrews in Sydney; more Superstars of STEM gather in Melbourne; Shadow Science Minister Richard Marles speaks in Sydney; STA President Jeremy Brownlie and CEO Misha Schubert hosting; guests in the Great Hall at the University of Sydney; Muneera Bano, Rashina Hoda & Nas Meftahi.

## CENTRE STAGE FOR AUSTRALIA'S NEW CHIEF SCIENTIST

As the centrepiece of Science meets Parliament 2021, Science & Technology Australia was delighted to have Dr Cathy Foley deliver her first major address as Australia's Chief Scientist.

In a wide-ranging speech to the National Press Club that made headlines around Australia, Dr Foley set out a bold vision for Australian science.

She made passionate calls to support science to boost industry, apply the lessons of how science took centre stage in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic, and smooth the path for research commercialisation.

The live broadcast was seen by a large national audience on ABC television.

The audience included Parliamentary Friends of Science co-chairs – then Science Minister Karen Andrews and Shadow Science Minister Richard Marles – Science Meets Parliament delegates, sector stakeholders, and journalists.

The Canberra Times reported The Chief Scientist's call for researchers to use the lessons from tackling COVID for other issues facing the country. And the Australian Financial Review highlighted how science can boost industry and commercialisation – turning more of Australia's great research into new products, services and income.

IN FOCUS



Images (above, from left) Minister Karen Andrews with STA President Jeremy Brownlie and STA CEO Misha Schubert; Dr Cathy Foley at the Press Club

## IN FOCUS

### SATELLITE DINNERS AND A MINISTERIAL FAREWELL

This year's National Gala Dinner was held across four locations around Australia, with a program of keynote speakers beamed live to all venues.

Nearly 300 people attended STEM-star-studded events in Adelaide, Canberra, Sydney, and Melbourne.

Holding the dinners in multiple cities concurrently democratised the dinner and enabled the participation of MPs and Senators in their home states and senior STEM sector leaders who could not otherwise travel to Canberra for a function.

The event was also an opportunity to celebrate the vast contribution of outgoing Minister for Science, Karen Andrews MP.

It also featured keynote addresses from Shadow Minister for Science Richard Marles MP, and the

inspiring Pamela Naidoo-Ameglio, Group Executive of the ANSTO Nuclear Precinct.

Ms Naidoo-Ameglio encouraged STEM professionals to "embrace the pivot" in their careers and highlighted the importance of making it easier for people to transition between disciplines and industries as their careers progress.

"Not only is this realistic, but it also helps address long-term disparities in the number of women and other minorities pursuing careers in STEM," she told the gala dinners.

STA CEO Misha Schubert reflected on the fact that "through the pandemic, science had been our salvation" as she urged the nation to honour that huge contribution and "pay it forward" by reinvesting in the power of science.



# SUPERSTARS OF STEM

STA's Superstars of STEM program recruits brilliant women scientists and technologists from across Australia and boosts their public profile to be role models to inspire the next generations.

It smashes gender stereotypes and lifts the visibility of women in STEM.

Since 2017, our Superstars of STEM have visited 237 schools and inspired more than 33,000 students. They have appeared in more than 6,000 media articles, reaching millions of people, and vastly expanded women's voices in the media.

At the start of 2021, STA welcomed 60 brilliant new Superstars, bringing the total to 150 amazing women. STA was also proud to graduate the 2019-2020 Superstars of STEM in June 2021 – extending their term to offset the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## IN FOCUS

### PUTTING TRAINING INTO ACTION

To equip the Superstars of STEM and help them fulfill their potential, STA provides advanced communications training opportunities.

It is exciting to see them put that training into action and increase their visibility and impact.

Superstar of STEM Dr Jiao Jiao Li credited the TED talk training sessions provided by the Superstars program to help her to win the Australian final of the prestigious Falling Walls lab competition. Her highly engaging presentation on how she uses stem cell therapy to treat osteoarthritis won her a chance to compete in the global finals.

Volcano scientist Dr Heather Handley had a groundbreaking year, becoming the face of Australia Post's release of four stamps celebrating the country's volcanoes. Dr Handley also produced a series of videos to accompany the release and drew on her media training to appear on radio and in print media throughout the launch week.

Astronomer Dr Clare Kenyon has had a stellar year, securing a recurring guest spot on ABC Radio Canberra's Saturday Breakfast show where she talks all things science. She has also been inspired by social media training to launch her own podcast: Spaghettification, a show where science and astronomy meets beer and light-hearted humour.



Images (from top): Dr Jiao Jiao Li; Dr Heather Handley; Dr Clare Kenyon

### SCHOOL VISITS GO DIGITAL

School closures and restrictions on school visitors amid the COVID-19 pandemic made it challenging to do school visits. Taking this in their stride, many Superstars of STEM turned to technology and demonstrated they could inspire even through a computer screen.

STA also hosted a webinar series: Where can STEM take you? Based on year 12 STEM subjects, each episode featured a number of Superstars who shared stories about their career paths, how they use STEM each day in their work, and answered students' questions.

"By sharing my journey and my science with the world, I feel that I have become a visible role model for the younger generation, especially women, so that they will not be intimidated by cultural and gender-based stereotypes but instead can see STEM as an exciting and viable career pathway for them too, if they desire," said Superstar of STEM Dr Devika Kamath.



Images (from top): Virtual school visits by Dr Alexandra Campbell and Dr Heather Handley



# STEM AMBASSADORS PROGRAM



## Science & Technology Australia's prestigious STEM Ambassador program pairs science and technology professionals with their local federal MPs and Senators.

In 2021, 17 new STEM Ambassadors joined the program to work with MPs and – for the first time – Senators.

Paired with MPs and Senators from all around the country, they covered the field of major political parties and crossbenchers.

Over the year, STEM Ambassadors meet with their Parliamentarian to bring science expertise and networks to support evidence-based policy-making.

The STEM Ambassadors are drawn from STA's member organisations and come from a diverse range of academic backgrounds and interests.

The STEM Ambassador program – which began in 2019 – empowers experts to become effective advocates for science and the sector, and to use their expertise to inform policy to shape Australia's future.

This year's intake of Ambassadors included mathematicians, a marine biologist, a soil scientist, experts in river management and water policy, an engineer, and a neuroscientist.

They were drawn from STA member organisations the Australian Psychological Society, Women in STEMM Australia, the Australian Freshwater Sciences Society, the Australian Society for Fish Biology, the Australasian Genomic Technologies Association, the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Soil Science Australia, the Australian Marine Science Association, and the Australian Mathematical Society.

The new intake brings the total number of STEM Ambassadors to 44, all paired with Senators and MPs from throughout Australia.

STA supports the Ambassadors in their roles through regular workshops and training sessions, including sessions on understanding the policy development process and engaging effectively with the media.



Madeleine King MP and Dr Charlotte Birkmanis

## DR CHARLOTTE BIRKMANIS & LABOR MP MADELEINE KING

"During my time as a STEM Ambassador, I've had the pleasure of working with The Shadow Minister for Trade and Resources Madeleine King MP, the Federal Member for Brand.

"After our initial meet up, we realised that we share a common goal of promoting women in STEM. To get the ball rolling and to find out what women (in STEM) want, Madeleine toured the Indian Oceans Marine Research Centre at my university, the University of Western Australia.

"After morning tea and a discussion about the opportunities and challenges for women in STEM, we all left with a greater understanding of both the political and scientific process and possible career paths. The networking event was insightful for all, and we will be planning more for the year ahead."

IN FOCUS

## PROFESSOR LEE BAUMGARTNER & NSW NATIONALS SENATOR PERIN DAVEY

With her deep interest in water and regional development policies, Senator Davey has appreciated the opportunity to learn from Lee and visit CSU's Institute for Land, Water and Society fish lab in Albury.

"Learning about the extraordinary work the team does regenerating our native endangered species, working with Snowy Hydro and evaluating the efficacy of complementary water management options was fascinating," she says.

"Thanks to my STEM Ambassador Professor Lee Baumgartner and Science & Technology Australia for connecting us."



Senator Perin Davey with Professor Lee Baumgartner.



# ACTIVITIES





# POLICY ADVOCACY

**Guided by the STA STEM Sector Policy Committee, STA's highly influential policy work in 2020–21 spanned the policy landscape.**

With 24 formal submissions to parliamentary inquiries and government consultations, STA provided advice on a myriad of issues. This included science and technology policy, research translation and commercialisation, university funding, research grants, IP, climate change, industry links and mitochondrial donation law.

We were also active in the broader policy realm, covering issues including safeguarding Australia's critical infrastructure, Australia's foreign relations and global collaborations, higher education funding, and the Commonwealth Integrity Commission.

STA CEO Misha Schubert and President Jeremy Brownlie provided evidence to four Parliamentary Committee hearings.

In November 2021, Misha and Jeremy were joined by STA Policy Chair, Professor Sharath Sriram to give evidence to the Senate Standing Committee on Economics for their inquiry into Australia's manufacturing industry.

In July 2021, Misha and Jeremy presented to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security about the Review of the Security Legislation Amendment (Critical Infrastructure) Bill 2020 and Statutory Review of the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018*.

In August 2020, they spoke at the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee's Inquiry into Identification of leading practices in ensuring evidence-based regulation of farm practices that impact water quality outcomes in the Great Barrier Reef.

And in October 2020, they addressed Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Bill 2020 and Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2020.

STA CEO Misha Schubert was also involved in national and international events, including launching the National Innovation Games and chairing a session at the Australian Government's TechTonic 2.0 AI summit. She also spoke at the American Association for the Advancement of Science on science diplomacy and at the World Academy of Sciences' Science Diplomacy course.



## IN FOCUS

### BENCH-TO-BOARDROOM SCIENTISTS

Amid a government push to boost commercialisation of world-leading research from Australia's universities, STA has shaped the policy debate with bold new policy ideas to 'shift the dial' on research commercialisation.

STA proposed a major new Research Translation Fund as a powerful vehicle to propel more research over the 'valley of death' to commercialisation. And we unveiled a bold proposal to train a new breed of 'bench-to-boardroom scientists' and connectors of commercialisation.

STA generated strong positive national media coverage – STA President-elect Mark Hutchinson spoke on ABC RN Breakfast with Fran Kelly, STA President Jeremy Brownlie had an op-ed in *The Australian*, and CEO Misha Schubert did radio, online and print interviews to set the agenda.

### MAKING AUSTRALIA A STEM SUPERPOWER

A major focus of STA's policy advocacy across Parliament and in the media this year has been our call for an ambitious boost to Australia's R&D investment. We urged setting a bold ambition to turn Australia into a STEM superpower and put us in the top 10 OECD nations for R&D investment.

In our pre-Budget submission, STA called for a new \$2.4 billion science and research commercialisation fund. This fund would enable the country to seize the opportunity to 'level up' on research commercialisation – generating jobs, boosting productivity, and driving the post-pandemic economy.

This powerful story of untapped potential was reinforced with the launch of STA's Policy Vision in June: Australia as a STEM superpower.

This message will continue to be a key policy proposal as Australia heads towards an election in 2022. In November, crafted from the leadership dialogue at STA's annual President and CEO Forum, we issued the science and technology sector's 2022 election priorities. Our 10 recommendations were backed by the nation's university and industry sectors.



# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN



**'Diverse Communities'**  
(artwork above) by Lynnice Letty Church – Ngunnawal, Wiradjuri, Kamilaroi; and Brendan Church – Barkindji

*"Each circle represents a unique community, and celebrates their diversity and individual qualities. Each community has many differences, but also a lot of qualities, and it is those differences in qualities that we embrace. The pathways recognise and celebrate these differences, leading to the centre of the circle – one heart, one vision, one people."*

Australia is home to the oldest continuing cultures on Earth – with intricate STEM knowledge embedded in the sophisticated cultures and songlines of this Country.

Yet – as a continuing result of dispossession, trauma and exclusion – First Nations people are underrepresented in STEM formal education and careers.

In July 2021, Science & Technology Australia launched our first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). Developed with our First Nations member organisations Deadly Science and ATSIMA, it guides our partnerships approach and work to deepen Indigenous participation and support Indigenous leadership in STEM.

Moving speeches from Ngunnawal Elder Wally Bell, Quandamooka mathematician and Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance Professor Chris Matthews, Kamilaroi man and CEO of Deadly Science Corey Tutt, STA President Jeremy Brownlie, STA CEO Misha Schubert and STA EDI Committee co-chair Sumeet Walia were part of the RAP launch in NAIDOC Week 2021.

Six months into our first RAP, STA has delivered all actions on time – and exceeded many of our commitments.



Images on right: at the online launch of STA's RAP plan 2021 (from top): Ngunnawal Elder Wally Bell, Jeremy Brownlie, Sumeet Walia, Chris Matthews, Misha Schubert and Corey Tutt.

# THE LEADING VOICE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Science & Technology Australia advocates powerfully in the media on policy issues to advance science and technology and build a stronger STEM sector.

This year, STA has issued more than 30 media releases and generated widespread national coverage in newspapers, on television and on the radio.

Around one third of the media releases have promoted STA's policy submissions put to government.

Significant achievements in our communications and media engagement include the 2021 announcement of the new intake of Superstars of STEM, the launch of STA's Policy Vision, our regular quick-fire response to the Federal Budget, and the release of the annual Professional Scientists Employment and Remuneration Report.

That report highlighted widespread job insecurity, falling morale, and the precarity of short-term contracts in Australia's STEM community. It generated extensive media coverage, with major pieces in the Financial Review, The Australian, The Guardian, regional papers and ABC AM, among others.

STA's traditional media engagement has been supported by rapidly-growing social media channels. Twitter followers have grown by more than 5,000 to 27,500, Facebook to nearly 6,000 followers, and LinkedIn is up to 5,400. Our fledgling Instagram channel has rapidly grown to more than 500 followers. On Twitter alone, we reached an audience of more than 4.5 million people since the last annual report.

## IN FOCUS



### NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK AND THE STATE OF SCIENCE REPORT

In 2020 and 2021, STA secured the rights to launch National Science Week. We marked this special occasion with an online event streamed from Questacon, and partnered with 3M to release a State of Science Report to the media.

This year's report detailed the strong trust Australians have for science and scientists, and how they want further investment in science to speed our post-pandemic recovery.

The media strategy to promote this was a vast success. Working alongside 3M's public relations team, STA generated more than 240 newspaper stories seen by a projected audience of more than 18 million people, and over 300 radio stories with a potential audience size of more than 2 million people.

Images (from left) from National Science Week launches in 2020 and 2021: Welcome to Country by Ngambri-Ngunnawal custodian Paul House, students from Haasts Bluff say "Thank You Scientists", Science Minister Karen Andrews at the 2020 launch, STA CEO Misha Schubert hosts the 2021 launch.





COMMUNITY



# OUR MEMBERS

Members are the beating heart of Science & Technology Australia.

In 2020-21, STA welcomed 11 new members – taking our membership total to 92 organisations. Our membership spans the full spectrum of scientific disciplines and 90,000 individual STEM professionals, an incredibly powerful combined voice.

STA staff engage member organisations to understand the issues they face and identify opportunities for the STEM sector. This input informs our policy and media advocacy, shaping a clear message to guide policy choices.

## IN FOCUS



The MARCS Institute for Brain Behaviour and Development



Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment

### NEW STA MEMBERS

The strong growth in membership over the last year has included university-based STEM institutes and world-leading research facilities.

STA welcomed Cruxes Innovation as members. Cruxes believes the best way to unlock the potential of Australian research is to give researchers the skills and support they need to drive partnerships with industry, community, and government. In 2021, Cruxes offered complimentary registration to the STA membership and the Superstars of STEM for its Impact Pathfinders Series.

From curbing the impacts of fire and flood, new responses to mental health conditions and chronic disease, creating a circular economy through transformative material design, and applying robotics and IT solutions to the problems of the future – STA's new university-based members are at the forefront of innovation.

Six university research institutes joined STA in 2021. Deakin University's strong research capability is reflected in its multi-disciplinary members: the Centre for Rural and Regional Futures; Institute for Intelligent Systems, Research and Innovation; the Institute for Frontier Materials; and the Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Translation.

Western Sydney University's interdisciplinary research institutes, The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development and the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment house world-class expertise and infrastructure pioneering research on domains varying from the human brain to food security.

### COLLABORATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS

STA often collaborates with our members on public advocacy.

In 2021, STA worked once more with member organisation Professional Scientists Australia on the annual Professional Scientists Employment and Remuneration Report.

The results reveal the mounting toll on scientists of the pandemic and longer-term chronic job insecurity.

The report generated widespread media coverage, with the story featuring on ABC AM, ABC News, The Financial Review, The Guardian, The Canberra Times, and more.

We were delighted this year for our member Deadly Science and their CEO, Kamilaroi man Corey Tutt on winning the 2021 Eureka Prize for STEM Inclusion at the prestigious Eureka Prizes, run by STA member the Australian Museum. Deadly Science do inspiring work to support First Nations kids with STEM resources. Corey has also penned and published a wonderful book, *The First Scientists*.

In the past year Soil Science Australia (SSA) have doubled their membership numbers. Through dynamic leadership and creative engagement SSA President Dr Vanessa Wong has led the organisation from strength to strength. Congratulations to the whole Executive Committee. Visit their website to learn more about the organisation, including the wonderful Soils in Schools program.

### PROFESSIONAL SCIENTISTS EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION REPORT

2021-22



Images (from top): front cover of the 2021 Scientists Employment and Remuneration Report; Corey Tutt with his new book, *The First Scientists*; and Soil Science Australia.

IN FOCUS



# OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS

## SCIENCE MEETS PARLIAMENT 2021



Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources

Foundation Partner



Australian Government  
Department of Defence

Titanium Partner



Platinum Sponsor



Gala Dinner Sponsor



National Press Club  
Address Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Welcome Reception  
Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Parliamentary  
Forum Sponsor



Parliamentary  
Forum Sponsor



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Technology Sponsorships  
Sponsor



Rural/Remote  
Sponsorship  
Sponsor



LGBTIQ+  
and Indigenous  
Sponsorship  
Sponsor



Rural/Remote  
Sponsorship  
Sponsor

## SUPERSTARS OF STEM 2021



Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources

Major Supporter



Australian Government  
Department of Defence



Partners



Supporting partners



# OUR BOARD AND STAFF 2021

STA's hard-working staff team and dedicated Board drive the organisation. We thank them for their vast commitment, knowledge, service and generosity.

We especially thank outgoing President, Associate Professor Jeremy Brownlie, who has served STA in five Board roles over the past 11 years.

## STA EXECUTIVE



**President**  
Associate Professor  
Jeremy Brownlie



**Treasurer**  
Professor  
Judith Dawes



**Vice President**  
Ms Tanya Ha



**Policy Committee  
Chair**  
Professor  
Sharath Sriram



**President-Elect**  
Professor  
Mark Hutchinson



**Early Career  
Representative**  
Dr Chloe Taylor



**Secretary**  
Ms Jas Chambers



**Early Career  
Representative**  
Ms Lee Constable

## STA STAFF

### Chief Executive Officer

Ms Misha Schubert

### Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Dr Sandra Gardam

### Events and Membership

Ms Lucy Guest  
(from April 2021)  
& Mr Mitchell Piercey  
(until March 2021)

### Director of Policy & Engagement

Dr Sarah Tynan  
(from October 2021)

### Policy and Projects Manager

Mr Peter Derbyshire  
(until October 2021)

### Director of Communications

Mr Martyn Pearce  
(from January 2021)  
& Ms Zoya Patel  
(Until October 2020)

### Digital Communications

Ms Emily Downie  
(from September 2021)  
& Mr Kyle McCann  
(until September 2021)

### Programs Officer

Ms Evelyn Fetterplace

### Membership Assistant

Ms Shannon Wong

### Executive Assistant

Mr Kelvin Peh (from  
March 2021 onwards)  
& Ms Megan Viljoen  
(to March 2021)  
& Ms Georgie Ovin  
(until December 2020)

## STA BOARD

### Agricultural & Food Sciences Cluster Representative

Mr Michael Walker

### Aquatic Sciences Cluster Representative

Associate Professor  
Christopher Fulton

### Biological Sciences Cluster Representative

Dr Tatiana Soares da Costa

### Chemical Sciences Cluster Representative

Dr Thomas Cresswell

### Geographical & Geological Sciences Cluster Representative

Ms Marina Costelloe

### Mathematical Sciences Cluster Representative

Professor Adrian Barnett

### Medical & Cognitive Sciences Cluster Representative

Dr Karen Gregory

### Physical Sciences Cluster Representative

Professor Jodie Bradby

### Plant & Ecological Sciences Cluster Representative

Professor Rachel Burton

### Technological Sciences Cluster Representative

Dr Vipul Agarwal

### General Science Cluster Representative

Dr Kathleen Nicholson

### General Science Cluster Representative

Ms Heather Catchpole





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[scienceandtechnologyaustralia.org.au](http://scienceandtechnologyaustralia.org.au)

