

GEOFF SCHOENBERG

HIGHLIGHTS

- Created sector wide impact, facilitated organisational change, and supported national sport organisations as a Senior Consultant for Sport Australia
- International expertise in sport governance developed through ten years of research, publishing, and presenting on topics including CEO succession, boardroom behaviours, and legitimacy
- First-hand knowledge of the challenges facing boardrooms through experience as a board member
- Strong and transferable skill set including critical thinking, change management, communications and engagement, research and analysis, and strategic thinking and planning
- Recognised for excellence through awards and achievements including outstanding public service and young alumni of the year

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Consultant (2019 – 2020) Sport Australia

- Project lead and primary author for the new Sport Governance Principles (for release April 2, 2020) developed through an eight-month sector-wide co-design process
- Project lead in facilitating a nationally collaborative approach in the disability sport sector (involved managing nine organisations through a six-month project)
- Facilitated interactive online jams (a combination of video conferencing and live polling) to elicit sector-wide insights regarding a new governance framework for sport in Australia
- Delivered structured full-day design labs to develop solutions to specific challenges as part of the development of evolved governance principles
- Provided consultancy and advisory services to national sport organisations on board composition, governance reform, and constitutional changes
- Served on nomination committees and working groups to collaborative improve organisational governance within sport organisations
- Prepared Ministerial, Chair, and CEO briefs and papers

Research Fellow (2016 – 2019) Deakin University/Australia India Institute

- Delivered sport governance workshops in India with the CEO of the Sport Australia
- Specialist in governance culture, behaviours, group dynamics and decision-making
- Chief investigator on a \$53,150 grant from the Australia-India Council and associate investigator on a \$87,753 grant from Sport and Recreation Victoria
- Drove partnership development and managed relationships with stakeholders such as the CEO of Sport Australia, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University, and the Department of Foreign Affairs
- Supervised up to four staff to facilitate the delivery of teaching and research projects
- Presented at conferences in France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia, India, and Sweden

Sessional Academic (2009 – 2016) Griffith University and Deakin University

- Sessional instructor for many subjects including Sport Development Systems, and the Business of Sport

Volunteer Operations Manager (2009) WorldSkills Calgary 2009

- Managed two direct reports and 3000 volunteers delivering 60,000 hours of work for a major international trades and technology event

Consultant (2006 – 2009) Vitality Sport Management

- Provided administrative support and event planning services for various amateur sport, community groups, facility operators, and charity organisations

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (2016) – Griffith University

- Thesis: “Examining the Relationship Between Board Member Behaviours and Board Functions”
- Designed, adapted and implemented an international multi-study quantitative research project to study relationships between board member behaviours and board performance

Masters of Commerce (2012) – Deakin University

- Thesis: “Examining Strategic Preparation for CEO Succession”
- Created and used semi-structured interview guides to elicit information about decision-making process regarding CEO succession in a board setting

Bachelor of Applied Business and Entrepreneurship (2006) – Mount Royal University

- GPA: 3.83/4.0

DIRECTORSHIPS

Board Member (2017-2019) Squash and Racquetball Victoria

- Spearheaded constitutional reform to align with contemporary sport governance practice
- Constitutional reform project for SRV required developing buy-in from external organisations
- Wrote background and briefing papers for distribution to members regarding constitutional reform
- Chaired governance committee and the board nomination committee

Board Member (2012-2014) Sport Management Association of Australia and New Zealand

- Organised training and development events for research students
- Contributed to strategic discussions and succession planning
- Created and implemented travel award policy

Founding President (2013-2014) Griffith University Gold Coast Association of Postgraduates

- Created and implemented policies including the constitution and funding and grant programs
- Developed board agendas, chaired board meetings, and supported general secretary
- Represented the organisation in liaison meetings with key university personnel

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Improving Sport Governance in India: A Very Short Policy Brief. *Published by the Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne.*
- Chapter 5: Government Policy and Sport Governance: Australia, New Zealand and Canada. *Published in the Routledge Handbook of Sport Governance.*
- Chapter 5: Intragroup Board Dynamics. *Published in the Routledge Handbook of Sport Governance.*
- The role of intragroup dynamics in nonprofit governance models: A systematic quantitative literature review. *Published in Managing Sport and Leisure, 21(1), 1-22*

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Board Member Behaviours and Board Functions. *Delivered at the 2018 European Association of Sport Management Annual Conference.*
- Perceptions of Sport Governance in India: Lessons Learned and Future Directions. *Delivered at the Sport Law and Policy Centre Symposium in 2018.*
- Maintaining Legitimacy through Contemporary Sport Governance. *Delivered to Directors of Tennis Australia and State Members at the 2018 Annual Member Forum.*
- Women in Sport Governance. *Delivered at the Australian High Commission in India during the 2017 Workshop on Advancing Women in Sport.*

AWARDS, COURSES, AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Australia Day Medallion for Outstanding Performance in the Public Sector (2020)

- Acknowledgement for my contribution to bringing together the Australian disability sport sector

Governance Institute of Australia

- Certificate in Governance and Risk Management (2019)
- Certificate in Governance Practice (2018)

Mount Royal University Young Alumni of the Year (2018)

- Recognises the outstanding achievements of alumni early in their careers

Research Awards

- European Association of Sport Management New Researcher Award (2018)
- Griffith Business School Three Minute Thesis Champion (2015)
- Sport Management of Australia and New Zealand Student Research Award (2012)

Griffith University Awards

- Outstanding Higher Degree by Research Student (2016): Achievements by a PhD or MPhil Student
- University Contribution (2015): Exceptional contribution to the university community
- Winner of Business School Three Minute Thesis competition (2015): Present doctoral research in three minutes or less to an intelligent, non-specialist audience
- Diversity Support (2014): Achievements in enhancing and promoting inclusivity on campus

Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Incorporated

- Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling (2015)
- Foundations of Multiple Regression (2014)

University of Southern Denmark (2014)

- Visiting academic conducting research, delivering presentations, and strengthening partnerships

Toastmasters International

- Winner and runner-up in multiple public speaking competitions

SPLISS (Sports Policy Factors Leading to International Sporting Success) Research Project (2012)

- Collected, analysed, and presented research findings as part of an international study on sport policy
- Member of the research team for Canada

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND EXPERIENCE

- Host and producer for “The President’s Lounge” podcast on sport governance
- Academic Mentor in the Vice Chancellor’s Professional Excellence Program at Deakin University
- Completed Level 1 and Level 2 improv training and performed at The Improv Conspiracy (Melbourne)
- Club President and Club Secretary (2011-2016) for various Toastmasters clubs
- Volunteer for the Pan Pacific Masters Games, Gold Coast 600, Melbourne Fringe Festival and the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival
- Completed beginner Spanish course in 2019