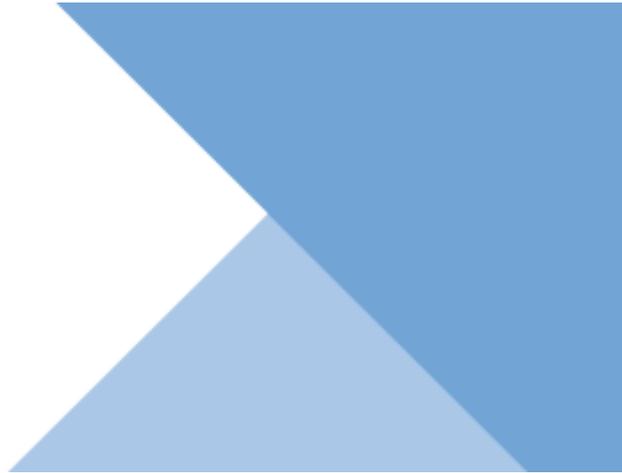


VICTORIA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AWARDS 2014



Finalists Bios

Distinguished Alumni Award

Dr Andrea Diamond

Doctor of Business Administration 2007

Masters of Business Administration 2000

Andrea has had a distinguished career in public administration, the last 16 years holding senior positions in Local Government. She has been Chief Executive Officer of the City of Yarra and is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Monash, two of Melbourne's strongest city councils with diverse populations and changing demographics. Andrea's commitment to Local Government was reflected in her doctoral thesis which examined the relationship between Council and its CEO as well as exploring the career development and identity of Local Government CEOs. Andrea was awarded the Most Outstanding Doctoral Student in 2007. In addition to Andrea's Local Government work, she sits on a number of Boards and Committees such as Breast Screen Victoria, Child Death Inquiry Panel - State Government, Queen Elizabeth Public Hospital Board of Management and the Ministerial Advisory Panel on Aboriginal Partnerships.

Dr David Buttifant

Master of Business Administration 2009

Doctor of Philosophy 1997

Graduate Diploma in Exercise and Sport Science 1992

David is a leading sports scientist and has held senior positions with the Australian Olympic Federation. He has subsequently built an impressive career within the AFL where he is currently High Performance Manager with Carlton Football Club. David is widely recognised for leading the charge for altitude training and its positive impacts on player conditioning and fitness. David is cited in numerous industry leading publications and has presented at over 40 national and international conferences and seminars. David has also co-authored three books. Aside from David's many successes in the sports arena he has also established the N.I.C.K Foundation which seeks to instil self-belief, compassion and resilience in young people and their families.

Outstanding Service Alumni Award

Jon Yeo

Bachelor of Business 1995

Jon has made a substantial contribution to a variety of causes, ranging from social welfare to business to spreading ideas globally. Jon has been a strong supporter of educational scholarships for economically disadvantaged students in China. He presently supports the Foundation for Youth Australia, a non-profit organisation which provides opportunities and development for young people of disadvantaged backgrounds. Jon is also an entrepreneur and for the past five years has been the curator of TEDx Melbourne and this sees him working with Melbourne's leaders, visionaries and change-makers to share ideas, knowledge and inspiration.

Kie Hong (Vincent) Seet

Master of Business Administration 2008

Vincent is a two-time stroke survivor who managed to fulfil his childhood dream of publishing books and becoming an artist. Prior to the stroke, Vincent was an economics lecturer teaching in undergraduate programmes in Singapore. One of the main reasons Vincent gave up lecturing to write and paint was to create awareness to all other stroke patients that they can also live normal lives. Through the sales of his books and paintings, Vincent supports charities in India, Nepal and Vietnam. These charities assist those living below the poverty line with basic daily necessities and medical supplies as well as providing educational opportunities for underprivileged children.

Young Achiever Alumni Award

Tim Holman

Advanced Diploma of Business (Advertising) 2007

Advanced Diploma of Business (Marketing) 2007

Since his graduation from VU in 2006, Tim has consistently proven his dedication to social justice in the wider community with projects that have touched a number of countries in need of support. As a long-time volunteer and philanthropist Tim realised that by reaching out to his wider network he could ultimately make a difference to the under privileged. After working as a volunteer in Kenya, Tim came home and raised enough money to purchase a fully functioning farm in Kenya for an orphanage that cares for children affected by HIV/AIDS. In December 2010, Tim co-founded a charity called ride2rescue and with three friends cycled 24,000kms from London to Melbourne, to draw attention to child trafficking both domestically and internationally. While now working as a senior business manager at Clemenger, Tim still continues to raise significant funds for causes that fight for the underprivileged.

Outstanding Student Alumni Award

Sarah Herniman

Bachelor of Exercise Science and Human Movement / Psychological Studies (current)

Sarah came to VU after retiring from elite ballet due to an injury. She applied the same strong work ethic, rigour and enthusiasm to her studies and has achieved excellent academic results. Sarah has been a recipient of a Dean's High Achievement Award, won an Australian Government DIIRST Exchange Scholarship to Leeds Metropolitan University and has been inducted into the Golden Key International Honour Society which recognises the top 15 per cent of university students worldwide. In addition to her studies, Sarah has been involved in supporting Lifeline as a voluntary counsellor and works part-time as a research assistant with the Cancer Council of Victoria and as a teacher's aide for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Mitchell Latham

Bachelor of Laws (Honours) (current)

Mitchell has worked tirelessly to lead Victoria University to victory in national and international mooted competitions. As mooted requires students to exercise legal analysis and advocacy, this success has contributed significantly to the College of Law and Justice's reputation in practical legal education. Mitchell is also an active volunteer at both Victoria Legal Aid and Sunshine Youth Legal Centre providing legal assistance to disadvantaged members of the community. Last year saw Mitchell inducted into the Golden Key International Honours Society in recognition of his consistently high academic performance. In his role as a Competitions Director of the VU Law Student Society, Mitchell has also been an active mentor to junior students.