



Media Release: Andrew Charlton, Zed Seselja and Gavin Slater unveiled as speakers at AIIA Navigating Technology and Jobs of the Future Summit

Canberra, Australia – 23 February 2018 -- The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA), the peak member body for the ICT industry, has confirmed Dr Andrew Charlton and Senator the Hon Zed Seselja as guest speakers, and the CEO of the Digital Transformation Agency Gavin Slater as a key panelist at the AIIA Navigating Technology and Jobs of the Future Summit.

The Summit, to be held at The Hotel Realm in Canberra on 22 March 2018, is designed to initiate conversation with government, industry peers and educators, on the impact of technology on the jobs of the future. It will include a specific focus on impacts within the public sector – what work it does, what skills employees need – and potentially how it will transform the way it operates.

“There is an urgent need for government and industry to develop a practical strategy and action plan to prepare Australians for the jobs of the future,” said Rob Fitzpatrick, Chief Executive Officer of the AIIA.

“Work commissioned by AIIA last year showed that Australians rate government lowest for using technology to deliver services to customers. With the rise of technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning, it is imperative that governments at both the federal and state levels embrace technology in ways that both benefit citizens and leverage the unique expertise and experience of human intervention.

“Balancing the role of new technology and the ‘human touch’ to improve the efficiency and quality of government service delivery is the key – and is the conversation we need to have. The Australian people expect government to deliver better digital outcomes, and the AIIA is on that journey together with them. Our stellar line-up of speakers at the Summit will help us take the first steps towards preparing for the jobs of tomorrow.”

Dr Andrew Charlton, Director at AlphaBeta Advisors, is an expert in both strategy and economics. He partners with clients from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors to identify the forces shaping their markets and develop practical plans to create prosperity and wellbeing. AlphaBeta recently undertook “[The Automation Advantage](#)” study for Google to understand how every Australian job is being changed by automation.

A Rhodes Scholar, Andrew has a Masters and Doctorate in Economics from Oxford University. He has authored two books: Ozonomics, and Fair Trade For All, which was co-authored with Joseph Stiglitz and translated into 13 languages. Andrew was also a Senior Economic Advisor to Australia's Prime Minister through the global financial crisis from 2008 to 2010.

With sometimes polarised views about the impact of AI, robots and automation on the future of work, Andrew will speak about what the 'right' narrative is – the one that citizens will 'get' and buy into. We look forward to hearing his insights and how they relate to the public sector.

Senator the Hon Zed Seselja, Assistant Minister for Science, Jobs and Innovation, will speak about the opportunities, challenges and risks Government sees, as new technologies such as AI, machine learning and robots impact our work, workplaces and the workforce generally.

He will be exploring topics including:

- Where does Government see there are opportunities to grow Australia's social and economic prosperity leveraging these new digital technologies?
- What are the challenges that are likely to emerge and are we up to facing and getting through them?
- What are the risks that need to be anticipated and mitigated?
- What is the role of Government in taking the jobs of the future agenda forward?

Gavin Slater, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Government's Digital Transformation Agency, will speak on a panel discussion titled "Augmenting the human factor: The role of technology".

Gavin will draw on his 30 years of experience in financial services to engage in the discussion on how humans remain indispensable, despite machines changing and replacing some of the tasks people undertake at work.

Gavin has a proven track record in delivering large scale transformation in response to digital disruption and changing customer preferences. He will share his insights into why people remain better than machines at handling unpredictable situations that require out-of-the-box thinking, empathy and understanding other humans.

Other confirmed speakers at the Summit include:

- **Gai Brodtmann MP**, Shadow Assistant Minister for Cyber Security and Defence Personnel
- **Chris Moraitis PSM**, Secretary, Attorney General's Department
- **The Hon Ed Husic MP**, Shadow Minister for Employment Services, Workforce Participation and Future of Work Shadow Minister for the Digital Economy,
- **Martin Hehir**, Deputy Secretary, Department of Employment
- **Kerryn Vine-Camp**, First Assistant Commissioner, Australian Public Service Commission

- **Dr Claire Mason**, Senior Social Scientist, Data61/CSIRO
- **Elizabeth Kelly**, Deputy Secretary, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, Jobs and Innovation Portfolio
- **Mukul Agrawal**, Chief Citizen Experience Officer, Department of Human Services
- **Kathy Leigh**, Head of Service and Director-General, Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, ACT Government
- **Mr David Pattie**, Group Manager Improving Student Outcomes at Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

For more information or to register for the Summit, visit [AIIA Navigating Technology and the Jobs of the Future](#).

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About AIIA

The [Australian Information Industry Association \(AIIA\)](#) is Australia's peak representative body and advocacy group for those in the digital ecosystem. Since 1978 AIIA has pursued activities to stimulate and grow the digital ecosystem, to create a favorable business environment for members and to contribute to Australia's economic prosperity. We do this by delivering outstanding member value by providing a strong voice of influence; building a sense of community through events and education; enabling a network for collaboration and inspiration; and developing compelling content and relevant and interesting information.

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