

CREATING A STRONGER AUSTRALIA TOGETHER

Westpac Scholars Trust
2022 Impact Report

 Scholars



Nick Pearce, Westpac Scholar, 2021 Social Change Fellow

100 SCHOLARSHIPS A YEAR FOREVER



Cessalee Smith-Stovall, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Social Change Fellow



Amelia Goonerage, Westpac Scholar, 2021 Future Leader and Denzil Furtado, Westpac Scholar, 2020 Future Leader



Thomas Da Jose, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Future Leader and Michael Wang, Westpac Scholar, 2021 Asian Exchange Scholar



Amy King, Westpac Scholar, 2017 Research Fellow

We're proudly investing in a new generation of brilliant Australians to challenge, explore and set new benchmarks in innovation, research, environmental sustainability and social change.

Together, we can create a stronger Australia.

WESTPAC SCHOLARS HIGHLIGHTS

Westpac Scholars Trust awards 100 scholarships a year to individuals who have the drive and potential to help shape a better future. Together with 14 university partners across Australia, we offer five scholarship programs across four areas we believe are at the heart of the nation's future prosperity. We're backing everyday Aussies creating a more inclusive country, a thriving tech sector, a sustainable future and contributing to Australia's presence in Asia.



In this document, 2022 refers to our financial year 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022.

Emma Troughton, Rebecca Walters, Tom Dickinson, and Hannah Chen, Westpac Scholars, 2021 and 2022 Asian Exchange Scholars.



Bridget Smart, Douglas Radford and Stacey Savin, Westpac Scholars, 2021 Future Leaders

640+

Westpac
Scholars¹

\$4.6M

awarded to Westpac
Scholars in 2022²

\$35M

awarded to Westpac
Scholars since 2015³

1. Total number of individuals who have been awarded a scholarship and have completed or are in the process of completing their degree or fellowship. 2. Includes a total of \$333,911 contribution from the University of Sydney and the University of Melbourne. 3. Amount awarded since 2015, including \$4.6m contributed collectively by the University of Melbourne, the Australian National University, the University of Sydney and the University of Queensland and RMIT.

CREATING A STRONGER AUSTRALIA TOGETHER

Message from our CEO

It was a year of regeneration for Westpac Scholars Trust and our scholars.

A return to the delivery of face-to-face events and international travel was a breath of fresh air and really revitalised our sense of community. Our scholars began to reconnect, coming together with renewed enthusiasm for events like the Scholars Summit, numerous Leadership Residentials and the inaugural Disruptive Leaders Program for our Young Technologists cohort.

For Westpac Scholars Trust, this was the first time in three years that events of this magnitude had been delivered in person, with most activities bigger than ever as cohorts from 2020, 2021 and 2022 were brought together.

The pandemic has been a difficult and challenging time for our scholars and university partners, but the resilience that has been demonstrated is truly remarkable with many scholars making significant inroads to their studies and research during this time.

What has been particularly heart-warming is the connections that have been made due to the Westpac 100 Scholars Network (W100). Many of our scholars have come together to form new professional relationships, be it through mentorship or project collaboration – a theme which we explore in a number of feature stories throughout this report.

Seeing our vision for the W100 Network come together in such a tangible way is a true testament to the program, and I'm excited for what the future holds as we continue striving to create a stronger Australia, together.

Over the past seven years of the program, we have connected more than 640 scholars through the W100 and have awarded more than \$35 million in funding. This year we introduced *Sustainable Futures* as a new focus area across all our scholarship streams, formalising our commitment to supporting innovative solutions to reduce the environmental impacts of climate change.

2022 also saw Westpac Scholars Trust inaugural CEO Susan Bannigan step down and retire from corporate life. A brilliant strategist and full of curiosity, Susan helped pioneer our scholarship program. We were privileged to have worked with her and to be the guardians of her legacy, and we thank her for her tireless work.



Amy Lyden
CEO
Westpac Scholars Trust



OUR 2022 SCHOLARSHIPS



Westpac Research Fellowship

Working with some of Australia's leading research universities, we invest in the brightest, most innovative early career researchers. Not just to enable them to do their best work, but to actively help them influence positive change.

We awarded **2 Westpac Research Fellowships** valued at **\$993,911** (including **\$333,911** co-funding from the University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney collectively).



Westpac Future Leaders Scholarship

With a focus on leadership development, the Future Leaders Scholarship was designed in partnership with Australia's leading universities to be a life-changing experience. We invest up to \$120,000 in scholars' postgraduate studies and leadership development experiences.

We awarded **17 Westpac Future Leaders Scholarships** valued at **\$2,026,302**.



Westpac Social Change Fellowship

A social innovation program focused on the growth and development of extraordinary individuals leading social change in Australia. The fellowship is tailored to the needs of the individual to help them grow as a leader, with a bespoke personal development plan and leadership course.

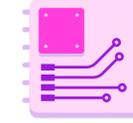
We awarded **10 Westpac Social Change Fellowships** valued at **\$499,870**.



Westpac Asian Exchange Scholarship

We offer scholars an international experience to help develop their cross-cultural thinking and provide them access to networking opportunities with Australia-Asia thought leaders. An immersive experience helps to forge meaningful relationships between the next generation of young Australian and Asian leaders.

We awarded **37 Westpac Asian Exchange Scholarships** valued at **\$453,250**.



Westpac Young Technologists Scholarship

Young Technologists Scholarships are designed for high school graduates who are passionate about technology and eager to explore its potential for good. With a newly established Disruptive Leaders Program, this scholarship provides new networking and growth opportunities for young innovators.

We awarded **34 Westpac Young Technologists Scholarships** valued at **\$680,000**.



The Westpac 100 Scholars Network (W100)

The W100 is the alumni program to which all Westpac Scholars become lifelong members. It's an inspiring network of game-changers, achievers, bright sparks and believers.

OUR APPROACH

1

SCHOLARSHIPS THAT SHAPE FUTURES

Attract and invest in outstanding people to find new and better ways to contribute to Australia's progress across technology, social issues, environmental sustainability and our engagement with Asia.

Initiatives include:

- Awarding 100 scholarships every year across five programs to everyday Aussies who aspire to be the next generation of leaders
- Adding a new focus area: Sustainable Futures.

2

LEADERS THAT CREATE A BETTER TOMORROW

Help Westpac Scholars to be world-class leaders equipped with the skills and networks they need to reach their full potential.

Initiatives include:

- Bespoke leadership programs for each scholarship stream
- Access to global thought leaders
- Access to global experiences and networks.

3

COLLABORATION THAT DRIVES A CHANGE

Create opportunities for collaboration and networking to encourage bold innovation and inspire the future generation of leaders.

Initiatives include:

- Westpac 100 Scholars Network
- Partnering with 14 universities to create lifelong access to professional development
- Access to Westpac Group networks.

OUR FOCUS AREAS



SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Responding and adapting to climate change is one of the world's most urgent challenges. We want to accelerate innovative solutions to reduce Australia's environmental impact and build a more sustainable future.

Toby Whittington, Westpac Scholar, 2020 Social Change Fellow



AUSTRALIA IN ASIA

The Asia Pacific is a dynamic and complex region deeply intertwined with Australia's future. We want to strengthen people-to-people connections and foster ideas beyond borders.

Jemma Cavanagh, Tony Gu, Nell Morgan and Paul-Jay Beran, Westpac Scholars, 2018 Asian Exchange Scholars



AN INCLUSIVE COUNTRY

Our nation holds enough space for all Australians to be included. We want to back changemakers building resilient communities and overcoming social injustice.

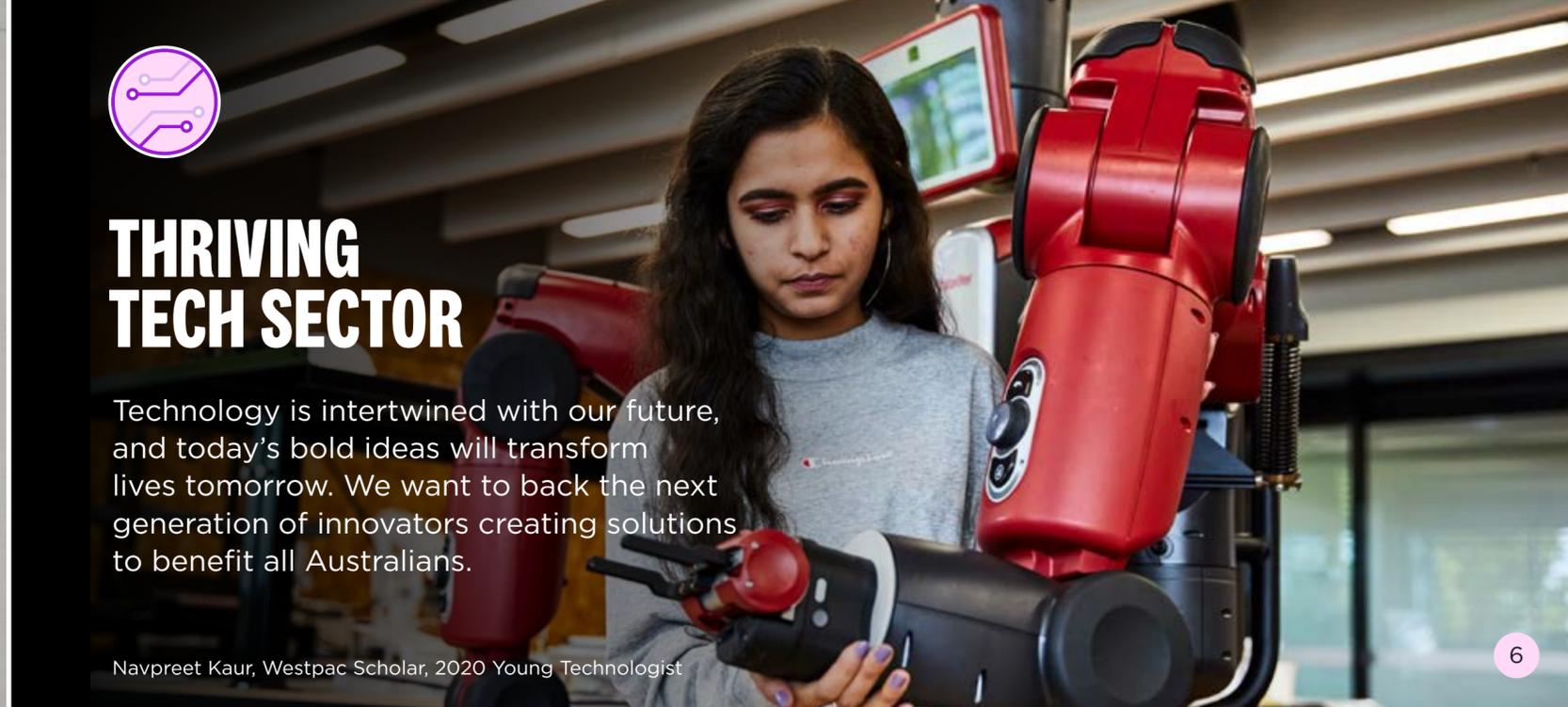
Mikhara Ramsing, Westpac Scholar, 2018 Social Change Fellow and Elise Stephenson



THRIVING TECH SECTOR

Technology is intertwined with our future, and today's bold ideas will transform lives tomorrow. We want to back the next generation of innovators creating solutions to benefit all Australians.

Navpreet Kaur, Westpac Scholar, 2020 Young Technologist



LAUNCH OF SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FOCUS AREA

Westpac Scholars Trust has launched a new focus area to address one of the world's most pressing challenges - climate change.

Aptly named Sustainable Futures, the new focus area applies to all scholarship streams and will enable greater investment in education and research that accelerates innovative solutions to reduce Australia's environmental impact and build a more sustainable future. It joins three other focus areas: Australia in Asia, An Inclusive Country and Thriving Tech Sector.

Not only will the new focus area help Australia respond and adapt to climate change, but it also echoes what scholars care about most, with many existing scholars already pursuing studies in this area.

For example, 2016 Research Fellow Associate Professor Ivan Kassal from the University of Sydney used the scholarship funding to further his research in solar-energy harvesting using quantum effects.

There have been numerous others like Associate Professor Kassal since the Trust's inception, and this year was no different, with both 2022 Westpac Research Fellows receiving a combined \$1 million in funding to support their sustainability research.



Dr Shawna Foo, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Research Fellow

Dr Hamish Clarke from the University of Melbourne received \$451,000 to support his research around climate change impacts on the critical drivers of bushfire. Dr Shawna Foo from the University of Sydney received \$542,000 to support her research to understand threats to coral reef existence and to develop effective management strategies in the face of global change.

With the addition of Sustainable Futures as a focus area, the Westpac Scholars Trust will expand its eligibility criteria to encourage even more scholars to undertake studies in this area.



Dr Hamish Clarke, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Research Fellow

BIO-ENGINEERING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Researching in the sustainability space is synthetic chemist, bio-engineer and 2020 Westpac Research Fellow Dr Yu Heng Lau. He and his team at the School of Chemistry at the University of Sydney are exploring new ways to address food scarcity by improving crop yields. To do this, the team are engineering simple versions of a protein structure found in blue-green algae and inserting it into plants to boost growth and increase carbon-capturing efficiency.

While this is long-term research, the potential impact is huge and could mean less land and energy are required to derive increased food supplies, ultimately making the agriculture industry more sustainable.

“If you think about rising populations and the increasing demand on food, and at the same time shrinking amounts of arable land, you can see that productivity is being squeezed on both sides,” he says. “Technology like ours is one of the areas where we might be able to help relieve that squeeze.”

“We’re interested in how living things capture carbon from the air,” says Yu Heng. “We know that plants do it to help them grow. What less people realise is that a lot of the world’s carbon dioxide gets captured from blue-green algae and other ocean bacteria, and that they have a really clever way of doing it.”

“It’s mid- to long-term thinking that could help tackle food scarcity in the future.”

Dr Yu Heng Lau,
Westpac Scholar, 2020 Research Fellow

Yu Heng and his team are looking at one of the most abundant proteins found on earth, Rubisco, and trying to make it more efficient by housing it within a synthetic protective cage-like structure modelled from blue-green algae, that is simple and self-assembling. They are currently working with plant biologists at the lab of Professor Spencer Whitney at the Australian National University in Canberra to put the engineered proteins into plants.

“Even if you only get a few percent increase in carbon-capture efficiency, if it’s something that’s scalable then it means a lot for sustainability in industries like agriculture,” says Yu Heng.

[Read the full story on the Westpac Scholars Trust website.](#)



1. SCHOLARSHIPS THAT SHAPE FUTURES

100

scholarships awarded in 2022

\$4.6M

awarded to Westpac Scholars in 2022¹

90%

feel more confident in their ability to contribute to the prosperity of Australia²

94%

had access to opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have had²

94%

agree they had access to networks that are valuable to their career ambitions²

“The opportunities provided to me as a Westpac Scholar have been pivotal to my development and have helped shape my future ambitions.”

Lucas Ferriera,
Westpac Scholar,
2021 Young Technologist

1. Includes a total of \$333,911 contribution from the University of Sydney and the University of Melbourne
2. Result from the 2022 Westpac Scholar Survey, total number of respondents = 72

YOUNG SCHOLARS WITH BRIGHT FUTURES

Westpac Scholars Trust awards a large component of its yearly scholarship quota to undergraduate students right at the start of their educational and professional journey. For many of these scholars, the program serves as the first step toward building the confidence to follow their dreams of making a positive impact on Australia.

While alleviating some of the financial burden of study is beneficial, it's the leadership, personal development and networking opportunities afforded to scholars that shapes their future.



YOUNG SCHOLARS WITH BRIGHT FUTURES



Heath Manning
2022 Young Technologist

“Before I started university, I considered myself a reserved person. I didn’t take up leadership positions in high school because I lacked the confidence, and I didn’t know what would be required of me, so it was easier just to fly under the radar.

“Knowing Westpac Scholars Trust saw my potential and was willing to support me, I pushed myself to explore new opportunities and leave my comfort zone. This means I can now focus more of my energy on university, getting involved in co-curricular activities and enhancing my leadership skills.”

Heath has always been a curious person, and that curiosity led him to computers and eventually to pursue a Bachelor of Software Engineering. In the future he wants to be able to make a substantial difference in the world by creating products that are able to be used for a lifetime, rather than products designed to have shorter shelf lives.



Hannah Chen
2021 Asian Exchange Scholar

“The exchange experience afforded to me as a Westpac Scholar was an opportunity to explore and establish connections in other parts of the world.

“I was also able to participate in the Leadership Development Program where we had the incredible opportunity to engage directly with key leaders across academia, industry, government and civil-society.

“It’s always been an ambition of mine to one day work overseas and I think exchange is a stepping stone in that direction... It’s an amazing opportunity to step outside your comfort zone and get fresh ideas and perspectives.”

By collaborating with technology experts in Australia and Asia, Hannah hopes to be at the forefront of cutting-edge technologies that will bring a positive impact to society.



Erin Lumsden
2021 Young Technologist

“I would not be where I am today without the Westpac Young Technologists Scholarship. If you’d told me five years ago that by the age of 19, I would be living out of home, studying a Bachelor of Software Engineering at RMIT and be the Head Electrical Engineer of a racing team, I wouldn’t have believed you.

“Not only was receiving this scholarship confirmation that I was on the right path, but it also gave me peace of mind that I wouldn’t be alone when moving across the country, and that I would be able to access the Westpac 100 Network if in doubt.”

Erin is passionate about the intersection between electronic hardware and software and the boundaries that can be pushed to create wearable technology, automotive technology and more.

2. LEADERS THAT CREATE A BETTER TOMORROW

147

scholars took part in a Leadership Development Program in 2022

81%

of scholars felt the Summit provided them with new knowledge and skills¹

200+

scholars attended the Scholars Summit in July 2022

91%

feel their leadership capabilities have been enhanced²

90%

of scholars felt motivated and inspired after attending the Scholars Summit in 2022¹

1. Result from the 2022 Westpac Scholar Summit Survey, total number of respondents = 90.

2. Results from the 2022 Westpac Scholar Survey, total number of respondents = 72.

“The Westpac Scholars program is life changing. It gives you the resources to reframe your thinking and to be a better leader.”

Samantha Devlin,
Co-founder & CEO,
The Careers Department
2020 Social Change Fellow



OUR BESPOKE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Westpac Scholars Trust aims to develop world-class leaders by offering bespoke programs to equip our scholars with the skills, confidence and networks to reach their potential. Each scholarship stream has a transformational leadership program that focuses on developing inclusive leaders, who value diversity and have the ability to drive change that positively contributes to Australia.



Disruptive Leaders Program launches

The Disruptive Leaders Program launched for the first time this year for Young Technologists from 2020 and 2021 cohorts. With the addition of this program, all scholar streams now incorporate a bespoke Leadership Residential, making them a truly unique offering for young changemakers.

Supported by Westpac Scholars Trust, Murdoch University and Common Purpose, the Disruptive Leaders Program ran for the three days following the Scholars Summit, enabling scholars to immerse themselves in a full week that catalysed personal development.

The program itinerary focused on three key areas — communication, connection and confidence. The combination of small group work and whole group formats empowered scholars to feel more confident speaking in public and sharing their opinion in a safe space. As a result, most scholars noted a spike in confidence following the program.¹

“My biggest learning from the program has been that I can do so much more than I think I can. **I truly believe I can be a great leader** in the future and achieve so much more, there are no limits!”

Misha Afzal, Westpac Scholar, 2021 Young Technologist

Asian Exchange Leadership Residential returns

For the first time since 2019, Westpac Scholars Trust, in partnership with the University of Tasmania, delivered a week-long Leadership Residential to 44 Asian Exchange Scholars in Singapore.

The Residential is designed to foster the development of critical skills for the next generation of Asia-capable leaders, building their own personal brand of leadership, and increasing their confidence and networks.

“**My personal highlight of the week was the diversity of programming and discussion** — from emerging challenges for Australia’s relationship with Asia to learnings from the Singaporean response to COVID-19.”

Aidan Luchs, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Asian Exchange Scholar

“An incredible aspect of the Leadership Development Program had to be **interacting with both my fellow scholars as well as with commissioners, diplomats and other great minds** across the five-day program.”

Jiah Pang, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Asian Exchange Scholar

“Perhaps the strongest impact from the week will be the **lifelong friendships forged between fellow scholars. I am confident that we will be able to make significant progress in Australia and the region on complex global challenges.**”

Emma Bond, Westpac Scholar, 2021 Asian Exchange Scholar

1. Result from the 2022 Disruptive Leaders Program Scholar Survey.

2022 WESTPAC SCHOLARS SUMMIT

After two years of COVID-19 delays, Westpac Scholars were able to gather together again face to face at the annual Scholars Summit. Held in Sydney across two days in July, more than 200 scholars from 2020, 2021 and 2022 participated in tailored workshops, heard from business and academic luminaries including Dr Jordan Nguyen and Madeleine Buchner OAM, and formed connections with each other.

The event this year was developed by scholars for scholars, with the scholar community involved at every stage, including as MCs and panel members. For some, this provided a unique personal development opportunity and for others it was a chance to learn and grow from peers.

“I wish there was a way to rank the celebration event higher than 5/5 — it should be a 15/5 — an absolutely incredible way to connect with other scholars in a social format.”

James Barton, Westpac Scholar, 2020 Young Technologist

“The Summit was very inspiring and engaging. It helped me to feel connected to other scholars who I think I’ll have lasting relationships with. The presentations and workshops made me feel really motivated and gave me the skills to be better equipped to make sensitive and positive change.”

Rebecca Walters,

Westpac Scholar, 2021 Asian Exchange Scholar



Madeleine Buchner OAM, Westpac Scholar,
2018 Social Change Fellow

BUILDING LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES WITH GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

With a return to international travel in 2022, we saw scholars participating in a range of enriching leadership and development opportunities across the globe, including 57 Asian Exchange Scholars who headed to Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan.

These international experiences are a vital part of our scholarship programs as they provide unique learning opportunities that challenge and grow our leaders of tomorrow.

“For me, the program bridged the gap between independent discovery of a new world, with the comfort of having friends that I could rely on.”

Jiah Pang,
Westpac Scholar, 2022 Asian Exchange Scholar



Andre Kwok, Yige Xu and Emma Troughton, Westpac Scholars, 2021 and 2022 Asian Exchange Scholars

GAINING A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Joe Kwon is the Founder and CEO of social enterprise Convict Fitness (ConFit) and not-for-profit Confit Pathways. Both organisations work in tandem to break the cycle of recidivism of young people in Australia by providing opportunities for former inmates as fitness trainers and mentors.

A former inmate himself, Joe served time in prison for directing a criminal enterprise. He's now determined to help others build a positive life outside of prison.

"We use fitness to engage with young people, and because of our own lived experience we connect straight away," says Joe. "We run a fitness program first to help everyone let their guard down. Then, when they're listening, we talk about issues like self-worth, gratitude and the value of employment and education."

After returning home from a month of travel visiting Bergen Prison in Norway and Rikers Island in the USA as part of his Social Change Fellowship, Joe has now been invited by the Department of Youth Justice in Australia to share his experiences and suggest improvements to the prison system. This is an opportunity he attributes to the credibility of being a Westpac Scholar.

"Our mission is to help reduce recidivism rates and create opportunities by breaking down preconceived notions of criminal stereotypes."

Joe Kwon,
2022 Social Change Fellow and Founder
and CEO of ConFit and Confit Pathways

"One of the areas we focused on in the Leadership Program was systems change and systems thinking," he says.

"I thought my workmates and I were just a bunch of former inmates doing fitness and using it as a vehicle to resonate with others in prison, but we weren't really thinking about the bigger picture. I never would have expected we could have such big input into changing the justice system in Australia."

[Read the full story on the Westpac Scholars Trust website.](#)



CHANGING THE WORLD FOR THE BETTER

Alexandra Proctor is a PhD candidate at the University of Adelaide, where she is undertaking research on intergenerational contact with the welfare system in South Australia and examining subsequent health and child protection outcomes for young people.

One day Alexandra hopes to provide evidence to change the way society views recipients of the welfare system (Centrelink) and challenge conceptions of worthiness. “Ultimately, the evidence should help provide a foundation for how we can reimagine our welfare system from one aimed at supporting adults to one that provides adequate resources to adults who hope to increase life chances for their children,” she says.

To further her work in this area, Alexandra used her scholarship funding this year to attend international events on public health in Switzerland, the USA and Scotland.

“It was an intense and brilliant opportunity for shared growth and development,” she says. “I had the opportunity to meet colleagues from my research group face-to-face, present my findings to their work and get more in-depth feedback. A couple of years ago, I wouldn’t have imagined this as something that I’d be able to do.”

Alexandra’s experiences overseas have prompted her to reflect upon the potential her work has to do good in the world, and how her emergence as a future leader has been nurtured within the W100 Network.

“Connecting with like-minded colleagues from all across the globe was an intense opportunity for growth and development.”

Alexandra Proctor,
Westpac Scholar, 2019 Future Leader

“Back in 2019, we had a workshop around public speaking and presenting as part of the Leadership Development Program and it completely changed how I thought about putting my work forward,” she says.

“It’s taken me a long time to recognise that a lot of my growth and development stems from that point, and that the investment in my career by Westpac Scholars Trust has come to fruition in different ways,” she says.

“The international events this year have really given me the chance to test myself and reflect back on my growth.”

[Read the full story on the Westpac Scholars Trust website.](#)



Alexandra Proctor, Westpac Scholar, 2019 Future Leader

3. COLLABORATION THAT DRIVES CHANGE

326

scholars attended W100 events in 2022

88

scholars connected through the
Mentors in Residence program

92%

agree the W100 provides
opportunities to participate in the
Westpac Scholars community¹

82%

agree engaging in-person
with the W100 was valuable¹

66%

have collaborated with other
Westpac Scholars in the last
12 months¹

**“I am thrilled
to have the
opportunity to
work with the
broader Westpac
Scholars network
to engage beyond
academia.”**

Dr Lara Malins,
Westpac Scholar,
2021 Research Fellow



¹. Result from the 2022 Westpac Scholar Survey, total number of respondents = 72

SHARING A PASSION FOR REAL-WORLD IMPACT

“I preferenced Sarah Prime first to be my mentor having never met her before,” says Mayleah House, 2021 Future Leader. “On paper, the only commonality we had at the time was that Sarah had a passion for real-world impact — and I really loved that.”

A lawyer by trade, Mayleah is admitted as a solicitor in the NSW Supreme Court and High Court of Australia. She is now studying a Master of Environment and Sustainability at Monash University, exploring how corporate duties can require businesses to mitigate climate change — a career move she credits to a life-changing break on the Caribbean Island of Utila, Honduras.

Mayleah had been looking for a mentor in the environmental space for some time, but she hadn't found anyone that she really clicked with until she participated in the W100 Network's Mentors in Residence Program. That's how she met Sarah, a fellow Westpac Scholar.

Sarah is a 2019 Social Change Fellow and Founder of Champions Academy, 'a mentoring and development framework that helps people recognise their full potential and encourages them to apply it to a cause greater than the individual'. She is currently working on a new project to recycle agricultural plastic waste and use it to support and regenerate her local town in South Australia.

“I'm forever indebted to the Westpac Scholars Trust for my mentoring relationship.”

Mayleah House,
Westpac Scholar, 2021 Future Leader

“As a mentor, Sarah can really empathise with where I'm at,” says Mayleah. “She's able to see things from my perspective but also see when maybe I'm being a little bit dismissive of ideas or not being open to opportunities. She has got a really good way of navigating my hesitancy towards things and pushing back.”

“My relationship with Sarah is one of the most important things that has come out of the scholarship, and I'm forever indebted to Westpac Scholars Trust for that relationship and also the broader connections within the W100 Network,” she says. “Everybody just wants to support, promote, build up and show off the work that everybody else is doing. It's beautiful.”

[Read the full story on the Westpac Scholars Trust website.](#)



Mayleah House, Westpac Scholar, 2021 Future Leader

W100 COLLABORATION SUPPORTS SOCIAL CHANGE

Westpac Scholars Sarah Gun and Dr Tiffany De Sousa Machado are working together to provide an Inclusive Work Program for women and non-binary people who face complex barriers to employment. The nine-week program is facilitated by the GOGO Foundation, a charity Sarah was encouraged to set up during her Social Change Fellowship.

“The Inclusive Work Program is the first offering of the GOGO Foundation,” says Sarah. “We ran our pilot program between April and June, 2021, and what became clearly evident was that these women were dealing with complex trauma.

“Family and domestic violence, experience of the child protection system, intergenerational poverty, incarceration... all these things. We needed someone, or an organisation, with a deep understanding who could help the women unpack their trauma. And that’s where Tiffany came in.”

Tiffany and Sarah originally met in 2017 when Sarah was undertaking her Westpac Social Change Fellowship and Tiffany was a Future Leader working on her social enterprise The Village Foundation, which provides education and support to new parents, employers and midwives to support mothers and prevent postpartum depression.

“I met Sarah and instantly knew that I loved her,” says Tiffany. “We definitely got along and there was a want for us to work together somehow, and we knew the right thing would come at the right time.”

Now, Tiffany facilitates ‘Wellbeing Wednesdays’, a favourite and essential part of the Inclusive Work Program. “I come in on a Wednesday for half the day and we work through various topics around wellbeing, self-awareness and developing skills to be able to handle life’s challenges,” she says.

Feedback from the program’s participants has been incredible. Sarah says, “we are building a stronger community through the work we’re doing, not just in an economic sense but also because the empowerment ripples out into their families and their community.”

On meeting through the W100 and forming a collaboration like this, Tiffany adds: “The W100 Network is such a rich melting pot of experience and personalities, that it becomes really easy to form those kinds of deep, multi-faceted, connected relationships and I’m really grateful for that.”

[Read the full story on the Westpac Scholars Trust website.](#)



Sarah Gun, Westpac Scholar, 2017 Social Change Fellow and Dr Tiffany De Sousa Machado, Westpac Scholar, 2022 Social Change Fellow and 2017 Future Leader

THE W100 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Thank you to the W100 Leadership Team who worked hard in 2022 to deliver a program of state and national initiatives that reinvigorated the W100 Network.

These regular events improved scholar wellbeing, strengthened relationships and helped scholars overcome numerous challenges.

We are particularly grateful for our National Executive Committee.

National Executive Committee

Kate Aldred
Natasha Gill
Daniel Clopatofsky Sanchez
Jing Chen
Anna Kalamkarian
Robert Wood

Cindy Mititelu
Claudia Agius
Douglas Radford
Edward Choi
Emma Bond
Emma Troughton
Georgina Lau
Harry Robertson
James Barton
Jessie Harper
Joanna Chen
Kealan Pugsley
Kelly MacKinnon
Kenny Ng
Leesa Chen
Lilyan Keena
Lucas Ferreira
Marcus Belcastro
Matt O'Neill

Meira Chen
Misha Afzal
Navpreet Kaur
Nyakuoy (Nik) Yak
Phoebe Delle Donne
Priscilia Babalola
Rhiannon Sandiford
Sean Teh
Serena Chiu
Shiqing (Michael) Wang
Stacey Savin
Tiana Caccetta
Umanda Madugalle

W100 Leadership Team

Aidan Arbuckle
Alexandra Procter
Alicia Kirk
Anna Kalamkarian
Annika Luebbe
Arienne Coate
Ben Scott
Callum Jamieson
Catelyn Richards



Members of the W100 Leadership Team

MEET OUR 2022 WESTPAC SCHOLARS

Asian Exchange Scholars

Aidan Luchs
Alicia Turner
Amelia Rawson
Arienne Coate
Ashley Wakely
Camille Luchs
Cindy Mititelu
Crystal Teh
Emma Yen
Haiyue Ma
Helena O'Reilly-Finnie
Huong Kirkman
Jiah Pang
Kate Moffat
Kyle Leyden
Madison Anning
Mandisa Sarker
Maximilian Szajrych
Nadia Hirst
Robert (Darcy) Douglas
Ronaldo Keng
Samuel Ng
Serena Ellen Chiu
Sophie Macdonald
Stephanie Hrvatin
Tariq Soliman
Tess Manson
Theresa Gu
Tom Dickinson
William McClure
Yige Xu
Zhoujing Chu
Zoe Tyndall

Young Technologists

Aayushi Khatri
Adharshni Mohanbabu
Arnav Singh
Ashley Grant
Beau Goddard
Benjamin Neal
Bilal Shah
Calvin Mullan
Cameron Ha
Charlotte Byrnes
Claudia Wong
Cody Northcroft
Efan Mahmoodi
Heer Thakar
Indigo Hennig
Jade Harris
Jamie Troung
Jimmy Lin
Joshua Lam
Lana Kamaromi
Lara Sorrenson
Lisa Hutchinson
Michelle Ally Styling
Natalie Francis
Paige Martin
Priscilia Babalola
Ruvindu Hewage
Ryan Bock
Samuel Inglis
Thomas Karayiannis
Toan Hoang Pham
Wing Lam Tsang
Xiaofei Mo

Future Leaders

Alexandra Wulff
Anna Kalamkarian
Benjamin Scott
Caitlyn Georgeson
Catelyn Richards
Elizabeth Wong
Georgia Summerfield
Harry Robertson
Jamie Priest
Jayne Fendyk
Lachlan Holden
Matt Wilkinson-Stokes
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We'd like to recognise and thank our outgoing Director, Edwina McCann, for her support and guidance

A SHARED BELIEF IN THE POWER OF EDUCATION

From the very beginning, collaborating with Australia's leading universities has been fundamental to the success of Westpac Scholars Trust. Together, we share a common belief that investment in education will help Australians succeed. We would like to thank our 2022 university partners across Australia whose support makes our programs possible. Together, we are investing in the individuals who will help shape a better future for Australia.





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