



**1 March 2018**

## **Catholic School Parents Australia welcomes new Chair Mr Karl Rodrigues**

Catholic Schools Parents Australia (CSPA) recently held its Annual General Meeting and elected Mr Karl Rodrigues as the new Chair.

Outgoing CSPA Chair, Tony O'Byrne was delighted to welcome Mr Rodrigues.

Mr O'Byrne stated, "Karl brings a refreshing new skill set to CSPA and this will work well at this significant period in our history". Karl and his family are active in their local parish and all five children have attended Catholic schools with the two youngest still at school.

Mr Rodrigues is the Deputy Director for CSIRO Energy and is responsible for the Business Unit strategy, science investment and operations. In his role, he focusses on delivering science impact, leadership and direction to the Business Unit and ensures that CSIRO Energy's science and innovation reputation is enhanced in the Australian innovation system.

Before becoming Deputy Director, Karl held senior management roles across CSIRO including Executive Manager, Licensing and Investment Management within CSIRO IP & Licensing and was responsible for managing CSIRO's spin-out initiatives from inception through to exit, including managing the CRC Engagement Office and the Australian Growth Partnership program.

Karl has over 25 years of experience in innovation, venture investment, research, development and commercialisation of technology. Prior to CSIRO, Karl managed Intel Capital ANZ where he invested in several Australian and New Zealand companies. He was one of the founding directors on the Australia New Zealand America Technology Network (ANZA TechNet), which supports Australian and New Zealand companies seeking to expand into the US.

Karl holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Computing Science from the University of Technology in Sydney, an MBA with Distinction from Griffith University in Queensland and is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Karl is passionate about innovation and start-ups and is an Adjunct Lecturer in Entrepreneurial Finance and Financing Innovation in the MBA programs for the Macquarie Graduate School of Management (MGSM) and the Sydney Business School (Sydney University).

Council members warmly welcomed Karl as the second Chair of Catholic School Parents Australia.

*Statement Ends ..... 1 March 2018*

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