



Impact Forum:

Circular Economy



Professor Linda Godfrey

(South Africa)

Manager, Science Technology and Innovation for a Circular Economy Unit –Department of Science and Innovation; Principal Scientist, Circular Economy –CSIR; Extraordinary Professor –North-West University.

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Carmen Stewart

Manager at FutureScapes Consultancy Services

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Kathy Giunta

Director, Circular Economy Programs at NSW Environmental Protection Authority

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Lisa McLean

CEO at Circular Australia

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Yas Grigaliunas

Founder & Chief Evangelist at Circonomy

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Luke McConell

Managing Director at Revolve Your World

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Kevin Trustum

Manager of Commercial Services (Waste Strategy) at Lismore City Council

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Shane Ramsey

National Operations Manager at Centre for Regenerative Design & Collaboration (CRDC)

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Craig Bagnall

Director at Environment and Regulatory at SEATA Group

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Kim Potter

Economic Development Manager, Regional Development and Programs at Department of Regional NSW

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Dr Helen Lewis

Adjunct Professor, Institute Sustainable Futures

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Connor Clarke

Founder at Plastics Pirate

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Russ Martin

Director of consultancy MS2

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Dr Owen Hogan

Business and Creative Arts - Southern Cross University

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Professor Andrew Rose

Academic Director of the Recirculator Program and Chair of Academic Board at Southern Cross University

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Professor Mary Spongberg

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Academic Capability) at Southern Cross University

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Ben Roche

Vice President (Engagement), Southern Cross University

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Ashleigh Camm

Strategist, Consultant & Facilitator, Sourdough Business Pathways

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Speakers



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Impact Forum:

Circular Economy

17th May 9am – 5pm

Southern Cross University, Northern Rivers Campus

Time	Location	Session	Speakers
9:00am - 9:30am	Whitebrook Theatre	Arrival, tea & coffee	
9:30am - 10:00am	Whitebrook Theatre	Opening	<p>Facilitator welcome Carmen Stewart (5 min)</p> <p>Elders Welcome to Country – Uncle Herb Roberts (5 min)</p> <p>Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Academic Capability) Address Professor Mary Spongberg (5min)</p> <p>MP Address Janelle Saffin MP (5 min)</p> <p>Facilitator Address Carmen Stewart (10 mins)</p>
10:00am - 10:40am	Whitebrook Theatre	Keynote Presentation: Why the Circular Economy is an Economic, Social and Environmental Imperative for every Country	<p>Moderator</p> <p>Carmen Stewart – Manager at FutureScapes Consultancy Services</p> <p>Speaker</p> <p>Professor Linda Godfrey – Manager, Science Technology and Innovation for a Circular Economy Unit – Department of Science and Innovation (South Africa); Principal Scientist, Circular Economy – CSIR; Extraordinary Professor – North-West University</p>
Morning tea (10.45 - 11.00 am)			
11:00am - 11:40am	Whitebrook Theatre	National and NSW State of Circularity 2023	<p>Moderator</p> <p>Ben Roche – Vice President (Engagement), Southern Cross University</p> <p>Speakers</p> <p>Kathy Giunta – Director, Circular Economy Programs at NSW EPA</p> <p>Lisa McLean – CEO at Circular Australia</p> <p>Yas Grigaliunas – Founder & Chief Evangelist at Circomomy</p>
11:40am - 12:20pm	Whitebrook Theatre	Designing for Circularity: The Role of Technology	<p>Moderator</p> <p>Professor Andrew Rose – Academic Director of the Recirculator Program and Chair of Academic Board at Southern Cross University</p> <p>Speakers</p> <p>Luke McConell – Managing Director at Revolve Your World</p> <p>Shane Ramsey – Director at Centre for Regenerative Design & Collaboration (CRDC)</p> <p>Craig Bagnall – Director at Environment and Regulatory at SEATA</p> <p>Russ Martin – CEO at Global Product Stewardship Council, Director of MS2</p> <p>Dr Helen Lewis – Adjunct Professor, Institute Sustainable Futures</p>
12:20pm - 12:25pm	Whitebrook Theatre	Reflection	<p>Professor Linda Godfrey – Manager, Science Technology and Innovation for a Circular Economy Unit – Department of Science and Innovation (South Africa); Principal Scientist, Circular Economy – CSIR; Extraordinary Professor – North-West University</p>

Lunch (12:25pm – 1:00pm)



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Time	Location	Session	Speakers
1:00pm - 1:40pm	Whitebrook Theatre	Creating a Local Circular Economy: Barriers & Solutions	<p>Moderator Professor Mary Spongberg – Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Academic Capability) at Southern Cross University</p> <p>Speakers Kevin Trustum – Manager of Commercial Services (Waste Strategy) at Lismore City Council Kim Potter – Economic Development Manager, Regional Development and Programs at Department of Regional NSW Connor Clarke – Founder at Plastics Pirate Professor Linda Godfrey – Manager, Science Technology and Innovation for a Circular Economy Unit – Department of Science and Innovation (South Africa); Principal Scientist, Circular Economy – CSIR; Extraordinary Professor – North-West University</p>
1:40pm - 2:35pm	Y block classrooms	Breakout Session Option 1: Navigating Circular Economy Policy, Legislation and Funding and What's on the Horizon	<p>Moderator Kim Potter – Economic Development Manager, Regional Development and Programs at Department of Regional NSW</p> <p>Speakers Kathy Giunta – Director, Circular Economy Programs at NSW EPA Kevin Trustum - Manager of Commercial Services (Waste Strategy) at Lismore City Council</p>
1:40pm - 2:35pm	Y block (Adjacent classroom)	Breakout Session Option 2: The Innovate Series: The Business of Waste – Presented by Sourdough Business Pathways	<p>Moderator Ashleigh Camm – Strategist, Consultant & Facilitator, Sourdough Business Pathways</p> <p>Speakers Dr Owen Hogan – Lecturer and Course Coordinator , Faculty of Business, Law and Arts at Southern Cross University Yas Grigaliunas – Founder & Chief Evangelist at Circonomy</p>
2:35pm – 2:40pm	Y Block Classrooms	Instructions for Acceleration - World Café Style Session	<p>Carmen Stewart – Manager at FutureScapes Consultancy Services Ashleigh Camm – Strategist, Consultant & Facilitator, Sourdough Business Pathways</p>
Afternoon Tea (2:40pm – 2:50pm)			
2:50pm – 3:55pm	Y Block Classrooms	Acceleration - World Café Style Session	
3:55pm - 4:15pm	Whitebrook Theatre	Closing Session	<p>Carmen Stewart – Manager at FutureScapes Consultancy Services Professor Linda Godfrey – Manager, Science Technology and Innovation for a Circular Economy Unit – Department of Science and Innovation (South Africa); Principal Scientist, Circular Economy – CSIR; Extraordinary Professor – North-West University</p>

Networking Drinks, presented by Business NSW
4:15pm – 5:00pm





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Professor Linda Godfrey

South Africa

Professor Linda Godfrey is a Principal Scientist at the CSIR and Extraordinary Professor at North-West University, South Africa, and holds a PhD in Engineering. With over 20-years of sector experience, she manages the Science, Technology and Innovation for a Circular Economy (STI4CE) and the Waste Research Development and Innovation Roadmap Implementation Units on behalf of Government. She has provided strategic input to a number of local, regional and international waste and circular economy initiatives for the United Nations, European Union, World Bank, South African Government, Academy of Sciences, International Solid Waste Association, universities and businesses. She lectures internationally on solid waste management in developing countries, including the social, economic and environmental opportunities of “waste” within a circular economy context. She has published extensively in the field.

Carmen Stewart

FutureScapes Consultancy Services

Carmen has a Masters in Applied Science (Social Ecology). She has worked in the community and government sectors for the past 23 years. Her work has focused on strategic and organisational planning, community engagement and consultation, workshop facilitation, project management, social research, staff training, supervision and mentoring.

Carmen's key passion is designing projects that enable communities to explore better futures and to grow cultures of generosity. She has designed and managed the Making Places project since 1997. This award winning futures education initiative works with communities to develop meaningful visions and roadmaps to safer, healthier and more sustainable futures.

Since 2014, Carmen has been working on Thrive Towns - an initiative to inspire and activate thriving in regional communities. Check out Thrive2484 - www.thrive2484.com - to get a feel for how this initiative is helping communities to make good stuff happen.

Kathy Giunta

NSW EPA

Kathy Giunta brings more than 25 years of experience in the environment sector, spanning positions in not-for-profits, regional and state government. Kathy is a respected leader and accomplished practitioner across policy, programs and strategy. Kathy is currently Director Circular Economy Programs with the NSW Environment Protection Authority overseeing programs including: Love Food Hate Waste; FOGO grants and education campaign – Scrap Together; Community recycling centres network & household chemical cleanout events; Circular Solar reuse and recycling program for panels and batteries; a range of infrastructure grants; Bin Trim program and rebates for small business and Litter Prevention program including the Don't be a Tosser campaign, Report a Tosser app, grants & resources.

Lisa McLean

CEO at Circular Australia

Lisa McLean is a circular economy and zero-carbon business transformation leader and CEO of Circular Australia, a national independent NFP leading the transition to a zero-carbon circular economy in Australia. She has been successfully advising industry and governments in developing new policy frameworks and regulations that bring about market change to enable the circular zero-carbon economy over the past 20 years. This work has covered the supply chains, infrastructure, energy, water, waste and mobility sectors in the UK and Australia.



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Yas Grigaliunas

Circonomy

Yas is a visionary speaker and circular economy leader who has spearheaded the growth of Circonomy (formerly known as World's Biggest Garage Sale) into a groundbreaking business model that has garnered significant recognition and investment. Circonomy's success is a testament to the transformative power of circularity and the ability to create a sustainable and profitable business in the process. One notable milestone in Circonomy's journey is the strategic investment made by Officeworks, a leading retailer, which serves as a testament to the scale and sustainability of the business model that Yas has pioneered.

Yas's expertise in leveraging partnerships and mobilising communities has been instrumental in Circonomy's growth. She can provide invaluable insights into how businesses can embrace the circular economy, establish collaborative networks, and attract investment to scale their operations. She encourages leaders to think beyond traditional linear business models and embrace the circular economy as a powerful solution to create a more sustainable future.

Luke McConell

Revolve Your World Pty Ltd

Revolve Your World began in large scale music event waste management where Luke designed and managed a zero waste to landfill concept for up to 35,000 people. Drawing parallels with communities and events, Luke began designing systems for communities, with a focus on building resilient, circular economy based systems with triple bottom line outcomes.

Kevin Trustum

Lismore City Council

Kevin is an experienced Business Manager in the Government sector, with an educational background in Waste Management. He currently manages Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Strategy for Lismore City Council as well as Lismore Regional Airport, Lismore Memorial Gardens, Crematorium and Cemeteries.

Shane Ramsey

CRDC Australia (Center for Regenerative Design & Collaboration)

With 27 years of experience, Shane's areas of expertise include construction, project leadership, training and relationship development, and was a private contractor to some of the world's largest tier one building organisations. Shane is passionate about spending time in the natural environment with those he loves including surfing with his family.

Profiles



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Craig Bagnall

SEATA Group

Craig is an environmental engineer with over 25 years in mining, industrial and solid waste management. He coordinates environmental approvals for advanced thermal technology developer SEATA Group based in NSW and assists market developer for carbon commodities and credits. Craig is a strong advocate for the synergies between circular economy, sustainability and critical action on climate change via both emissions reduction and CO2 removal (CDR) through biochar. Craig is a member of the Technical Advisory Board and Executive Board of the Australian and New Zealand Biochar Industry Group (ANZBIG) where he has assisted development of the national industry Code of Practice and is currently helping to finalise the Australian Biochar Industry 2030 roadmap to be launched in Canberra June 2023. He recently lead a consortium which prepared a market opportunity assessment for biosolids-derived biochar for the Victorian wastewater utility to assist circular economy and emissions reduction within the sector. He has two young children who regularly provide him with the inspiration to act rapidly on climate change.

Kim Potter

Department of Regional NSW

Working at the nexus of business and sustainability, Kim is driven to support new business models that integrate circular systems, and the purposeful growth of business, and leading capacity building across industry and the business community.

With a background in marketing, and diverse industry experience, Kim has worked extensively with local and state government to develop sustainable strategies and business-centered programs.

Kim has an extensive track record of delivering successful projects for business and industry, most recently, leading capacity building through the introduction of the circular economy across local government and industry. The Leaders Launch of Circulate Northern Rivers was attended by sixty of the regions leaders, including Local Council GM's, leading business CEO's and other government and industry professionals.

Her entrepreneurial approach to project design and delivery, saw Kim create the successful Circular Cafes project. This project supported 100 businesses to create a new benchmark for doing business whilst taking an industry approach to driving the circular economy in the Northern Rivers.

Professor Helen Lewis

Institute Sustainable Futures

Helen Lewis provides research and strategic advice to a range of industry and government clients on product stewardship and packaging sustainability. She has been actively engaged in sustainability and product stewardship for over 25 years, with various positions including as a consultant to the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation, CEO of the Australian Battery Recycling Initiative and Director of the Centre for Design at RMIT University. Helen recently collaborated with NSW Circular and ISF to investigate metrics for a circular economy in NSW. She is co-founder and facilitator of Circular Plastics Illawarra, which was established in late 2022 to inspire and accelerate progress towards a circular economy for plastics in the region through education, advocacy, and collaborative projects.

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Connor Clarke

Plastics Pirate

Connor is a qualified mariner with a strong background in paramedicine, remote and acute nursing and a passion to find solutions to solve complex problems. Connor established Plastics Pirate as a for-purpose business in 2020 and it is the culmination of a life's journey to return to remote coastal communities with safe water access and holistic health solutions.

Connor and his dedicated crew of Plastics Pirates believe that plastic is fantastic and that the problem isn't actually plastic, it is our mismanagement of post-consumer plastics. The way to change this is by proving it has a value. And each different application holds a different value for mankind's most used material. Focused on proving 'Industry Specific Circular Economies' are more than just possible, but rather the most likely way out of the chaos our mismanagement of plastics has caused.

The Pirate crew is commercialising South African Pyrolysis Technology, which, as mobile and scalable units, have the ability to transform up to 800kgs/ day of post-consumer plastics into almost the same volume of usable fuels, on-site. Fuel types ranging from diesel to Naphtha, depending on the feedstock and application. Taking the solution to the problem solves the geographical challenges which typical pyrolysis technology faces in Australia. Plastics Pirate will use the value created by the rollout of multiple small scale, Australian manufactured units to fund their philanthropic goals to trade marine debris collected by remote communities, for safe water access and health solutions.

Russ Martin

Director of consultancy MS2

Russ Martin has over 30 years' experience in product stewardship, circular economy, public policy, bioenergy and sustainability, both in government and as an advisor to industry and governments. These roles have been in the US, Australia, New Zealand and Middle East. Primary responsibilities include serving as CEO of the not-for profit Global Product Stewardship Council, Director of consultancy MS2 and Founder of the International Stewardship Forum Series, including the Sydney Forum 2018 and Paris Forum 2019. Russ was awarded the Global Green Future Leadership Award by the World CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Congress. MS2 is an Australian sustainability consultancy with expertise in product stewardship, circular economy, bioenergy, regulatory affairs, strategy, facilitation and communications.

Dr Owen Hogan

Business and Creative Arts - Southern Cross University

Following a long career as a professional musician, composer and entertainer, and a period working for the Australian and UK governments, Owen now lectures in business and creative arts at Southern Cross University. Owen teaches and consults in areas of entrepreneurship, service innovation, strategy, and design thinking. Owen has published research in fields such as entrepreneurship, strategic management, higher education policy and small business innovation. Owen has also founded two successful creative industries businesses.

Professor Andrew Rose

Recirculator Program & Academic Board at Southern Cross University

Andrew is a career academic with a lifelong passion for science and the environment who continues to balance hands-on teaching and ongoing research projects with governance duties such as chairing Southern Cross University's Academic Board. Andrew has been instrumental in setting up the ReCirculator, and now serves as the program's Academic Director.



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Professor Mary Spongberg

Research and Academic Capability - Southern Cross University

Professor Mary Spongberg as the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Academic Capability) since 2019, has strategic responsibility for all research functions, including government and industry partnerships and research training. She is directly responsible for the Office of Research, the Graduate School, Research Institutes and the Environmental Analysis Laboratory (a commercial research enterprise). She has recently overseen a transformation in the Southern Cross University research landscape, with the establishment of four new Research Impact Clusters (Catchments, Coasts and Communities; From Harvest to Health; Reefs and Oceans; Zero Waste) relevant to the work of the Living Lab. Prior to coming to Southern Cross University, she held the position of Dean of Arts and Science at the University of Technology Sydney, where she developed the HASS/STEM research strategy and established the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges, the Centre for Climate Justice and the History Lab.

Ben Roche

Vice President - Engagement

Ben Roche is the Vice President (Engagement) at Southern Cross University. He has executive responsibility to align Southern Cross Universities' strengths and ambitions for impact with the needs of the people and enterprises in our campus regions.

Ben leads the delivery of the 'Engaged University Impact Framework'; cultivating engaged researchers, students and communities through partnerships designed, led and executed to deliver impact and mutual benefit to all stakeholders.

Ben was drawn to Southern Cross University because of its focus on delivering a sustainable engagement model, aligning the ambitions of students, researchers, alumni, enterprise and the community and ensuring these are reflected in the university's strategic priorities.

As a human geographer, Ben is passionate about participatory approaches to sustainable development and the role that education and engagement can play in creating resilience, capacity and well-being in communities. He has taught, researched and practised in the areas of community-based learning, participatory planning, sustainable development and community engagement. Ben also provides advice to various organisations and governments on strategic approaches to education, engagement and development.

Ben's contribution to community engagement in higher education, specifically service learning in built environment disciplines, has been recognised through a national Carrick Citation. He also received the Edith Cowan Authentic Learning Award from the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia. In 2019, Ben received the Australian Financial Review Higher Education Award for Best Industry Engagement and the Business Higher Education Roundtable Award for Excellence in Community Engagement for the national pilot program, Farming Together. Ben is the Immediate Past President of Engagement Australia.

Ashleigh Camm

Sourdough Business Pathway

Ashleigh is a Facilitator at Sourdough Business Pathways. She was previously Sourdough's Expert in Residence and facilitated the Sourdough Pre-Accelerator Program and the StartUp Northern Rivers initiative. Ashleigh's career has spanned more than 15 years across strategy, investment banking, investor relations, governance, sustainability and working with startups, both in Australia and the UK. Today Ashleigh supports purposeful entrepreneurs, intrapreneurs and organisations to do more sustainable business aligned with co-creating a thriving world for all.



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