

The ACMA welcomes four new members

On 14 October, the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator Stephen Conroy, announced the reappointment of Chris Chapman as the Chair of the ACMA and the appointment of a new Deputy Chair, Richard Bean.

Senator Conroy also announced the appointment of three new part-time members, industry experts Louise Benjamin, Reg Coutts and Hugh Marks.

'I am pleased to announce the reappointment of Mr Chris Chapman as the Chair of the ACMA. Mr Chapman has chaired the ACMA since 27 February 2006 and is well regarded for his leadership. Under his continuing leadership, the ACMA will be well placed to support the transition to the emerging digital economy,' said Senator Conroy.

'I am also pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Richard Bean as ACMA's new Deputy Chair. He will bring valuable legal experience in both the telecommunications and broadcasting industries.

'I would like to thank Mr Chris Cheah for his contributions while acting as the Deputy Chair for the past 18 months.'

Mr Bean joins the ACMA from Unwired, where he was General Counsel and Company Secretary from 2003 to 2010. He also worked at Network Ten from 1996 to 2003 as Networks Business Manager.

The three new part-time members also bring with them valuable and diverse experience. Miss Benjamin, former Deputy Chair of the Australian Publishers' Bureau, joins the ACMA board with extensive experience in the broadcasting sector. Professor Coutts has a strong background in telecommunications policy and regulatory practice and is the current Chair of the Telecommunications Society of Australia. Mr Marks, meanwhile, brings sound knowledge of online and new media and has valuable broadcasting experience, including as Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Star Group.

'The new appointments will complement and balance the skill and experience of the Authority members and ensure that collectively the Authority is well placed for the road ahead,' said Senator Conroy. 📡



Hugh Marks



Professor Reg Coutts



Louise Benjamin



Richard Bean