

2018 Bob McDonald Award citation

Philomena Leung

PhD RMIT, MAcc Glasgow, HDip(Acc) HKPU

PFIIA FCCA FCPA

Philomena Leung is an exceptional member of the Institute of Internal Auditors – Australia. She has provided outstanding service to the IIA-Australia, particularly through her dedication to and leadership of the Graduate Certificate in Internal Auditing (GradCertIA); to the contribution made to the theory of internal audit; and her contribution at the international level for the internal audit profession.

She has a record of sustained high achievement and leadership in the field of internal audit, particularly since 2011 as Chair, Education Committee (2011-2014; 2017-2018) and member of the Committee (2014-2017; 2018 to date). Prior to accepting the Chair position, Philomena was a generous adviser in the development of the GradCertIA and was a strong supporter of its innovative method of delivery (totally online). Philomena is always generous with her time, providing guidance to the Education Committee, contributing to Board planning days, providing insights to professional development through continuing education, sharing learnings from her research and academic practice.

She actively maintains the highest professional standards of the internal audit profession and contributes to its growth through her longstanding relationship with the IIA-Australia, working to have internal audit recognised as a fundamental support for good corporate governance. She is a passionate advocate for the internal audit profession. She supports others in choosing and succeeding in academic careers with internal auditing being a highly regarded research/interest area. Her other research interests are in Auditing, Ethics and Corporate Governance. She was one of the few academics in the 1990s to implement compulsory accounting ethics education in Hong Kong and in Australia. Philomena has published extensively in academic journals, in the areas of auditing, ethics, governance, and accounting education, and has led major international research projects in ethics and internal auditing.

Philomena is Associate Dean, International, Faculty of Business and Economics & Professor of Accounting & Finance, Department of Accounting and Corporate Governance, Macquarie University. Her academic career commenced in 1976 and she has held senior academic roles in Hong Kong, Melbourne and Sydney. Prior to joining academia she was an auditor with one of the international audit firms in Hong Kong.

She has been a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors in Australia since 10 October 2001. She has provided distinguished service to the profession at the international level through her involvement in research, such as, the publication *Role of Internal Auditing in Corporate Governance and Management in Australia*, partially funded through a research grant from The Institute of Internal Auditors Inc; and in 2008 *Internal auditing: Common Body of Knowledge* a research book summarising the global study on the Common Body of Knowledge for Internal Audit, as one of the two researchers representing Australasia and Asia.

The Bob McDonald Award is the highest honour that can be conferred by the IIA-Australia on one of its members and in the opinion of the Institute of Internal Auditors – Australia Board, Philomena Leung is a most worthy recipient.

