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EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP PROFILE

2026

Katrina Teisini

GOVERNANCE · INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS · INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION

An international education executive who strengthens institutions through governance, quality and the disciplined translation of strategy into measurable outcomes, across Australia, the Pacific, Southeast Asia and the United Arab Emirates.

EXPERIENCE

25+ years

REACH

Four regions, global delivery

FOCUS

Higher education and workforce capability

Building institutions that can grow with confidence

Twenty-five years leading governance, quality and transformation across higher education, vocational education, workforce development and education technology.

Katrina Teisini is an international education executive whose work centres on strengthening institutions: building the governance, quality systems and regulatory foundations that allow organisations to grow with confidence and operate with integrity.

She has led complex initiatives across Australia, the Pacific, Southeast Asia and the United Arab Emirates, working with governments, regulators, higher education providers, industry bodies and global partners. Her approach treats compliance as the floor rather than the ceiling, and institutional self-assurance as the system that turns strategy into evidence and outcomes. The consistent thread is institutional effectiveness: clear accountability, sound quality systems, and decisions that hold up to external scrutiny.

From 1 July 2026 she will serve as **Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Governance** for CG Spectrum and CG Spectrum Institute, a TEQSA-registered higher education provider operating internationally. Her focus is to build institutions that are accountable, capable and ready for the future, adopting artificial intelligence and digital capability responsibly without compromising governance or educational quality.

"Compliance establishes the floor. Institutional self-assurance is the system that holds quality in place. Outcomes are the test of whether it works."

LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY



AT A GLANCE

CURRENT APPOINTMENT

Head of Projects and Implementation

CG Spectrum Institute

FROM JULY 2026

Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Governance

CG Spectrum & CG Spectrum Institute

REGIONS OF INFLUENCE

Australia · Pacific · Southeast Asia ·
United Arab Emirates

AREAS OF FOCUS

Governance · Institutional effectiveness
· Quality assurance · Regulatory
compliance · Transformation

BASED IN

United Arab Emirates

Measured by outcomes, not job titles

Five outcomes that recur across roles, sectors and regions. Each is supported by work delivered to regulatory, government or board standards.

OUTCOME 01

Strengthened governance and institutional effectiveness

Established governance frameworks, codes of practice, policy architecture and quality systems for a higher education provider operating internationally, supporting sustainable growth and regulatory standing.

CG Spectrum Institute · TEQSA-registered · delivery across 90 countries

OUTCOME 02

Influenced national education reform

Led the Pacific's first qualification of its kind under the Pacific Qualifications Framework, coordinating ministries, the regional regulator and employer partners to lift national teaching capability.

Kiribati · Certificate III in TVET Teaching · aligned to Workforce Development Strategy 2030

OUTCOME 03

Led transformation and quality at scale

Directed operational transformation, provider monitoring and quality assurance across a large international education network, while protecting data integrity and procurement probity.

1,700+ institutions · 100,000+ courses · 27 countries · team scaled from 11 to 56

OUTCOME 04

Built workforce and institutional capability

Directed national skills and workforce reform to government standards, and designed multi-year professional learning structures for large operational workforces in Australia and the UAE.

~AU\$45m national skills programs · 3,000+ staff learning blueprint · 15 accredited programs authored

OUTCOME 05

Supported international education providers with assurance and probity

Designed and ran procurement, onboarding and performance assurance for a global network of education providers, including selection criteria, due diligence and contracting, consistent with value-for-money and probity standards. Secured and delivered competitive tenders across government and industry.

1,700+ providers onboarded and quality-assured · \$22m in tenders won (earlier roles) · \$11m consultancy tenders including DFAT and local government

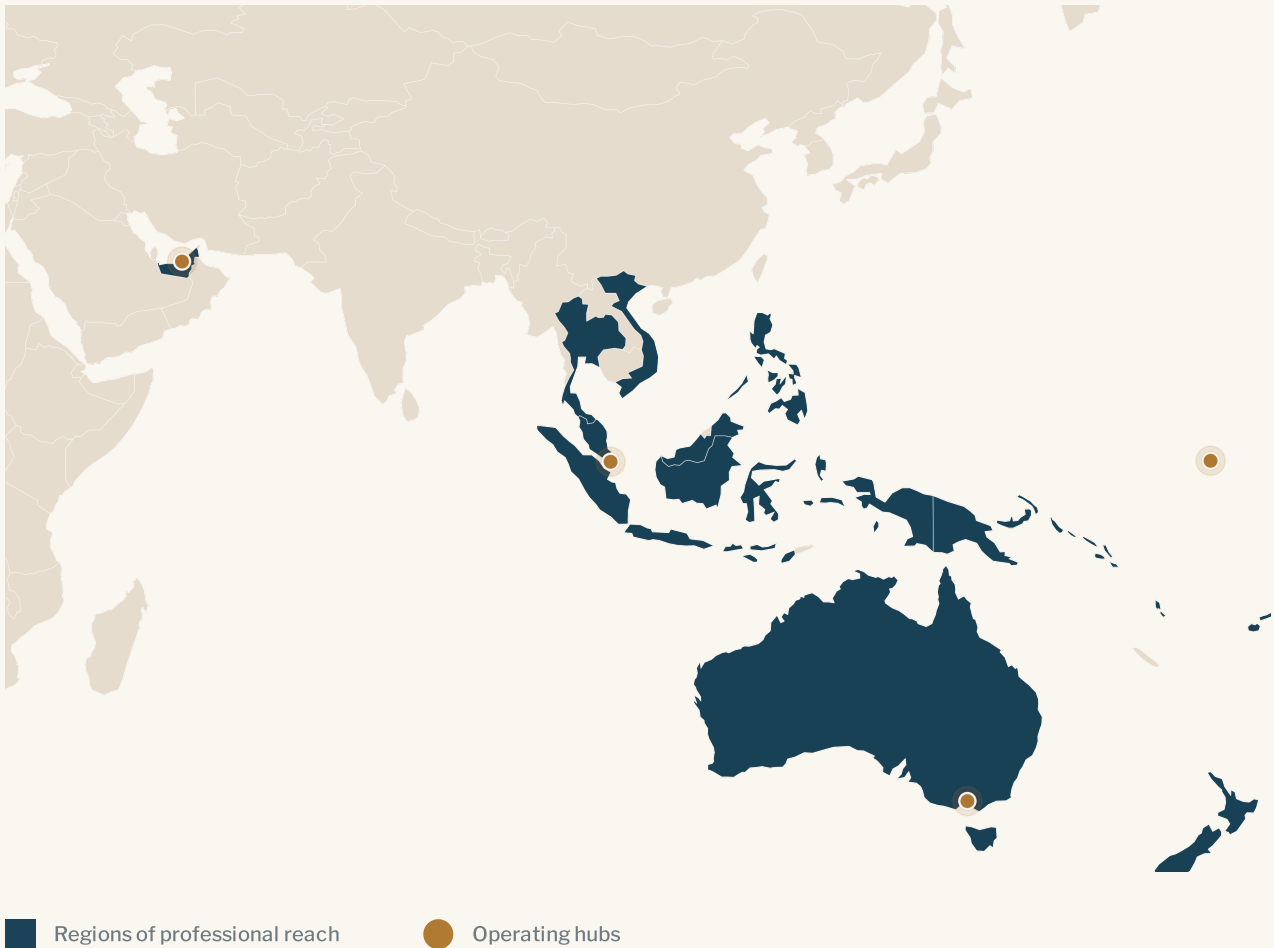
A career across four regions

From Australian vocational reform to Pacific qualification development, education technology across Southeast Asia, and higher education leadership from the United Arab Emirates.



Where the work has reached

Governments, regulators, higher education providers, industry and global delivery networks across the Indo-Pacific and the Gulf.



AUSTRALIA

National reform

Vocational and workforce reform, regulatory compliance and accredited program design across multiple states and government programs.

PACIFIC

Qualification systems

National teacher qualification development in Kiribati, coordinating ministries and the regional regulator under the Pacific Qualifications Framework.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Provider networks

Education technology, provider onboarding and quality assurance across a network spanning 27 countries.

UNITED ARAB

EMIRATES

Capability and higher education

Workforce learning design and higher education governance, based in the UAE with international delivery.

A model for institutional self-assurance

Governance and quality are not a constraint on ambition. Built well, they are the system that lets an institution change quickly and still be trusted.

PURPOSE

Student and stakeholder outcomes

Integrity, capability and trust. The measure that every layer below exists to serve.

DIRECTION

Innovation and transformation

Responsible adoption of artificial intelligence and digital capability, governed by the layers beneath it.

SYSTEM

Quality and institutional effectiveness

Evidence, monitoring and continuous improvement. Self-assurance that holds up to external review.

STRUCTURE

Governance and accountability

Clear decision rights, policy architecture, risk oversight and defined escalation.

FOUNDATION

Regulatory compliance

Meeting the higher education and sector standards in full. The floor, not the ceiling.

THE PRINCIPLE

Compliance is the floor. Assurance is the system.
Outcomes are the test.

Academic compliance sits inside institutional self-assurance, not beside it. When the foundations are sound, leaders can take considered risks, adopt new technology and pursue growth, because the institution can show, with evidence, that quality and integrity are being held in place.

This is the model Katrina applies in practice: design the system once, make accountability explicit, and let evidence rather than assertion carry the institution through regulatory review and change.

AI, digital transformation and the future of education in the UAE

A national agenda that places artificial intelligence at the centre of education, and a clear role for governance in making it durable.

The United Arab Emirates has made artificial intelligence a national priority. It was the first country to appoint a minister for AI, and the National AI Strategy 2031 sets out to embed AI across the economy, with education named as a core enabler.

From the 2025 to 2026 academic year, AI became a subject in public schools from kindergarten to Grade 12, taught through practical projects and a clear emphasis on ethics and responsible use rather than examinations. A generation is being taught not only to use AI, but to question it. That shift will reshape what students expect of universities and training providers within a few short years.

For higher education and workforce providers, this is both an opportunity and a test of governance. The institutions that earn trust will be those that adopt AI with the same discipline they apply to academic quality: clear policy on acceptable use and assessment integrity, data protection and privacy, transparency about how AI informs decisions, and human judgement kept firmly in the loop.

Katrina's position is straightforward. Innovation and assurance are not in tension. Responsible AI adoption depends on the governance foundations being in place first, so that providers can move quickly on capability while protecting integrity, regulatory standing and the interests of students. That is the contribution she brings to the UAE's education ambitions: helping providers turn a national agenda into well-governed, accountable practice.

THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

2031

National AI Strategy targeting AI as a major contributor to the non-oil economy.

KG-12

AI a subject across public schools from the 2025 to 2026 year, project-based and ethics-led.

~20%

Targeted share of non-oil GDP attributed to AI by 2031.

First

Nation to appoint a dedicated minister for artificial intelligence.

ASSESSMENT INTEGRITY

Policy and design that keep evidence of learning credible as AI becomes routine in students' work.

DATA AND PRIVACY

Procurement and governance that meet privacy obligations and keep institutional data safe.

HUMAN JUDGEMENT

AI that informs academic and operational decisions, with accountable people remaining responsible for them.

Evidence of impact

Three mandates that show the pattern: a clear problem, a system built to address it, and an outcome that held.

PACIFIC · NATIONAL REFORM

The Pacific's first PQF-aligned teacher qualification

Kiribati Skills for Employment Program
Palladium / Scope Global

CONTEXT

Kiribati needed a nationally recognised vocational teaching qualification, with no existing model under the Pacific Qualifications Framework to follow.

APPROACH

Designed the curriculum, assessment mapping, bilingual delivery and validation, and coordinated ministries, the institute and the regional regulator.

OUTCOME

A first-of-its-kind national qualification with the governance, quality assurance and approval documentation to support it, aligned to the Kiribati Workforce Development Strategy 2030.

SOUTHEAST ASIA · TRANSFORMATION

Quality and probity across a global provider network

Adventus.io
Education technology

CONTEXT

A fast-scaling education technology business needed quality assurance and probity to keep pace with rapid growth across many markets.

APPROACH

Built provider onboarding, selection criteria, due diligence and performance monitoring, with risk registers and reporting, while scaling the team from 11 to 56.

OUTCOME

A network of more than 1,700 institutions and 100,000 courses across 27 countries managed to consistent quality, with data integrity and value-for-money standards protected through growth.

AUSTRALIA · CAPABILITY

National skills and workforce reform

ForestWorks
Jobs and Skills Council

CONTEXT

Multi-industry workforce and skills initiatives required coordination and compliance under the Australian Government's Jobs and Skills Council framework.

APPROACH

Directed provider coordination, stakeholder consultation and compliance to departmental standards, with KPI reporting, risk identification and continuous improvement.

OUTCOME

Approximately AU\$45m in national training and reform initiatives delivered to government standards, with performance and probity maintained throughout.

Standing and recognition

References available on request.

EDUCATION

Master of Education, Leadership and Administration

Deakin University

Master of Applied Data Analytics, partially completed

University of Melbourne

Postgraduate Certificate in TESOL

University of the South Pacific, Fiji

Bachelor of Education

Deakin University

Diploma of Teaching, Primary

Australian Catholic University

CREDENTIALS & RECOGNITION

Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAE)

SAI Global Management Systems Auditing

Certified in business management, leadership, and training and assessment

Industry Collaboration Award, Service Skills Australia

2014

Telstra Victorian Microbusiness Award, 2017 · National Workforce Development Awards finalist, 2016

Committee Member, Gender Advisory Services Board, Monash Hospital

2021 to 2024

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