

auDA 2026 Elected Director Ballot – Candidate Information

Name	Thu-Trang Tran	
State	VIC	
Candidate statement	<p>A commercial lawyer by training, I have since combined my business acumen, governance & executive leadership, and social justice values to deliver sustained impact. Having actively engaged industry stakeholders and members at ICANN, auIGF, Registrar Summit and member events in my first board term, one important area of impact I am passionate about is stewarding auDA to deliver outcomes for the generation after me.</p> <p>As a seasoned & award-winning public policy leader in market facilitation and reforms across many sectors (eg. fair-trading, telecommunications, building, liquor, charities), I am deft at balancing multiple perspectives to deliver pragmatic solutions that sees industry thrive and ensure consumer wellbeing. I see active members as vital to achieving this. Given the good work to date to grow broader sections of members, and uplift capability in DNS and internet governance, the next step is to build up active decision-makers of youth cohorts (18-35yo) in our ecosystem as they are the future stewards and drivers of the internet and digital infrastructure auDA administers (eg. board observer-ships to grow board-ready candidates).</p> <p>My three decades of experience map to auDA's remit: technology, social enterprise, industry steward, and public benefit. I have marshalled these, from my Sun Microsystem days to my current Board role at the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman, to serve on auDA's Public Benefit, and Governance & Culture committees. I remain motivated by auDA's vision of a free and open internet, and to serve with fairness and integrity.</p>	
Board experience	<p>auDA Non-Executive Director, 2023 – present</p> <p>Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman Board Director, 2024 – present</p>	



	<p>Language Loop – Victorian Interpreting and Translating Service – Board Director, 2024 – present (Australia’s premier language service provider of over 160 languages)</p> <p>WynActive (Western Leisure Centres) Non-Executive Director, 2026 – present</p> <p>Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand (GSANZ) Board Director, 2021 – present; Good Shepherd Housing Limited (GSHL) Founding Director, 2026 – present (GSANZ tackles issues impacting women, girls, and families; GSHL provides, develops and delivers social housing)</p> <p>Scanlon Foundation Research Institute Ethics Committee 2026 – present</p> <p>Victorian Liquor Commission Commissioner – Sessional, 2022 – 2026</p> <p>Victorian Building Authority Commissioner & Board Member, 2021 – 2024</p> <p>Victorian Multicultural Commission Regional Advisory Council Member, 2019 – 2021</p> <p>Institute for Human Security and Social Change, La Trobe University Advisory Board Member, 2014 – 2015</p>
Career summary	<p>Thu-Trang started her technology career at Sun Microsystems, and continued into commercial and technology law at Gilbert + Tobin Lawyers, with a secondment to Vodafone.</p> <p>She then moved into public policy reforms, leading the crafting of the ‘best of breed’ inaugural Australian Consumer Law, a once-in-a-generation reform in trade practices and consumer policy.</p> <p>Thu-Trang’s public sector leadership continued in market reforms and public policy development to a diverse number of sectors over</p>



	<p>the past two decades, in Commissioner and senior management roles: charities, residential tenancies, building & plumbing, liquor. Her relevant achievements include setting up the first consumer policy research centre in Australia, and designing and implementing a board recruitment process that explicitly addressed unconscious and implicit bias.</p> <p>Thu-Trang's social impact career includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- CEO roles in peak advocacy and membership bodies (volunteerism & social support infrastructure)- founding a social enterprise in Vietnam addressing local issues (eg. water safety, women's empowerment) that received widespread support and praise from governments (Australian, Vietnam, Thailand) and tourism businesses (Sheraton), and surf life-saving organisations (Australia and ASEAN)- founding an intercultural youth leadership organisation that ran programs & forums for two decades at UNSW and high-schools in Sydney, and- recently awarded and inducted into the Victorian Multicultural Honour Roll for her significant contribution to multiculturalism, refugee advocacy & inclusion.
Academic qualifications	<p>Company Directors Course - GAICD 2025</p> <p>Social Enterprise Fundamentals 2021, Swinburne University</p> <p>McKinsey's Leadership Capability Programs 2020</p> <p>Collaboration in the Public Sector Executive Workshop 2010, Australian and New Zealand School of Government</p> <p>Economics of Regulation 2010, Monash University</p> <p>Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice 2004 College of Law, Sydney</p> <p>Master of Laws 2007</p> <p>B. Laws and B. Commerce (Information Systems) 2003 UNSW, Sydney</p>
Appointments, awards, other	<p>Victorian Multicultural Honour Roll Award of Excellence 2026</p> <p>ABC Education & Vietnamese Museum Australia - Storyteller for "Journeys of Hope from Vietnam" iView series 2025 - 2026</p>



	<p>Ministerial Taskforce for Victorian Volunteering Strategy - Member 2021 – 2022</p> <p>Author, <i>Pirate Kim – Let's Go Swim</i>, Children's bilingual book series (English, Thai, Vietnamese) 2019 – 2020</p> <p>Footscray Community Legal Centre (now WEstjustice); Marrickville Community Legal Centre - Pro-bono Solicitor 2008 – 2013; 2003 – 2007</p> <p>Founder, Mosaic Fusion Forums 1999 – 2007, Sydney</p>
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