

Biographies of nominees for election to the UAC board of directors

The following people have offered themselves for election or re-election as UAC board members. Each has supplied a brief biography.

** Denotes sitting board member seeking re-election. Positions on the ballot paper were determined by an independent draw.*



Kurt Nilsen*

Kurt Nilsen is Managing Director of Lion Underwriting, an independently owned and managed agency, established in March 2015.

Kurt began his insurance career in 1994, working for Mutual & Federal, in South Africa. He worked his way up the ladder, starting in riot insurance, domestic and then commercial. He was one of the company's youngest BDMs.

After moving to Australia in 2001, he established Australian Professional Underwriting Agencies and became a Lloyd's coverholder. Kurt was first elected to UAC's board at the December 2013 annual general meeting.

Kurt holds a Diploma of Financial Services and is an ANZIIF Senior Associate.



Jeanene Hill*

Jeanene Hill has more than 30 years' experience in the industry, having worked in various positions in underwriting and broking. Her career has included roles with Willis, Munich Re, Berkley Re and Talbot.

Jeanene is Head of Coverholder and Delegated Authority, Asia Pacific, for Canopus Australia, where she has overall responsibility for underwriting and managing Australia-Pacific coverholders.

Jeanene is a trained mentor, a founding member of Women in Reinsurance, a group established to inspire and support women in the reinsurance industry, and an ANZIIF Fellow.



Mike Edmonds

Mike Edmonds is Executive General Manager – National Transport Insurance (NTI).

He has decades of executive leadership experience in the insurance industry in Australia and New Zealand. He joined NTI in 2001 and now leads the commercial arm of the business which has GWP of more than \$0.5bn via brokers and authorised representatives.

Mike holds an MBA and is a Fellow of ANZIIF and the Institute of Managers & Leaders. He sits on the Australian Trucking Association and the Australian Logistics Council. Mike is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Responsible Officer for NTI.

Outside work, his passions are family, golf and rugby.

In nominating for the UAC Board, Mike believes his skills would complement the role:

- A strong understanding of specialisation and the benefit underwriting agencies provide to the commercial marketplace and their customers.
- A promoter of the critical role the industry plays in today's economy and community.
- A successful advocate in enticing talent into the industry, while ensuring ongoing development of people within a culture that inspires them to thrive and succeed.
- Experience in dealing with regulators and government at all levels, having held senior positions as an industry advocate as well as his current work in and with industry bodies.
- Knowledge of member-based organisations and the importance of working collegiately across a network.
- Independent, fair, approachable – combined with an understanding of board governance and risk management.



Ani Kakulapati

Ani Kakulapati joined CHU in 2008 as a data entry officer in the claims department of its Melbourne office.

He is now CHU's Head of Customer Service and State Manager for Qld and the NT.

Ani has held several roles with CHU and was previously Chief Disruptor, where he led the company's futureproof strategy. The role included P&L responsibility for Flex Insurance, where he racked up several impressive achievements.

Under his leadership, Flex Insurance has exceeded its budgets for two consecutive years and offers a very flexible product in the strata market. In 2017, when he took over the role, Flex was a \$280k business with just over 100 policies. It is now a \$19m+ company with almost 5,000 policies.

Ani was included in the 2017 Insurance Business magazine's young guns list and was nominated for the Council of Queensland Insurance Brokers (CQIB) Mick Lambert Baker Award, presented to a staff member of a CQIB business partner for "service above and beyond". Ani aspires to be a non-traditional insurance leader for a non-traditional time in insurance.



Eric Lowenstein*

Eric Lowenstein is the founder and CEO of Tego, a leading specialist healthcare underwriting agency offering medical and malpractice indemnity solutions for the healthcare sector. In the last five years, Tego has grown to more than 5,000 clients. The agency's nimble approach and specialist expertise enables it to offer enhanced solutions to help brokers and clients navigate emerging healthcare risks.

Eric's qualifications include a bachelor's degree in business and law, a master's degree from UNSW in law and management and an MBA from AGSM. Before founding Tego, Eric's career spanned both insurance and legal services. Eric is actively involved in several community organisations and serves as a board member of the Wolper Hospital and UAC.



Anthony Porter*

Anthony Porter is National Business Development Manager for AFA Insurance. During 27 years with AFA, he has had various roles from insurance clerk through to claims, underwriting and marketing.

Anthony was educated at Marist Brothers North Sydney. He holds a Diploma of Financial Services (Insurance Broking), has completed the updated General Insurance Code of Practice, is an ANZIIF Senior Associate, and has a Certificate in Medical Terminology from Royal Sydney Hospital.

Outside work, Anthony's passions are his family and friends, golf, wine appreciation, playing guitar and the Manly Sea Eagles.