

IRL Board

Michael Ahie

BBS (Hons), MInstD



Michael Ahie is a business owner and company director based in Wellington. He is a founding partner of business coaching company Shirlaws New Zealand Ltd. He is currently a director of The Bio Commerce Centre Ltd (a business incubation company), Manawatu Investment Group Ltd (an angel investment fund) and Clearwater Ltd (a privately owned consulting company). He completed the Executive Development Programme at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and received a First Class Honours degree from Massey University. Michael brings to IRL broad international business and governance experience with multinational companies in sales, marketing, global strategy and business unit management. This included senior roles with Toyota New Zealand Ltd, the New Zealand Dairy Board and Wrightson Ltd. He understands the dynamics of a global marketplace, and New Zealand's place within that marketplace, and is passionate about the role IRL can play in raising the competitiveness of New Zealand companies.

David Henry

BCom, CA



David Henry is a professional director based in Auckland. From 1975 to 2001, he worked for Fisher & Paykel (F&P). He was appointed chief financial officer in 1987 and an executive director in 1992. He is currently the chairman of Androgenix (a biotech start-up company) and a director of Henry Manufacturing and Keratec, where R&D plays a major role. David brings commercial expertise to the IRL Board from his years as an executive director at Fisher & Paykel and, more recently, as a director of a number of start-up R&D companies. His role as an executive director at F&P included hands-on involvement in all aspects of the business, from strategy, manufacturing and product development through to marketing and sales. This experience was across the appliances, healthcare and finance company sectors of the business and included establishing F&P's international operations. David is a Chartered Accountant and a Fellow of the Institute of Directors in New Zealand.

Catherine Drayton

BCom, LLB, CA



Catherine Drayton is a finance professional based in Christchurch. She has 15 years' experience acting as a consultant for cross-border transactions in Western, Central and Eastern Europe, principally buy-side for strategic investors, and particularly in the areas of energy generation, heavy engineering and manufacturing. She is also the former partner in charge of the Assurance and Advisory practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers for Central and Eastern Europe. As a result of these roles, she has significant multi-cultural, multi-jurisdictional managerial and cross-border transactional experience. Catherine is a director of both Meridian Energy Limited and Hockey NZ, and a Councillor of the University of Canterbury.

Ian Parton

BE (Hons), PhD



After a career in engineering management, Ian Parton is now an independent company director based in Auckland. He was managing director of consulting engineering company Meritec Group Ltd from 1987 to 2002 and a founding director of Tanlaw Ltd, chairman of Bendon (formerly Ceramco) until its privatisation, and a Trustee of St Cuthbert's College for 18 years. He is currently deputy chairman of Watercare Services Ltd, chairman of HTS-110 Ltd and chairman of VT Fitzroy Ltd. Ian is a Distinguished Fellow of the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) and was awarded the Sir William Pickering medal for engineering leadership in 2007. He is a Councillor of the University of Auckland.

Sonny Davis (Ngāi Tuhoe) >
– Carver of IRL's Tauihu



Brian Rhoades

BE (Hons), PhD



Brian Rhoades has broad experience as a business advisor and company director. His background is in mechanical engineering and materials science and he is a Fellow of IPENZ and a Fellow of the Institute of Directors in New Zealand. Brian's experience as director or chairman spans a wide range of organisations. These have included Cold Storage Nelson, Forestry Corporation, NIWA, Grocorp Pacific, Salmond Smith Biolab, Port Marlborough, Trustbank Canterbury, Nelson Millennium Centre Trust, Waitaki Biosciences, and Extract Solutions. He initially worked as a lecturer in production management and materials science at Canterbury University before holding management positions within the AHI/Carter Holt Harvey Group. He was chief executive of Sealord Products from 1985 to 1994. During the year, Brian chaired the Council of the Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology and Nelson Electricity Ltd and was a Tertiary Education Commissioner.

Maxine Simmons

MSc (Hons)



Maxine Simmons currently runs a business consulting company focused on advising early-stage biotechnology ventures. After graduating with an MSc in biological sciences from the University of Auckland, she became a biotechnology entrepreneur, co-founding one of New Zealand's first biotechnology companies in 1983. The New Zealand biotechnology industry recognised this achievement by awarding her the Distinguished New Zealand Biotechnologist Award in June 2000. Maxine brings to IRL the understanding of the commercialisation of science gained through her experience with her own companies as well as through previous membership of Investment Committees including Technology New Zealand, the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology (Board member) and as a founding director of Industry New Zealand (now New Zealand Trade and Enterprise). She is currently CEO of healthcare seed investment fund Cure Kids Ventures and Managing Director of consultancy company BioCatalyst Ltd. Maxine is a member of the Institute of Directors in New Zealand and deputy chair of NZBIO. She is also currently a director of Photonz Corporation Ltd, KODE Biotech Ltd and one of the Centres of Research Excellence – the Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery.

Craig Stobo

BA (Hons)



Craig Stobo was educated at the University of Otago and The Wharton School. He has worked as a diplomat, economist, investment banker, and CEO of a funds management company. He has authored reports for the New Zealand Government on the taxation of investment income and for the Taupo Group, entitled *Creating Wealth for New Zealanders*. Craig has two professional directorships. He is currently chairman of AMP Huami Management Ltd (the management company for the listed trust AMP NZ Office Trust) and chairman and shareholder of OCG Consulting Ltd, an executive recruitment company. He is also an entrepreneur. He is: chairman and shareholder of Saturn Portfolio Management Ltd, an independent investment advisory business; chairman and shareholder of Elevation Capital Management Ltd; the investment manager of the Multi Strategy Fund and Value Fund; and chairman and shareholder of Appello Services Ltd, a specialist unit registry provider.

In addition, Craig consults for domestic and global organisations assessing opportunities in the New Zealand financial services sector.

Two members are leaving the IRL Board at the end of their term of service.

Brian Rhoades, who has chaired the Board for the past three years, ended his term at the end of the 2009 financial year. His background in mechanical engineering and materials science has been an ideal fit for a science and engineering research company and this was reinforced by his broad experience as a chairman and director of a wide variety of companies. His senior management experience has also been a valuable asset in his role as chairman of the IRL board.

On 30 June, **Craig Stobo** completed his term of six years with the Board of IRL as a director and, latterly, deputy chairman. His range of experience in economics, in the finance sector and in investment management and oversight has been invaluable for IRL as the company has worked to lift its financial performance and strategically realign its business to strengthen its relationships with the industrial and business sector.

We wish them well.

IRL Executive

Shaun Coffey

Chief Executive Officer – MAgrSc, G Dip Chg Mgmt, G Dip CD, FTSE, CRSNZ, CompIPENZ, FAIM, FAICD



Shaun Coffey has had an extensive involvement in leading research and development enterprises in Australia and New Zealand. An agricultural scientist by training, his recent interests have included the application of complex systems science and the redesign of animal agriculture systems. Shaun joined IRL from CSIRO Australia in 2006 and has focused on returning the company to its core purpose and restoring financial stability. Among his honours and awards, Shaun is a recipient of the Silver Medal of the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists (2001) and a Centenary Medal of Agriculture from the University of Melbourne (2006). He was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering in 2004 and a Companion of the Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand in 2008. He is also a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management. In 2009, he was elected a Companion of the Royal Society of New Zealand. Shaun is on the editorial boards of the *Open Journal of Proteomics* and of *E: CO (Emergence: Complexity & Organization)* and has been Adjunct Professor at the University of Queensland since 1999.

Barry Marlow

General Manager Science and Engineering – BE (Hons), PhD



Barry Marlow is responsible for managing all the science and engineering activities at IRL. Barry started his career with the Physics and Engineering Laboratory (PEL) of DSIR in 1968 as a professional trainee while completing his BE (Hons) at Canterbury University. From 1972, he worked as an electronics engineer on weighing and grading technology for the meat industry, and later on computer control and instrumentation in the dairy industry. He took up a DSIR Study Award in 1978 to complete his PhD at the University of Southampton in industrial applications of image processing. On his return in 1981, he initiated machine vision research at PEL, moving into microelectronic design in 1982. This work spanned the next two decades in DSIR and later IRL and resulted in the award of a Royal Society of New Zealand Science and Technology medal in 2001 in recognition of his significant contribution to the development of microelectronics in New Zealand. Barry managed groups in electronics, sensors and communications from 1987 through to 2004 when he became a science leader in IRL's Imaging & Detecting platform focusing on medical devices for medical imaging and diagnostics, ICT, sonar and wood sensing. He took up his current position in 2008. During his career he has led major research programmes on Sensor and Measurement Technologies for Processing, Microsystems Development, Intelligent Systems and Devices for Manufacturing, and Smart Devices, Processes and Products for the Wood Industry.

Jeff Lycett

Executive Officer – BA (Hons)



Jeff Lycett's position as a member of the IRL Executive comprises two elements. As Executive Officer, he is required to provide professional support, sound and well-reasoned advice, and practical assistance to the CEO in the planning, execution and achievement of IRL's strategic and operational objectives, in the management of the business of the office of the CEO, and in the management of change programmes. As Board Secretary, he provides professional services to the Board, Board committees and nominated subsidiary and associate companies. Jeff's background is mainly in the Human Resources area. He was previously General Manager with the New Zealand Dairy Board (now Fonterra) and with the Electricity Corporation of New Zealand (ECNZ). Most recently he has carried out consultancy assignments with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand Post and EDS.

George McIrvine

General Manager Corporate Services – ED, BBS, CA



As General Manager Corporate Services, George McIrvine is responsible for the group that provides services to all the science, business support and corporate teams in IRL. These services include Information Technology, Information Services, Site Services, Human Resource Services, Health and Safety, and Finance. He also holds the Chief Financial Officer role within IRL. George was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland and is a qualified accountant (CA), with extensive systems and company exposure in auditing with the public and private sector. He then moved to company accounting, where he held a number of roles before joining HortResearch as Business Accountant in 1996. There he was part of the teams that commercialised Zespri Gold, concluded the sale of their share of the Time Capsule business and implemented SAP. A move to Massey University in 2003 as Accounting Advisor to the College of Sciences saw him pick up the role of Acting CFO with the Massey Ventures Group of Companies. This was a role he held until joining IRL in May 2007. He currently holds the rank of Major in the Territorial Army in both the UK and New Zealand, having been commissioned in the British Army at Sandhurst.

New Appointments

Suki Siriwardena

General Manager Commercialisation and Business Development – BSc (Hons), PhD, MBA



Suki Siriwardena is responsible for IRL's interaction with industry and for ensuring these companies have access to timely and appropriate research and development that adds significant value to their business. Her team is also responsible for identifying partners to commercialise innovative intellectual property developed by IRL. Suki received a first class honours degree in chemistry from Massey University and after completing her PhD in chemistry at Victoria University, she started her career as a research scientist at IRL's predecessor organisation, DSIR Industrial Processing. She then completed her MBA and changed the focus of her career to international business development by joining the New Zealand Trade Development Board (TradeNZ). Her roles there included Export Consultant, New Zealand Trade Commissioner in Indonesia and Director of the New Zealand Trade Development Centre in Taiwan. She has also had first-hand experience of start-up companies as General Manager Business Development with a small e-commerce business.

Prior to joining IRL, Suki worked at the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, where she was Manager TechNZ, Manager Northern Region and Director Commercialisation.

NEW CHAIRMAN FOR IRL BOARD

Keith McConnell has been appointed Chairman and Director of IRL and joined the Board on 1 September 2009. He is based in Auckland and has a commercial and financial background. For much of his 35-year career he has worked in boardrooms – initially as an executive and more recently as a director. For 15 of those years he was Chief Executive of a number of medium-sized companies of 100 to 350 employees, most of them in industries with a technical and/or engineering background such as sawmilling, building supplies, electricity supply, and rope and cordage manufacture. More recently Keith has specialised as a director and consultant and has particularly strong connections with the wind power industry in New Zealand. He is a founding director of NZ Windfarms and a long-standing director of Windflow Technology.



NEW BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED

Ray Thomson BSc (Hons), PhD (Physics), Dip Acc has been appointed to the IRL Board. He is a professional director based in Auckland. From 1979 to 1985, he worked as an investment analyst in sharebroking, firstly with Jarden & Co and then with O'Connor Grieve & Co. From 1985 to 1998, he worked as an executive director in charge of investments, initially with Omnicorp Investments and then with Strathmore Group. He is currently the chairman of Manuka Health New Zealand and a director of the listed companies Wellington Drive Technologies and New Image Group. Ray has been involved in a number of venture capital investments over the past 20 years and is currently a member of the Auckland Ice Angels Association. In more recent years his particular focus has been on investments in the natural health products sector. Ray has had extensive experience as a company director with an aggregate of over 30 years' experience as a director of listed companies and is a Fellow of the Institute of Directors in New Zealand.

