

BALL

Dr Catherine, PhD

Associate Professor, Dr Catherine Ball is a scientific futurist, speaker, advisor, author, founder, executive producer, executive director, and company director working across global projects where emerging technologies meet humanitarian, education and environmental needs. Catherine also likes to create businesses and champion movements, collaborate with peers, and advise game-changers.

A sought-after voice across the start-up, futurist and tech world, Catherine works globally across a wide range of projects from creating documentaries and world leading conferences and events, to advising on the use of novel approaches (e.g. drones) across environmental and humanitarian projects. Catherine is a proponent of community engagement with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), and likes to demystify emerging tech.

Having been called a 'social architect', Catherine likes to connect people from different backgrounds across common themes. A champion of diversity and inclusion, Catherine believes we need points of difference to truly innovate and curate the changes we want to see in the world. Working to protect the natural environment and empowering all members of society through mutual education are core aspects of the projects Catherine chooses to spend her time and energy on.

Catherine continues to support Australia as being the world leader in the advancement of ethically driven technological applications. Industry 5.0 is emerging; with society and community at the heart of how we operate and curate emerging trends and capabilities.

Catherine is the only Australian on the International Advisory Board of the Schmidt Ocean Institute, which follows her work as a judge on the Ocean Discovery XPrize. A proud #SheFlies ambassador for Girl Geek Academy, and a mentor and advisor to the CEO of Women Who Drone, and a regular mentor to many rising stars across the STEM fields in Australia and abroad, Catherine believes in actively paying it forward.

An Associate Professor at the Australian National University and Honorary Associate Professor at the 3AI Institute; Catherine is leading national conversations around technology and its place in the current and future challenges in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Catherine's latest business ventures include the internationally renowned World of Drones and Robotics Congress, established in Brisbane in 2017 and the free community resources of World of Drones Education, established in 2018.

Catherine is a board director for Aviation Australia; and is on the international advisory board for the Ocean Impact Org, a not-for-profit ecosystem for businesses working towards a healthier ocean.

Catherine holds a BSc Honours (Environmental Protection) and a PhD (Spatial Ecology, Descriptive and Predictive Statistics) from the University of Newcastle- upon-Tyne in the United Kingdom. Catherine lives in Queensland with her husband and two sons.

Websites to note:

drcatherineball.com
worldofdroneseducation.com
worldofdrones.com.au
girlgeekacademy.com/sheflies
womenwhodrone.co

Awards and Honours:

2020 Lord Mayor's Business Awards: Outstanding Micro Business Winner
2020 Analytics Insight Worlds 50 Most Renowned Women in Robotics Award
2018 Global Contribution to UAV Industry award from Shenzhen UAV Industry association
2017 AFR's BOSS Magazine True Leaders Game Changers
2017 Women in Leadership Awards – Finalist Innovation Category
2016 Financial Review & Westpac 100 Woman of Influence
2016 Top 25 Women in Robotics List
2016 Courier Mail QBM Magazine: 25 Influential Movers and Shakers of Queensland
2015 AFR's BOSS Magazine Young Executives of the Year Winner
2015 National Telstra Business Woman of the Year, Corporate and Private Award
2015 Queensland Telstra Business Women's Awards Winner
2015 Queensland Telstra Business Woman of the Year, Queensland Corporate and Private Awards Winner.
2015 Innovator of Influence at Innovation Week
2015 Courier Mail Q Magazine: Queensland 50 Best and Brightest

AUS/Global Contact: Kate Dent ea@drcatherineball.com
General Contact: info@drcatherineball.com

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