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QUALIFICATIONS and CREDENTIALS

GAICD 2009 – Company Directors Course Diploma – Adelaide

MThSt 2014, Flinders University – major in bioethics/public health ethics

CPEng(Biomed) FIEAust - Engineers Australia; **RPEQ** – Qld Engineering Registration Board

PhD (Bioengineering) 1991 U of Strathclyde, Glasgow - “Biomechanics of the Foot & Lower Leg”

BE (Hons) Mechanical 1987 U of Qld

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND LEADERSHIP

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING , **RPEQ** 5041

- Fellow (FIEAust); Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng)
- Member of National Committee on Rehabilitation Engineering (1995-). Chair (1999-2003; 2013-)
- Board Member - College of Biomedical Engineering (1999 -2009,2013-)

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF COMPANY DIRECTORS

- Graduate Member (GAICD)

LEADERS INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- Governor’s Leadership Program (2006) – Fellow
- Awarded 2009 Australian Leadership Award.

AUSTRALIAN REHABILITATION & ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION (ARATA)

- Founding member 1995 –
- Conference Convenor, 2008 Biennial Conference (Adelaide 21-24 Sept)

WHEELCHAIR STANDARDS

- Standards Australia - Chair ME67 (Assistive Technology) Standards Committee (2004-)
 - Australian representative- ISO TC173/SC1 (Wheelchairs & Seating) (2003-)
- International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) – Convenor TC173/SC1 Working Groups 1 (Test Methods) & 11 (Seating) (2010 -)

ACADEMIC/RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS (Not covered in employment)

- James Cook University – Adjunct Senior Lecturer (2003-2006), Public Health & Tropical Medicine
- University of South Australia – Adjunct Senior Lecturer (2007- 2009), Division of Health Sciences
- University of the Sunshine Coast – Adjunct Senior Lecturer (2010-2012), Faculty of Science, Health & Education

DISABILITY POLICY APPOINTMENTS (Not covered in employment)

- National Disability Insurance Agency – Member, Assistive Technology Sector Reference Group (May 2013 -)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (last 10 years)

Ross Walker & Associates P/L trading as 'Tech4Life'

Jan 2010 - Current

PARTNER, DIRECTOR & RESEARCH CONSULTANT

Professional consultancy firm providing advice, research and training on technology for ageing and disabilities. Clients include FaHCSIA (National Disability Insurance Transition Agency), Qld Health, World Health Organisation, national peak bodies (ARATA), legal firms and private individuals. Have been lead consultant on evidence based practice position papers, and jointly delivered two Practical Design Fund projects – credentialing for AT, and understanding disability in indigenous communities. In 2013/2014 completed survey on AT use by older people in six Western Pacific countries for World Health Organisation.

Novita Children's Services (Formally Crippled Children's Association of SA Inc) Nov 2002 – Nov 2009

DIRECTOR - RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

July 2008 - Oct 2009

DIRECTOR – NOVITATECH (formerly Regency Park Rehabilitation Engineering) Oct 2002 – July 2008

Lead multidisciplinary professional and technical teams in both the Research & Innovation and the NovitaTech Divisions. Novita is arguably South Australia's iconic children's charity, and NovitaTech was Australia's largest Rehabilitation Engineering Centre, based in Adelaide and providing services locally and nationally. I helped lead Novita, as part of the four person executive team addressing several key targets:

- full refurbishment of Novita's HQ 1976 site (including associated tenancies) in Regency Park
- change of name for the organisation after 60 years and internal and external marketing of same.
- changing demands from state and federal funding providers
- enhanced efficiency and cost effectiveness of key Divisions – including NovitaTech
- the establishment of a new Research and Innovation Division in collaboration with university and government agencies.

James Cook University

Jan 1999 – Nov 2002

SNR LECTURER & DEPUTY HEAD, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

- Assisted the Head of Unit (who was based in Brisbane) in the establishment of the first of the allied health programs at JCU.
- Provided specialist expertise into this new program in the area of disability and technology.
- Coordination of student academic counselling, research, postgraduate studies and administration. Pursued research in the disability sphere, and also included work on improved service delivery into rural and remote (particularly indigenous) areas.

ACTING DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE June 2000 – May 2001

- Stabilised the fledgling Institute after the sudden departure of its founding Director.
- Built critical mass and strengthened links to internal and external partners.
- Successfully undertook the recruitment of the new Director from a senior post at a Sydney University

GOVERNANCE ROLES (not noted above)

Motivation Australia Development Organisation Inc. (www.motivation.org.au)

- Founding Board member (July 2007 - current)

Kawana Waters Uniting Church

- Elder 2011-, Convenor, Young People & Families Task Grp Aug 2013–
- Mary Burnet Presbytery Representative (2014-)

Port Adelaide Uniting Church (lay person lead church)

- Ministry Team Member 2007-2009, Chair Oct 2008 – Oct 2009

UnitingCare Qld, Uniting Church in Australia, Qld Synod

- Board Member (July 1996 – Nov 2002), Member of the Board Executive (June 1998 – Nov 2002)
- Chair, Family & Community Support Division Committee (June 1998 – Dec 2001)
- Board member, Lifeline Community Care (Jan 2002 – Nov 2002)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PAPERS_(Last 6 years)

Walker L (2014) *Needs analysis on AD & MD for older people in six Western Pacific countries*. Presented at the IFA 12th Global Conference on Ageing, Hyderabad, India. 11-13 June

Summers M & **Walker L** (2013) *National Credentialing and Accreditation for Assistive Technology Practitioners and Suppliers - An Options Paper*. ATSA & ARATA; Available from: http://www.arata.org.au/download/NDIS/AT%20AccreditationOptionsPaper2_2FNRMN.pdf

Mines R & **Walker L** (2013) *Yolŋu Information sharing and clarity of understanding (of disability)* Final Report on Practical Design Project. Motivation Australia, Adelaide. Available from: <http://www.motivation.org.au/practical-design-fund-project/>

Walker L, Layton N, Astbrink G, Summers M. (2012) *Assistive Technology and the NDIS: The ARATA 'Making a difference with AT' papers*. Caloundra, QLD: ARATA. Available from: http://www.arata.org.au/download/NDIS/fullbkgndpapers_v10int.pdf

Walker L (2012) *Understanding different perspectives*. In Proceedings of the Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association. Sydney, 22-24 August.

Walker L & Mines K (2012) *Perspectives on AT in rural and remote Australia*. In Proceedings of the Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association. Sydney, 22-24 August.

Walker L (2012) Validating a change of technique proposed in draft ISO7176-16 ignitability testing on wheelchair materials. *Assistive Technology*. 24(3) pp220-226.

Walker L, Svistounov A, Symonds B, & Hobbs D (2012). Investigating the effects of varying the angle of application and increasing the ignition source flow rate during ISO ignitability testing on foam and vinyl. *Assistive Technology*. 24(3). pp214-219.

Walker L (2011) *Flammability Issues of Composite Postural Supports*. European Seating Symposium. Dublin 7-10 Nov 2011

Walker L (2011) *Flammability Issues of Composite Postural Supports*. Poster presentation at Festival of International Conferences on Disability, Ageing and Technology. Toronto 6-8 June 2011

Walker L (2011) *Hidden Barriers to Innovation*. Poster presentation at Festival of International Conferences on Disability, Ageing and Technology. Toronto 6-8 June 2011

Walker L (2011) The Challenge of AT Innovation. *Independent Living*. 27(1), 2011; pp14-16

Walker L (2010) *Delivering Wheelchair Services into Rural and Remote Australia*. Invited presentation at Australian New Zealand Spinal Cord Society Annual Conference. Adelaide 1-3 September 2010

Walker L (2010) *Wheelchairs in The Australian Outback*. Invited paper at Mobility2010. Glasgow 7-9 June 2010

Hobbs D, Close J, Downing A, Reynolds K, & **Walker L** (2009) Developing a national research and development centre in assistive technologies for independent living, *Aust Health Rev* 33 (1).

Walker L (2008) *Trends and Developments in Assistive Technology*. Keynote presentation at 2008 Aged and Community Services Australia National Conference Technology Symposium. 28th September 2008

Walker L (2008) *Equipment Funding Schemes – Blocking innovation?* In Proceedings of the Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association. Adelaide 22-24th September. (full paper)

Nguyen T, Garrett R, Downing A, **Walker L**, & Hobbs D (2008) *An interfacing system that enables speech generating device users to independently access and use a mobile phone*, *Technology and Disability*, 20(3): 225-239, IOS Press.

Walker L (2008) Provision Models in Posture & Mobility: The Australian Perspective. *Posture & Mobility*. v25(1)