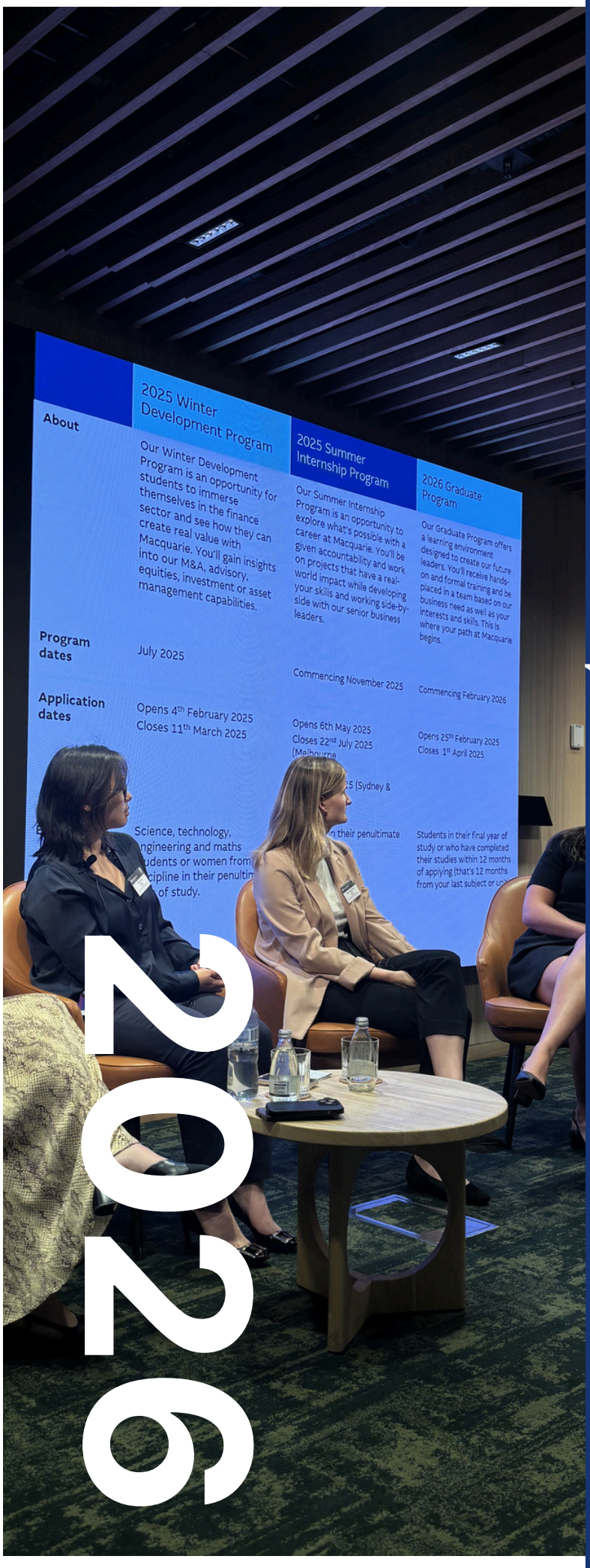


2026

WOMEN IN FINANCE

WIF Review

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Women in Finance

Table of Contents

3 Acknowledgement of Country

4 President's Address

5 About 100WIF

6 Portfolios

8 Events

12 Publications

13 Subcommittee Spotlight

14 Sponsors

15 Contact Us

WIF
REVIEW
2026

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Gadigal custodianship and the deep connection the First Nations people have with land and culture, and their contributions to our communities. The WIF community pledges to strive towards reconciliation in support of a just and equitable future.

We respectfully acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we conduct our work and gather for our events. We recognise that this land has always been, and always will be, Aboriginal land. We honour the rich cultural heritage, traditions, and deep spiritual connection that the Gadigal people have with this land, waters, and community.

We pay our respects to the Gadigal Elders, past, present, and emerging, whose wisdom, resilience, and leadership continue to guide and inspire us. Their contributions to culture, knowledge, and society are invaluable and have shaped the vibrant, diverse communities that we are part of today. We also acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded, and we are reminded of the importance of truth-telling and the need to recognize the injustices faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In our commitment to reconciliation, we aim to foster an environment of respect, trust, and mutual understanding. We express our gratitude for the privilege of living, working, and gathering on Gadigal land and acknowledge the responsibility that comes with it. We are committed to showing respect for the Gadigal people's culture and heritage in all aspects of our work and interactions, and we pledge to listen, learn, and work towards a more just and equitable future.

We encourage ongoing learning and dialogue about the significance of Country and the importance of preserving and respecting the land. By embracing this journey, we hope to contribute meaningfully to the broader efforts of reconciliation and to support the well-being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

President's Address

Over 2025/26 I had the privilege of serving as president of the Women in Finance (WIF) society, one of the fastest growing communities at the University of Sydney.

Since being established by our cofounders, Mia Sheridan and Stephanie Gee, in 2023, WIF has grown from the smallest and newest society in the business school of only 20 members, to over 600 new members and counting in the last 6 months alone. The future is bright for WIF and its pace of growth is undeniable proof of not only the importance, but also the strength of WIF's mission: To connect, educate and empower female and diverse gender students pursuing careers in finance.

Over the last year I'm proud to note the significant milestones that WIF has achieved. We expanded our offerings for our members, including hosting semesterly charity events and introducing fortnightly infographics (with one infographic garnering over 50,000 views). Our broader WIF family now includes over 900 active undergraduate and postgraduate students who connect with WIF through our monthly newsletter, and over 2,700 members (>+50% y/y) who follow WIF's social media channels.

Internally, our WIF team has grown to 50 people (+67% y/y), while our semester 1 recruitment saw +50% more applications than the previous year. I'm also proud to say that we've commenced a semester 2 recruitment cycle and hope to commit to two intakes every year going forward.

These changes in our society mark a continued era of expansion and growth in line with the demand we are seeing both from students and the broader industry.

I am beyond proud of the work and accomplishments of my amazing executive team over this last year, and how the society has thrived under their careful stewardship.

WIF to me has always been a society focused on community that serves a purpose beyond career enrichment alone. It is a place that builds connection and belonging that lasts beyond your university years. I'm forever grateful for the opportunities, friendships and skills I've gained during my tenure and am looking forward to seeing this next phase of growth, community and connection for WIF. I'm confident it will be the best one yet.

On behalf of the WIF team, I want to sincerely thank all of our sponsors, members and speakers. Our successes would not be possible without your continued support of WIF and of diversity within our industry.

Alannah David
President 2025/26
Women in Finance Society

About 100WIF

Affiliation with 100WIF

We are affiliated with the not-for- profit global organisation, 100 Women in Finance, and our society provides students with valuable opportunities for business exposure, supporting a new generation of industry leadership for women and gender diverse individuals.

About 100WIF

100 Women in Finance is a global organisation dedicated to empowering women in the finance industry. The community brings together professionals across all levels to foster a supportive network, promote career development, and drive positive change within the industry. At the heart of 100WIF is a desire to promote diversity, raise visibility, and empower women to find their personal path to success.

100WIF Mission

Operating under the guiding principle called Vision 30/40, 100 Women in Finance aspire to see women occupying 30% of senior investment roles and executive committee positions by 2040. To achieve this goal, they wish to empower women who are already in finance, and advocate for a new generation of industry leadership. Many individuals and organisations support these efforts, sponsoring initiatives through programs such as CEO Circle, focusing on strategic initiatives exploring new ideas promoting diversity of thought in the finance industry.

Portfolios

Every milestone WIF reached in 2026 was the result of collaboration across our society. This year, 60 members worked across seven portfolios, including our newly established Operations team, to deliver a full calendar of events, publications and industry partnerships. The following section reflects on the contribution each portfolio made throughout the year.

Professional Events

The Professional Events team curated opportunities for members to engage directly with the finance industry. Opening the semester with Welcome Drinks, we offered students an informal introduction to our executive team and sponsor representatives. Semester 1 highlights included the Macquarie Insights Evening and the UBS Trade Floorwalk, where members had the opportunity to learn more about different areas of finance and network with industry professionals. In Semester 2, WIF partnered with REISA and NOW for the Women in Real Estate Evening, before closing the year with Stock Pitching Night, hosted by our Gold Sponsors. Together, these events connected academic learning with the realities of the finance industry, equipping members with the skills and networks to pursue their ambitions.

Social Events

The Social Events team ensured that WIF remained a welcoming community as much as a professional one. These events also served a purpose beyond socialising: in June, members enjoyed a private pre-finals screening of The Devil Wears Prada 2 as part of Movies with a Mission, with all proceeds donated to Support The Girls Australia. Other events, such as the WIF Cocktail Crawl and Coastal Walk, gave members, new and returning, the chance to form genuine connections across the society. The team also delivered a series of internal events to keep the committee connected. New sub-committee members were welcomed at our induction, and the committee came together to bring new members into each portfolio. These moments have built the team culture that makes WIF such a special community to be part of.

Marketing

The Marketing team shaped WIF's presence across social media, promoting each event from announcement to recap. Through event launches, countdowns, sponsor reveals, and post-event highlights, the team maintained consistent engagement throughout the year. A standout was our "Economics of a Situationship" post, which attracted over 900 likes and 2,000 shares. The team also worked closely with other portfolios to develop content that showcased the WIF community and its core values to a wider student audience.

Portfolios

Sponsorships

The Sponsorships team strengthened WIF's relationships with industry partners, ensuring members had meaningful access to leading firms. Sponsors were represented across our calendar, from the Macquarie Insights Evening to Stock Pitching Night, hosted by our Gold Sponsors. The team maintained these relationships throughout the year by coordinating sponsor attendance and following up after each event with acknowledgements and photographs.

External Publications

The External Publications team produced weekly articles that made complex financial developments accessible to our members. This year, the team examined the implications of the 2026–27 Federal Budget for young Australians, the growing use of AI-driven pricing in supermarkets, and the gap between rising household spending and declining financial wellbeing. Most recently, the team explored the private credit market and its connection to Australians' superannuation following the collapse of Bathla Group. Through this work, the team fostered a more informed and engaged readership within the WIF community.

Internal Publications

The Internal Publications team led WIF's communications with members and partners throughout the year. The team produced a monthly newsletter for our members, highlighting upcoming events, opportunities and society news. They also developed key partner-facing materials and oversaw the production of the WIF Review.

Operations

Established in 2026, the Operations team oversaw the logistics that underpin every WIF event. Their responsibilities included managing sign-up forms and ticketing, and coordinating reminder emails and attendance for events. The team has been integral to informing future event planning and managing the finer details of WIF, ensuring all activities run smoothly and efficiently. Their contribution allowed each portfolio to thrive during a period of significant growth for the society.

Professional Events

WIF Industry Info Night

Our flagship event to kick off the year, Industry Info Night brought together students and professionals from a wide range of firms for an evening of conversation, connection and career exploration. As our largest professional event, it offered sponsors maximum exposure to a highly engaged audience right at the start of the university calendar. The night set the tone for the rest of our program, sparking connections that carried through to many of our later events and initiatives.



Macquarie Panel Evening

An exclusive on-site evening at Macquarie's Sydney headquarters, this event brought students together with current graduates and alumni working across business groups including Asset Management and Trading for an evening of insight and connection. Through panel discussion, Q&A and networking with the Early Careers team, it offered students direct access to graduate and internship pathways within one of Australia's leading financial institutions.

WIF x BAP Campus to Corporate Panel

A joint event with Beta Alpha Psi, Campus to Corporate brings together professionals from Macquarie, Yarra Capital and Soul Patts for an evening of conversation on navigating early career challenges and the diverse pathways available in finance. Rounded out by an exclusive networking session with Barrenjoey, it offered students the chance to build meaningful relationships with professionals across multiple firms.

Professional Events

UBS Trade Floor Walk and Panel

A rare behind-the-scenes experience on an active trading floor, this event brought students face to face with the fast-paced environment of UBS's operations through a hands-on case study, a stock pitch and a panel of executive bankers and market analysts. Concluding with an interactive Q&A and networking session, it offered students direct exposure to senior professionals across multiple business divisions.



Women in STEM Night

Hosted in collaboration with NOW, WIT, SUWIE and WISSOC, Women in STEM Night brought members together with a wide network of sponsors for an evening of connection and career insight across the STEM and tech industries. Whether the interest lies in pursuing a STEM degree or a finance role within a tech company, the event offered members a broader view of the career paths available at the intersection of these fields.



Social Events

Welcome Drinks

WIF kicked off our Welcome Drinks at the start of both Semester 1 and 2 to invite students to meet members of the society, connect with our friendly executive team, and engage with representatives from our sponsors. The event provided a relaxed and enjoyable evening aimed at enabling valuable connections to form, allowing students to learn more about WIF and for our team to engage with the community as well.



Lawn Bowls



WIF members traded the lecture theatre for the bowling green at our lawn bowls night! Everyone got competitive, with teams battling it out on the green. Whether you were a natural or still working out which way the bowl curves, it was a great chance to unwind, connect with fellow members, and enjoy some friendly rivalry.

Movies with a Mission

WIF hosted a private screening of the Devil Wears Prada 2 aimed at bringing together women and to contribute to a great cause! All proceeds went directly to Support The Girls Australia - a charity dedicated to providing essential support and dignity to women experiencing homelessness, poverty, social isolation and domestic violence. It was truly a highlight event for the books - ask any of us, we love a good iconic comeback movie! It made it even more memorable to witness all of our favourite characters sacrifices and reminded us of how sweet journeying together can be (ps. a glimpse of WIF).

Future Events

WIF x REISA x NOW Women in Real Estate Event

Hosted at Charter Hall in collaboration with REISA and NOW, this event will bring together industry representatives from across the real estate investment space to share their career journeys and insights. Stay after the panel for a networking session, where you'll have the chance to speak with panellists and fellow attendees. Whether you're curious about property or already set on the industry, come along to gain a clearer picture of the opportunities within real estate and property investment.

PRME Impact Case Competition

Over two weeks, teams will come together to tackle Commonwealth Bank's current Sustainability Framework, inspired by the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The first session will bring together industry panellists to share how their organisations approach sustainable development, followed by the Finals, where shortlisted teams will pitch their strategies live to industry judges. Don't miss your chance to put your ideas forward, sharpen your pitching skills and connect with professionals leading the way in sustainability!



WIF Coastal Walk



Join us along the Freshwater Coastal Walk for our mid-semester break walk, the perfect chance to recharge with the WIF community. Look forward to a morning of fresh air, ocean views and a well-deserved moment to unwind after a busy first half of semester. We'd love to see you there, so bring a friend and come start the second half of semester feeling refreshed!

Publications

What does it mean to build a career in finance when the ground keeps shifting beneath it? That's the question WIF has been sitting with all year, as we've grown not just in size but in the depth of conversations we're willing to have. That growth shows up most clearly in our weekly publications, which have tackled some of the most pressing and unexpected questions shaping finance today!

As we continue into the new year, WIF remains dedicated to creating an inclusive environment that supports women's professional growth, fosters informed dialogue, and drives continued progress toward equity and representation in the finance sector.

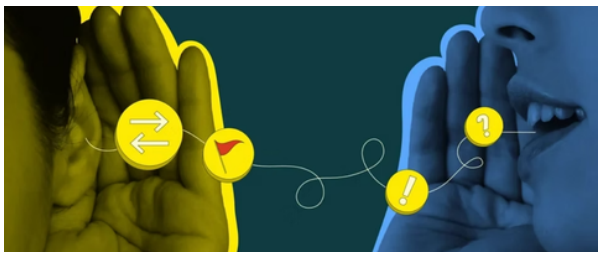
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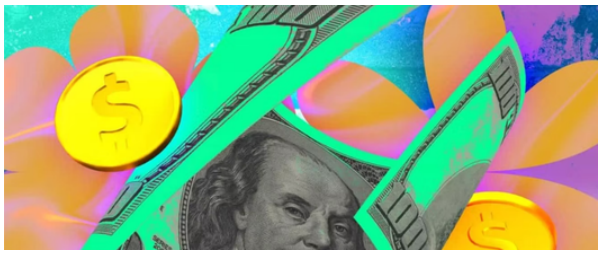
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Private Credit in Australia: What Members of Super Funds Should Know



To Read More, Head to Our Website

Subcommittee Experiences

WIF values the insights and opinions of the team members, where the society aims to provide important learning opportunities to grow and develop as team members and individuals.



How would you describe WIF to someone who's never heard of it?

"WIF is a community of driven and smart women & gender diverse individuals. Everyone here cares very deeply about making finance a more accessible career pathway for everyone, and people genuinely look out for one another. Joining WIF has made my time at uni more fruitful, I've developed professionally and also made some lovely friends along the way."

- Srishti Agrawal, External Publications

How has WIF supported you beyond just career/professional stuff?

"When I joined WIF, I came in expecting to only attend workshops and networking events, and while those have been incredibly valuable, what I have taken away is a network of women I would now describe as friends. Being on subcommittee has also changed the way I work with other people. I'm in marketing, where almost everything I do is collaborative, and I have learnt a lot simply from watching how the directors structure things. They are deliberate about delegating and about making sure everyone in the room has an opening to contribute, which is much harder to do well than it looks, and it is something I have started carrying into my own group work."

- Laura Parker, Marketing

How has being part of WIF shaped your career direction or confidence?

"Being part of WIF has shaped how I think about my career, by pushing me to reflect not only on what I want to do next but also the impact I want to have. Attending professional events and hearing from a diverse range of industry professionals and sponsors has given me clarity on both fronts. This exposure has also made a huge difference in my day-to-day work at my accounting cadetship, building my confidence in skills such as communicating with clients and approaching technical work with a bigger-picture mindset."

- Shubhi Sethi, Internal Publications

What is your favourite WIF memory from 2026?

"My favourite WIF memory from 2026 has definitely been our Movies with a Mission Night. It was such a fun opportunity to step away from the craziness of uni, relax and spend time with so many amazing girls in the WIF community. Watching The Devil Wears Prada 2 together, laughing throughout the night and getting to connect with people who share similar interests made it such a memorable evening. What made it even more special was knowing that we were all coming together to support a great cause. It was the perfect combination of good company, a great movie and an even better cause - definitely a night to remember!"

- Vasiliki Cominos, Events

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We would like to sincerely thank all of our sponsors for the support they have provided throughout the past year. Your contributions have helped us deliver valuable opportunities, events and initiatives for our members, and we are grateful for your ongoing partnership. Thank you for being an important part of the WIF community and for supporting the next generation of professionals.

Contact Us







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