

ICT Executive Profile

Based on feedback from the annual survey around having access to more senior women as role models, each month we have an executive profile compiled from 7 questions posed to key executive women in the ICT industry

Megan Stokes

Director, Optus



What is your current role and what is your scope?

Director - IT Service and Systems. Our role is the interface between IT and our Business units, to align Business and IT strategy and partner with the Australian business and Group IT regionally for planning, delivery oversight and escalations. My role supports a team of Senior Managers working with Consumer Sales, Wholesale and Satellite, Group Credit and Commissions.

What attracted you to a career in ICT?

I've always been interested in computers but "fell" into a role in Customer Service in the Travel industry – when an opportunity came up to learn to code I jumped at it.

Tell us about the highpoints and lowpoints of your career?

Personally – being asked to speak at a Primary school where I had been involved in a reading-mentoring program through Optus. Professionally – my current role – it's a new function and team within SingTel Optus so that is pretty exciting. Probably my lowest point (and nowhere to go but up from the bottom) was when I was told there was no chance for further "advancement" within a seriously male/technically dominated area – I jumped to another department and here I am!

What does work life balance mean to you?

The choice to head off to my daughters school, watch the May Pole dance, and then get my work done anytime and anywhere. Finding "Balance" to me means give and take.

What attracted and kept you in the ICT industry throughout your career?

I think once I was in the ICT Industry, the ability to move around, do a lot of different jobs, and learn a lot of new things has kept me here.

fittTM

females in information technology and telecommunications



What ambitions personal or professional do you still want to achieve?

Professionally I've always wanted to work internationally – and I am about to achieve that with a move to Singapore, and personally - I have my eye on hiking to Everest Basecamp later this year with family.

What's the one piece of advice you'd give to yourself starting out on your career?

Spend more time sharing a coffee and conversation – getting in, working hard and getting things done doesn't create a strong Network for the future – and sometimes that's what counts. It's especially important the more senior you get.

NB: As appeared on FITT e-newsletter January 2015 and also features on the website.

*Become a member and find out more about us on www.fitt.org.au
Connect with us [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)!*



fittTM

females in information technology and telecommunications