April 6 2016

Dear colleagues,

By the end of this year CSI will substantially complete implementation of its 2013-2017 Increasing Impact strategy, and we are making outstanding progress.

In this context I am writing to inform you that CSI CEO Dr Andrew Young has decided not to seek reappointment as CEO of the Centre for Social Impact when his current contract ends in January 2017. To help ensure a smooth transition Andrew has given us a long notice period.

Andrew has built upon the platform created by CSI’s first CEO, Peter Shergold. Since taking up the role early in 2012, Andrew has developed and implemented a five-year strategic plan greatly increasing CSI’s reach and impact and establishing CSI’s financial sustainability.

Under Andrew’s leadership the CSI nodes at UNSW Australia, University of Western Australia and Swinburne University of Technology have achieved critical mass, with CSI now employing sixty people nationally.

CSI plays a key leadership role in social impact research across Australia. In the last twelve months CSI staff produced over 60 quality academic publications as well as a variety of reports and resources reports for the community, and its academic staff won multiple awards and promotions. CSI has a strong profile in industry-relevant projects including critical work with the ACNC and a wide range government departments, not-for-profit sector and corporate sector collaborations.

Enrolments in CSI’s undergraduate and postgraduate programs are growing exponentially; for example, total enrolments grew by 95% in the 2015 year. In recent years CSI has established new undergraduate, MBA and Masters programs adding to the well-established Graduate Certificate in Social Impact. Thousands of social-purpose practitioners and leaders from all sectors have participated in CSI workshops, conferences and events.

In collaboration with UNSW and CSI’s partner Universities the CSI Board will now begin the process of searching for Andrew’s successor. We will communicate with you at appropriate times as that process continues.

We will have plenty of time to farewell Andrew appropriately before his departure in January. In the meantime 2016 will be another busy year for Andrew and the CSI team as we continue to implement our strategy and contribute to positive social change.

With kind regards,

Richard Henry AM
Emeritus Professor and Chair of the CSI Board