




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Science and Innovation

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.07 pm): Science and innovation are essential ingredients to Queensland's future prosperity. Through my government's Advance Queensland agenda, our state is at the forefront of the development of new products, services and markets for our existing and emerging industries. The promotion of science is fundamental to how we embrace these opportunities. Under the stewardship of the Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and the work of her department, Queensland is embracing more opportunities than ever before.

The role of the Queensland Chief Scientist is to provide leadership in science policy development and implementation. The Chief Scientist also provides high-level strategic advice to the government on the role of science, research and innovation in meeting Queensland's economic challenges and seizing our economic opportunities. In doing so, the Chief Scientist provides advice on maximising opportunities from the government's investment in research and development.

Today, I would like to pay tribute to the service of Dr Geoff Garrett AO, who has served as Chief Scientist since January 2011. I am quite sure that I can speak on behalf of the opposition in saying that he has done a mighty fine job. Prior to Dr Garrett's appointment as Chief Scientist, he served as chief executive and member of the board of CSIRO.

Today, I can announce that my government has nominated Professor Suzanne Miller to be Queensland's next Chief Scientist. Professor Miller will continue to serve as Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Queensland Museum Network. Professor Miller's appointment is an ideal opportunity for the Queensland Museum Network to further align with my government's science and innovation agenda and our emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, or STEM. The success of the World Science Festival earlier this year is testament to the importance of collaboration with the Queensland Museum Network. Professor Miller will also collaborate with the Chief Entrepreneur, Mark Sowerby, who was appointed earlier this year to further advance our innovation agenda and help to deliver jobs and economic opportunities. On behalf of the parliament and the government, once again, I offer my sincere thanks to Dr Garrett for his leadership and I congratulate Professor Miller on her appointment.