



TONY CHARTERS

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Bachelor of Science (Environmental Studies) 1979

School of Australian Environmental Studies

Griffith University

Major subject areas: land use planning, economics, government

Master of Urban and Regional Planning 1985

Department of Regional and Town Planning

University of Queensland

Major subject areas: protected area planning, landscape design, planning law, strategic planning and government

Thesis topic: *Planning for people and nature in protected areas.*

Certificate of Climate Change and Communications Training 2006

Al Gore International Workshops

Sydney, Australia

AWARDS

The University of Queensland

The C V H Harding prize for the best research thesis of the faculty

CAREER BACKGROUND

Principal – Tony Charters and Associates 2004-present

- Tourism research, planning and development
- Ecotourism and sustainable tourism specialists
- Advocacy and facilitation on behalf of tourism corporations
- Tourism conference event design and management
- Tourism standards and certification

Executive Director – Policy, Planning and Development 1999-2004

Tourism Queensland

- Whole-of-Government Growing Tourism initiative
- Development and implementation of the Queensland Ecotourism Plan
- Sustainable tourism and development of Tourism in Protected Areas initiative
- Indigenous tourism strategy and implementation
- Destination Management Planning and regional tourism development
- Tourism training and capacity building
- Tourism Policy and Planning
- Queensland Commercial and Tourism Aviation Plan
- Queensland Cruise Shipping Plan
- Drive Tourism – including drive tourism strategy, themed highways, visitor flow research
- Tourism Research – including development and implementation of Regional Tourism Activity Monitor (R-tam)
- Development and staging of Tourism Futures Annual National Conference

- Tourism Industry Associations liaison
- Manage the functions and budget of the Division (33 staff, \$5m budget)

Director – Environmental Tourism Department, Tourism Queensland **1997-1999**

- Implement the Queensland Ecotourism Plan
- Ecotourism industry development initiatives
- Ecotourism research initiatives
- Ecotourism certification development and support
- Tourism business facilitation
- Provide policy and strategic advice on environmental tourism
- Implement the environmental tourism initiatives of the Queensland Tourism Strategy

Managing Director, Ecotourism Management Australia **1996-1997**

- Consultancy to industry and government on ecotourism and nature-based tourism planning, assessment, operations, marketing and interpretation
- Expert advisor to Kingfisher Bay resort, Fraser Island
- Advisor to the Queensland Government on Queensland Ecotourism Plan.
- Convenor of Ecotourism Best Practice National Conference 1996
- Advisor to National Ecotourism Accreditation Program (NEAP) development.

Director, Environmental Management, Queensland Tourism Industries Limited **1991-1996**

- Environmental planning and management of the \$100m Kingfisher Bay Resort & Village project on Fraser Island
- Nature-based recreation planning and management
- Conception, development and management of Ranger-guided Tours
- Establishment of Kingfisher Bay Whale Watch tours
- Environmental and ecotourism marketing
- Liaison with research and academic community
- Media management
- Tourism Marketing
- Government liaison and lobbying
- Business development - new initiatives, developing new product
- Native title (Mabo) negotiations
- Community group liaison - conservation movement, Aboriginal community, recreation user groups, Island neighbours
- Interpretive planning and management
- Management of research and monitoring programs
- Ecotourism consultancies to private and public sector

Manager (Park Management) Dept of Environment and Heritage **1990-1991**

- Manage the following program components: management planning, park Management, tourism operations, commercial operations, recreation and visitor research, and communication and public affairs
- Ministerial briefings
- CEO, Recreation Areas Management Board
- CEO, Wet Tropics Management Authority
- Chairperson, Wet Tropics Management Co-ordination Committee
- Inter-governmental negotiations – Wet Tropics W.H.A.
- Liaison with interest groups

- Manager (Recreation), Dept of Environment and Heritage** **1988-1990**
- Establish state-wide park system under the Recreation Areas Management Act
 - Develop commercial activities on parks
 - Initiate economic feasibilities for new commercial projects
 - Manage state-wide management planning, recreation, interpretation and public affairs programs
 - Oversee the operations of the Brisbane Forest Park and Fraser Island Recreation Area as CEO of the Authority

- Director, Brisbane Forest Park Administration Authority** **1986-1988**
- Manage the Authority's programs (resource management, recreation, tourism, planning and research, communication)
 - Develop commercial operations
 - Prepare Treasury submissions and manage and monitor budget (\$6.1m)
 - Establish policy in consultation with Board and landowner
 - Brief the Minister and Chairman of the Advisory Planning Board

- Senior Project Officer, Brisbane Forest Park Administration Authority** **1982-1986**
- Develop and manage the Authority's planning, communication, recreation, Tourism and education programs
 - Development of commercial operations
 - Liaise with private sector and government agencies

- Media Manager, Commonwealth Games Foundation** **1982**
- Manage a large media office of international and interstate journalists for the cycling events of the Brisbane Games

- Information Officer, Queensland Department of Forestry** **1980-1982**
- Media liaison, speech writing and public relations
 - Production of education materials
 - Outdoor signage and exhibition displays
 - Editing of technical, education and recreation publications

- Research Officer, Dept of Administrative Services** **1979-1980**
- Speech writing
 - Research for standing Committee on Environment and Conservation
 - Media liaison and production of media releases

ECOTOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

- Foundation executive member, Ecotourism Australia **1991 - present**
- Chair, National Ecotourism Accreditation Program Development Committee **1994-1996**
- National Ecotourism Conference development **1994-1996**
- Conception and drafting of Cairns Charter on Partnerships for Ecotourism **1998-2004**
- Development of third generation of the EcoCertification Program **2002**
- Development of National Independent Audit Program Panel for EcoCertification **2003**
- Joint development of UNESCO/Ecotourism Australia World Heritage Tourism Program and Memorandum of Co-operation **2003**
- Member National working Group on Tourism Accreditation **2003-2004**
- Development of independent audit protocols for EcoCertification **2004**

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Chair positions

Cairns Charter on Partnerships for Ecotourism, International Steering Committee	2002-present
Eco Certification Program Management National Committee	2002-2009

Board Member Positions

The International Ecotourism Society Advisory Board	2000-present
Ecotourism Australia	2004-present
National Tourism Accreditation Working Group	2003-present
Tourism Accreditation Australia Ltd(Vice-Chair)	2005-2009
Great Barrier Reef Tourism and Recreation Reef Advisory Committee	2007-present

Previous Board Appointments

Tourism Tropical North Queensland, Cairns	2003-2004
Great Barrier Reef Advisory Committee	2001-2004
Wet Tropics Management Authority (Observer)	2003-2004
Brisbane Forest Park Planning Advisory Board	2001-2004
Secretary, Ecotourism Australia	2002-2004
Fraser Island World Heritage Area Mg't Committee	2000-2004
Chair, Tourism Industry Liaison Group, Wet Tropics	1997-2003
Wet Tropics Management Authority	1997-2002
Coastal Protection Advisory Council	1997-2002
President, Ecotourism Australia	1994-1997
Treasurer, Ecotourism Australia	1991-1994

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Asia Pacific Cities Summit	2007-present
State Wide Tourism Industry Forum	2009-present

INTERNATIONAL TOURISM AWARDS

Judging panel

Finalists Selection Panel Tourism for Tomorrow Awards	2004-present
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CONFERENCES CONVENED

International Conferences

Ecotourism Association of Australia, Cairns	2002
Global Eco Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference	2009-present

National Conferences

Ecotourism Association of Australia	1995-1996,1998
Tourism Futures National Conference	2002-2010
Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia	1997-1999,2007
Best Practice Ecotourism	1996
Private Sector Involvement in park and Protected Area Management	1994
Parks and Protected Area Management Conference	2006

BOOKS

Chapter contributor	"Tourism in Parks", Buckley R, International Centre for Ecotourism Research, Griffith University	2004
Editor	"Ecotourism Best Practice" Charters.A, & Law.K, Tourism Queensland	2000
Editor	"National Parks – private sector's role" Charters.A, Gabriel.M, Prasser.S, USQ Press	1996
Chapter contributor	"Towards Planning for Sustainable Development" Kozlowski.J, & Hill.G, Avebury	1995
Chapter contributor	"Sustainable Tourism – an Australian perspective" Harris.R, Butterworth-Heinemann	1995
Editor	"Go Bush Manual", Martin.L, McKenzie.A, Charters.A, Brisbane Forest Park Authority	1988