

29th April 2025

## Ann-Marie Blake Named CSCE Fellow for Transformative Leadership, Recognition, and Impact

The Centre for Strategic Communication Excellence (CSCE) proudly recognises Ann-Marie Blake FCSCE as its newest CSCE Fellow, honouring her extraordinary leadership, wideranging professional recognition, and profound impact on the global communications profession.

A visionary leader, mentor, and changemaker, Ann-Marie has redefined leadership within the profession, bringing a bold, values-led approach that centres on excellence, equity, and empowerment. As a CSCE Faculty member, she combines subject matter expertise with a deep commitment to lifelong learning and professional excellence. Her leadership journey includes significant governance roles such as



Secretary/Treasurer and International Executive Board Member of IABC (2020–2024), where she helped shape the strategic direction globally.

Her professional standing is further validated by prestigious accolades, including:

- Chartered PR Practitioner and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR)
- PRCA 25 for 25 Volunteer Award (2025)
- PRovoke Media Innovator 25 EMEA (2024)
- Shortlisted Mentor of the Year Campaign Inspirational Women of the Year (2025)
- Freeman of the City of London for service to the communications industry
- Propel 100 Most Influential PR Professionals
- Woman of the Year Award
- Women in PR 45 Over 45 honouree
- UK Black Comms Network Trailblazer and Leader

These honours reflect peer and industry-wide esteem, affirming her position as a global leader in communications.

Beyond accolades, Ann-Marie's impact is felt most powerfully through her work uplifting and mentoring others. As the architect of the PRCA Race & Ethnicity Equity Board (REEB) mentoring programme—currently supporting 42 mentees—her initiatives have transformed professional pathways for underrepresented groups. Her leadership in initiatives such as the Equity and Representation Accessibility Programme at Cannes Lions, PRCA Schools Outreach, and her active role as Chair of the IABC Heads of Communication SIG, has opened doors for countless emerging professionals.

Sia Papageorgiou FRSA, FCSCE, SCMP, Co-founder of the CSCE commented "Ann-Marie Blake has reshaped the future of our profession by lifting others as she rises. Her leadership is measured not only in milestones and accolades, but in the hundreds of lives she has touched, mentored, and transformed. Being named a CSCE Fellow honours a career built on action, courage, and a relentless belief in the power of communication to create opportunity. Ann-Marie shows us that real leadership is about opening doors, raising standards, and leaving the profession better than we found it."

CSCE Co-Founder Adrian Cropley OAM, FRSA, IABC Fellow, GCSCE, SCMP, Added "Ann-Marie Blake embodies the very essence of a CSCE Fellow—visionary, courageous, and committed to elevating our profession. Her leadership spans boardrooms and classrooms, driving equity, mentoring future communicators, and shaping global standards. Ann-Marie's impact is profound and personal, from co-founding True Communications to championing underrepresented voices through REEB and Socially Mobile. She is not only widely recognised through prestigious awards, but she also lives the values of our profession with authenticity and purpose. Ann-Marie inspires us to lead with integrity, amplify others, and transform communication into a force for good. Her Fellowship is richly deserved."

Ann-Marie joins a distinguished group of CSCE Fellows whose work redefines the role and value of communication across industries and communities. Her legacy is one of bold leadership, intersectional advocacy, and excellence—hallmarks of the CSCE standard.

## **About the Centre for Strategic Communication Excellence**

The <u>Centre for Strategic Communication Excellence</u> (CSCE) is a global leader in strategic communication management. Headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, with senior faculty members found on six continents, we build communication capability in organisations by:

- 1. Developing strategic communication professionals.
- 2. Building the communication capability of leaders.
- 3. Building the communication skills of employees.

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## **Notes to Editors:**

Ann-Marie Blake, FCSCE is available for interviews.

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