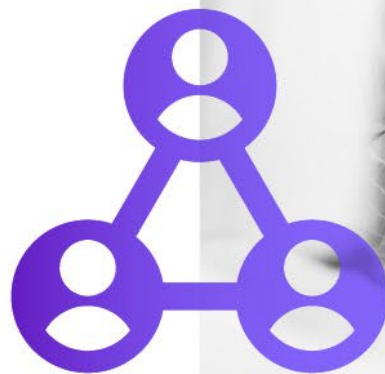


 Sydney

Women in Tax

 28 October 2026

 CPD 1

AI: From Disruption to Opportunity – Leading the Future of Tax

Artificial intelligence is rapidly reshaping how tax professionals work, learn and lead. While much of the discussion focuses on technology, the bigger question is human: **how do we build successful and fulfilling careers when roles, skills and expectations are evolving faster than ever?**

This panel will explore how AI is changing the future of the tax profession and what this means for leadership and career development. Rather than focusing solely on technical applications, the discussion will centre on adaptability, resilience, continuous learning and the uniquely human capabilities that will remain critical in an AI-enabled world.

Bringing together **regulatory, in-house, smaller practice and professional services perspectives**, the session will explore how AI is being approached, adopted and used across different parts of the tax profession. The discussion will compare the opportunities, challenges and expectations each environment is facing, while also examining responsible adoption, governance and trust from both leadership and people perspectives.

The panel will consider how professionals can strengthen distinctly human capabilities such as judgement, influence, empathy, ethics and relationship building, how leadership expectations are evolving, and how emerging professionals can prepare for careers and roles that may not yet exist.

Attendees will gain practical insights into navigating change with confidence, developing future-ready skills and careers, and leading teams through transformation.

Panellists:

- Anna Rizzo, CTA, Demasi & Company Services
- Rajitha Srikhanta, Deputy Chief Tax Counsel, Australian Taxation Office
- Jenny Travis, Head of Indirect Tax & Tax Technology, Canva

Facilitator:

- Elke Keeley, Chief Data & Product Officer, EY

Event Details

Wednesday, 28 October 2026

Ivy Ballroom, 320 George St, Sydney

12:00 – 2:30pm



We welcome all supporters of
diversity and empowering
women in the workplace - no
matter what your gender

Speakers

Anna Rizzo, FCA, CTA, is a senior accountant with the chartered accountancy practice Demasi & Company Services. With over 30 years' experience in providing accounting and taxation services to individuals and SMEs across various industries, she has become a trusted and valued advisor to her clients. Anna is a Fellow Chartered Accountant (CA ANZ), a Chartered Tax Advisor (The Tax Institute), Fellow CPA, Registered Tax Agent, and holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) degree from the University of Western Sydney.



Rajitha Srikhanta is a Deputy Chief Tax Counsel (SES2) at the Australian Taxation Office, responsible for leading the resolution of complex and significant tax matters across GST, other indirect taxes, remuneration and tax administration. As the Senior Accountable Officer for AI and automation within the Law Design and Practice group, she also provides strategic leadership on the responsible governance, adoption and use of emerging technologies. Raj has held several senior leadership roles across the ATO, including leading the organisation's response to the Royal Commission into the Robodebt Scheme. Her experience spans frontline operations, compliance and engagement, technical tax leadership and the delivery of major risk programs, including significant GST matters involving complex law interpretation, public guidance, litigation risk and system-wide administration. She has also had end-to-end accountability for the \$30 billion excise system, giving her a deep, practical understanding of administration, risk and community impact. Raj is also the SES sponsor of the ATO's Women in Melbourne Network and co-champion of the Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CALD) network, supporting inclusive leadership across the ATO.



Jenny Travis is Head of Indirect Tax & Tax Technology at Canva and an experienced tax professional specialising in indirect tax, tax technology and transformation. At Canva, Jenny is helping build a technology and AI native tax function, using AI, automation and data to improve global tax compliance, governance and operational efficiency. Jenny has extensive experience in indirect tax and previously worked with PwC Australia, advising multinational organisations on indirect tax, compliance and process improvement. She holds a Bachelor of Laws from Trinity College Dublin and is a qualified Chartered Tax Consultant. Passionate about the potential of technology to transform the tax profession, Jenny was nominated as one of the Top 50 Women in Tax Technology for 2026, recognising her contribution to tax technology, AI and innovation.



Elke Keeley is Chief Data & Product Officer and Oceania Innovation and Product Lead at EY, working at the intersection of AI, emerging technology and human-centred transformation. With a background combining entrepreneurial thinking with enterprise leadership, she leads applied innovation, data and product strategy across EY Oceania, helping organisations build AI-ready foundations, navigate emerging AI risk and translate technology into commercial outcomes. A multi-time founder with successful exits, Elke brings a pragmatic and commercially grounded perspective to transformation, leadership and growth.



“Serving on the Women in Tax Committee has been a real privilege. It provides a platform to hear from remarkable leaders in our field and to connect with talented women across the tax community. The Committee plays a vital role in elevating female leadership and encouraging women to step into roles that shape our profession. In an increasingly remote work environment, the Committee has also helped restore a sense of community and enriched my professional development and sense of belonging.” Sakshi Mathur, Director, KPMG Law

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To register

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Online

[Women in Tax NSW Lunch](#)

The Tax Institute gratefully acknowledges the generous assistance of members of the Organising Committee:

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Penny Chiang, FTI, JCDcaux Australia

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Jo-anne Hotson, CTA, TaxBoutique

Leanne Hume, ATI, Simply Numbers

Amanda Kazacos, King & Wood Mallesons

Katie Lin, CTA, Nexia

Jessica Tsai, FTI, Ashurst

Renee Santili, CTA, Roller

Sasha Smith, FTI, Deloitte

Hannah Soh, CTA, EY

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