**Citation – Dr Katherine Rae**

Honorary Fellowship - Friday, 22 April 2022, 2.30pm

Presiding Pro-Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present Dr Katherine Rae to you for an Honorary Fellowship of the University for her outstanding dedication, service and contribution to Sydney Uni Sport and Fitness and University of Sydney students in the area of sports medicine.

Katherine completed her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Sydney.

After graduating, she completed her Fellowship training in Sport and Exercise Medicine and was awarded the College Medal in 2001 for best performance in the Fellowship Examinations.

Katherine was President of the Sydney University Athletics Club for five years and captained the Sydney University Australian Uni Games Team in 1995. She also had several roles on various Sydney University Women’s Sports Association committees over this time.

In 2000, Katherine was the recipient of a University of Sydney Gold from the Women’s Sports Association, an award that recognises persons who have had outstanding and sustained service to a Constituent Club or Sydney University Sport. She is still involved with the Sydney Uni Athletics Club today, representing them on the SUSF clubs Advisory Committee and competing in the Athletics NSW Masters Relays competitions in recent years.

In 2015, she gained another University Gold from the Sydney Uni Football Club for her services as club doctor over many years. She briefly played rugby for the Sydney University Women’s Rugby Club in 2003, being awarded the club’s Players Player award that year before returning to work every season for the Sydney University Football Club for 12 years including two extra seasons with the Sydney Stars, a Sydney University based team in the National Rugby Championships, all while carrying and then raising four beautiful children without missing any games.

These awards recognised her dedication to student athletes striving to compete in the highest level of sporting competition and accomplish outstanding sporting achievement whilst combining academic study. As a dual Gold Award Recipient, she has continued to serve as a member of the Blues and Gold Association Committee for the past 5 years.

Further representing elite University Sports teams, she was also the team doctor for the Sydney University Sandpipers in the National Netball League in 2000 and 2001 and team doctor for the Brydens Sydney University Flames in the National Women’s Basketball League since 2003.

Katherine has an enduring passion for helping student athletes realise their full potential on the field and is renowned in the sporting community as someone that can be relied on, always on call. Despite being one of Sydney’s top Sport and Exercise Medicine Physicians, she continues to charge only the Medicare rate to students on the Sydney Uni Sport and Fitness’s Elite Athlete Program.

A highlight of Katherine’s career was when her refined skills were required during a Sydney University Rugby game in 2015. With a combination of quick thinking and progressive medical knowledge, Katherine correctly diagnosed and treated a tension pneumothorax in a player who had collapsed on the field after being tackled. Following the event, she was nominated for a Pride of Australia Outstanding Bravery Medal for saving his life with an emergency on-field ‘MacGyver-like’ procedure.

Whilst helping to foster links between all areas of the University, Katherine has been heavily involved in the Faculty of Medicine and Health. Most recently, the Sports Clinic has developed a program allowing Sydney University physiotherapy students direct access to Sydney Uni Sport and Fitness sports clubs and athletes on and off the field enabling them to gain real-life sports medicine experience.

Katherine is also a Research Affiliate for the Concussion Research Group and the Foot and Ankle Research Group at the Sydney University School of Physiotherapy. She has also been a guest lecturer for the physiotherapy school and gives lectures to UNSW medical students.

Presiding Pro-Chancellor, I present Dr Katherine Rae for an Honorary Fellowship of the University and invite you to confer the award upon her recognising her extraordinary support of the interests and welfare of student experience and student athletes, as well as her exceptional sports medicine knowledge helping sport and fitness at the University of Sydney.