

## **Professor Denise Bradley AC**

The honorary degree of Doctor of Education was conferred upon Denise Bradley by the Deputy Chancellor, Mr Alec Brennan AM at a Faculty of Education and Social Work graduation at 2.00pm on 9 March 2017.

### **Citation**

Deputy Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present Emeritus Professor Denise Bradley AC to you for admission to the degree of Doctor of Education (honoris causa).

Professor Bradley is an alumna of the University of Sydney, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts. She also has a Diploma of Education from Adelaide University, a Diploma in Librarianship from UNSW and a Masters in Social Administration from Flinders University.

Professor Bradley commenced her career as a secondary school teacher, followed by a posting as Women's Adviser to the South Australian Department of Education, before becoming a lecturer in education at the Adelaide College of Arts and Education.

She was inaugural Dean of the Faculty of Education of the South Australian College of Advanced Education, and subsequently held the role of Director: Academic, prior to her appointment as Principal of SACAE.

In 1991, when the University of South Australia was established, she was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor, prior to appointment as Vice-Chancellor in 1997. She was only the third woman to hold a position at that level in a tertiary institution in Australia. On her retirement from the University of South Australia, she received an Honorary Doctorate and an Emeritus Professorship of the University.

Professor Bradley has held a great many other positions at state, national and international levels, including: most notably Foundation Director of the Australian Universities' Quality Agency; Director of Open Universities Australia; Member of the Joint Higher Education Council/Australian Research Council Working Party on Research Infrastructure; Executive Member of the International Association of University Presidents; Director Australian-American Fulbright Commission Board; Board Member of the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee, President of IDP Education Australia; Chair of the Australian Technology Network of Universities; Board Member of the Business/Higher Education Round Table; Chair of the South Australian Training and Skills Commission; Chair of the Advisory Panel for the National Trade Cadetships program; Member of the NSW National Partnerships Evaluation Committee; Member of the Education Infrastructure Fund Advisory Board; Member of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO and Director and President of the Australian College of Educators.

She is currently a; a member of the Advisory Council for the NSW Centre for Educational Statistics and Evaluation; Member of the NSW Skills Board; and Director of SEEK Ltd

Professor Bradley has worked across sectors nationally and internationally and has influenced policy and practice at all levels of education. She played a critical role in the development of offshore higher education, now one of Australia's largest export industries.

Professor Bradley also has a long-standing interest in equity issues, particularly those relating to girls' and women's rights and those of disadvantaged communities, and a deep interest in vocational education, themes evident in the 2008 National Review of Higher Education, known as the Bradley Report. She was a member of the Schools Commission National Working Party on the Education of Girls; convenor of the national Women's Employment Education and Training Advisory Group; and Chair of the Equity Working Party of the Higher Education Council, among other positions.

In 2008, she chaired the influential National Review of Higher Education, which has led to reform across the Australian tertiary sector, and influenced practice in secondary education. Her strong advocacy for the inclusion of a higher proportion of low SES students in tertiary education has led to a significant increase in their participation rate in recent years.

Professor Bradley was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia in 1995 and Companion of the Order of Australia in 2008. She is a fellow of the Australian College of Educators and was College Medallist 2011. She was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001, was South Australian of the Year in 2005 and holds Honorary Doctorates from Pukyong University (Korea), RMIT University and Western Sydney University.

In 2016 she was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in the Australian Financial Review Higher Education Awards with the judges commenting "In a career spanning more than four decades Denise

Bradley has exerted tremendous influence on Australian higher education policy and practice as a teacher, a policy adviser, an administrator and a university leader.”

Deputy Chancellor, I present Professor Denise Bradley AC for admission to the degree of Doctor of Education (honoris causa) and I invite you to confer the degree upon her.