

Dr Leon Clark

An honorary Fellowship of the University was conferred upon Leon Clark by the Presiding Pro-Chancellor, Mr Barry Catchlove AM at a Faculty of Medicine graduation at 4.00pm on 7 December 2017.

Citation

Presiding Pro-Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present Dr Leon Clark to you for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University of Sydney.

Dr Clark has a long affiliation with the University of Sydney, dating back to his Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, which he obtained in 1968.

For many years Dr Clark was a practising Obstetrician and Gynaecologist and pioneer in his chosen sub-specialty of in-vitro fertilisation. Even when in private practice in Newcastle, he was involved with the then newly created medical course at the University of Newcastle, especially undergraduate student teaching and teaching in his rooms.

Dr Clark and his colleagues were key to the success in establishing in record time the flagship Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical School at the Sydney Adventist Hospital in 2009. Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical School was the first fully fledged Clinical School embedded in the private sector and Dr Clark worked with the University to attract considerable Commonwealth, State and philanthropic funding for the state-of-the-art Clinical Education Centre building which was set up to enhance collaborative and inter-professional learning. The uniqueness and groundbreaking nature of the SAH Clinical School project has attracted support from Professor The Hon Marie Bashir AC CVO, The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, The Hon Peter Dutton MP, The Hon Jillian Skinner and a number of significant philanthropic donors.

Prior to his appointment as Group Chief Executive Officer of Adventist HealthCare Ltd in 2012, Dr Clark was Chief Executive Officer of Sydney Adventist Hospital for ten years. With a strong clinical background, as well as administrative expertise, he is a past president of the Australian Private Hospitals Association. He currently serves on the boards of several other not-for-profit organisations including the Clinical Excellence Commission, the Agency for Clinical Innovation and Medi-Aid Centre Foundation Limited.

Building on work begun by the pioneers who first opened the Sanitarium in 1903 and, following his parents, who trained at Sydney Adventist Hospital as nurses, Dr Clark has been a driving force in continuing the vision of providing state-of-the-art training facilities and promoting educational opportunities in the private healthcare sector.

Presiding Pro-Chancellor, I present Dr Leon Clark and invite you to confer the title of Honorary Fellow of the University upon him.