

## Mr John Cecil Dauth LVO

The title of Honorary Fellow was conferred upon John Cecil Dauth LVO at the Arts ceremony held at 11.30am on 12 April 1996.

### Citation

*Presented by the Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal Professor D J Anderson*

Chancellor,

I have the honour to present to you Australia's recent High Commissioner to Malaysia, John Cecil Dauth LVO for the conferring of the title of Honorary Fellow.

Almost 26 years ago to the day, John Dauth graduated in absentia with a BA in History. It was one of the great regrets of his life that he was not able to attend the ceremony in this Great Hall. In 1969 he had just joined the Australian Foreign Service and the Foreign Service cadets were obliged to travel throughout Australia.

In later years he has held diplomatic appointments in Lagos, Islamabad, Teheran and Noumea. He was also seconded to Buckingham Palace, where he served as Assistant Press Secretary to the Queen and Press Secretary to the Prince of Wales.

From 1989 to 1991 John Dauth was Senior Private Secretary to Australia's Foreign Minister, Senator Gareth Evans. Throughout his career John Dauth has learned to seize opportunities. He maintains that the job with Senator Evans, for example, taught him more than he might have experienced had he taken any of the other less risky options available to him at the time. He believes from his own experience that one should not cling to some long-term goal at the expense of short-term opportunities, since those opportunities may very well deliver a more enriching life.

John Dauth takes pride in Sydney's educational traditions, and he has consistently nurtured his ties with this University to the benefit of our graduates. He applauds Sydney's involvement in Malaysia's Kolej Antarabangsa in Penang, which also offers Sydney students an opportunity to study in Asia, believing as he does that the University's involvement in Penang represents an important new direction and broadening focus for the institution.

John Dauth believes profoundly in the value of an international perspective for Australia and its people, asserting firmly that Australia will die if it becomes unduly insular in its outlook. His global perspective colours his view of this University's character and achievements.

He is confident that universities need to be both internationally relevant and contemporary in order to invigorate our society intellectually. The University and its alumni are indeed fortunate that John Dauth sees it as one of his many tasks as a career diplomat to spread this informed message among our graduates.

Chancellor, I have great pleasure in presenting John Dauth for the conferring of the title of Honorary Fellow.