

Dr Jill Forrest AM

MB BS (Hons II) MD Sydney – contributor to medical research, to the education of medical students at the University and to the University through her work first as Honorary Carillanist (appointed 1978), and then Carillanist (1993-2010)

Honorary Fellow of the University
Conferring ceremony: 11.30am, 9 May 2014 (Medicine)

Citation

Chancellor, I have much pleasure in presenting Consultant Physician Emeritus and Emeritus University Carillanist Dr Jill Forrest AM to you for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University of Sydney, in recognition of her outstanding commitment to the purposes and interests of the University in Medicine, specialising in Endocrinology and Music, specialising in the Carillon.

Jill Forrest is, foremost, a dedicated and skilful Medical Practitioner. Graduating in 1961, MB BS with second class honours, and following residency and registrar years at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH), she continued her study and research and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine, MD, for her ground-breaking research into the effects of rubella infection on fetal development, with the introduction of the first rubella vaccination programs in Australia. This work was widely published and acclaimed internationally. Research and editing became her *forte*. She rose to the position of Research Fellow at the Children's Medical Research Foundation, Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children (1973-1977). She held this position with distinction, contributing greatly to the clinical and intellectual standards of Medical Practice in Australia. She also contributed to medical research and practice nationally and internationally in her roles as Deputy and later Joint Editor of The Medical Journal of Australia.

All of Jill Forrest's work has been closely aligned with the University's main purpose of education of students, both undergraduate and post graduate; most notably when appointed Associate Physician, in Endocrinology at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (1982-1998); Clinical Lecturer and Examiner, Faculty of Medicine (1983-1993) and in 1996 Acting Co-ordinator, Medical Education, at RPAH. In 1998 her work was recognised with the award of Consultant Physician Emeritus, RPAH – a great honour and well deserved for her services to Medicine and the University of Sydney.

Alongside her medical work, in 1978 Jill Forrest was appointed an Honorary Carillanist. In 1993 she was appointed University Carillanist through to her retirement in 2010. In this position Jill Forrest and the carillon have brought great prestige to the University.

The War Memorial Carillon is the ceremonial voice of the University of Sydney, the only University in Australia to have such a splendid asset. It is played to celebrate festive occasions and to dignify solemn occasions and serves all faculties and organisations of the University. Jill Forrest has treasured the carillon and with distinction, made an outstanding contribution in her role as the University Carillanist. She is a highly accomplished performer and has represented Australia at International Carillon Festivals in Europe and America.

During her tenure she played the carillon for well over a hundred graduations, Sunday recitals and festive occasions each year. She has maintained the fabric of the carillon, bell chamber and clavier at world standards and fostered strong links between the University and all other countries with carillons. She also founded and donated a library of carillon music, with the latest annual publications. She has published, edited, arranged and composed a vast quantity of high quality carillon music, and has educated carillonists to world standards, thus ensuring Australian carillonists for the future. She has hosted international carillonists all of whom have been immensely impressed with the instrument and the art of carillon in Australia. In addition, as Honorary Consultant to the Bathurst Council, she has advised on refurbishment and upgrading of the Bathurst War Memorial Carillon. Her dedication to Medicine and Music for over 50 years was recognised in 2011 by the Award of Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Chancellor, I present Consultant Physician Emeritus and Emeritus University Carillanist Dr Jill Forrest AM and invite you to confer the title of Honorary Fellow of the University upon her.