The honorary degree of Doctor of Medical Science was conferred upon Janice Reid by the Chancellor, Ms Belinda Hutchinson AM at a Faculty of Medicine graduation at 11.00am on 7 December 2017.

Citation

Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present Emeritus Professor Janice Reid AC to you for admission to the degree of Doctor of Medical Science (honoris causa) for her contributions to scholarship and practice in the fields of public health, health care and higher education policy and development.

Professor Reid has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Adelaide, a Master of Arts from the University of Hawaii, and Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy from Stanford University. Her graduate studies were in the social and cultural dimensions of public health and service provision, primarily in Indigenous and refugee communities.

Professor Reid has longstanding connections to the University of Sydney. She commenced as a lecturer in the College that later became our Faculty of Health Sciences. She subsequently became a Senior Lecturer and then Associate Professor in the Commonwealth School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at this University, and the Department of Public Health in the Faculty of Medicine. She was awarded the title of Professor in 1990 in recognition of her research and scholarship and educational contributions to clinical training and health programs, and served as a deputy chair of Academic Board.

Professor Reid has published extensively. Her monograph, Continuity and Change in an Aboriginal Medical System won a Wellcome Medal in the UK. The royalties from her two major co-edited textbooks, The Health of Immigrant Australia and The Health of Aboriginal Australia fund an annual award in these fields for a Master of Public Health graduate at this University. A named prize for fellowship and leadership is also awarded annually in the School.

During her career she has been a special adviser to a federal parliamentary enquiry into Aboriginal Health. Her later study of the impact of torture and trauma on refugees in Sydney led to the establishment of the Service for the Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors known as STARTTS. In 1994 she chaired the National Review of Nursing Education.

She has served on committees of the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Trust and Council of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and as Chair of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. She has also been a member of the board of the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission and the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation and was appointed to the NSW Regional Advisory Council and national Clinical Governance Committee of the St Vincent's Hospital system.

In 1998, Professor Reid became the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Western Sydney, holding this post for 16 years. Under her leadership, the University grew in size and stature and in 2014 was recognised as one of the global leaders in higher education and ranked in the top 100 Universities under 50 years of age worldwide.

Professor Reid has also served on numerous committees and steering groups in the tertiary sector including the Federal Higher Education Council, the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, and the Executive of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (ASSA) of which she is an elected Fellow. She participated in the Federal Higher Education Review Reference Group, and was the Australian representative and Vice-Chair of the Governing Board of the OECD’s program on management in higher education.

She is currently the Chair of the advocacy organization for Southeast Asia and the Pacific which supports the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, and is Australia’s representative on the Council of the University of the South Pacific.

Professor Reid was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (1998), in recognition of services to cross-cultural public health research and the development of health services for socio-economically disadvantaged groups in the community, and in 2015 was awarded Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

Chancellor, I present Emeritus Professor Janice Reid AC for admission to the degree of Doctor of Medical Science (honoris causa), and I invite you to confer the degree upon her.