

Emeritus Professor Michael Taylor

An honorary degree, Doctor of the University, was conferred on Emeritus Professor Michael Taylor at a graduation ceremony held on 25 March 1994 in the Great Hall.

Professor Taylor delivered the occasional address at the ceremony.



Emeritus Professor Michael Taylor, Doctor of the University, 1994, *photo, University of Sydney Archives.*

Report

Professor Taylor was Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University for sixteen years, Chairman of the Board of Studies in Music, Pro-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Chairman of the Professorial Board and Fellow of Senate. He served as a trustee of the NSW Public Library, Dean of Studies at St Paul's College, and Director of the Chromosome Research Foundation and of the United Dental Hospitals Board.

In a citation read at the graduation, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Don McNicol, said that Michael Taylor had an extremely rare combination of talents - a profound knowledge and insight in cardiovascular physiology, and extraordinary mathematical skill.

'His greatest scientific achievements are in the field of circulatory haemodynamics, which is concerned with the study of how the physical properties of blood vessels determine blood flows throughout the body, and the effect they have on the function of the heart,' said Professor McNicol.

'His work has enabled medical scientists to understand how changes in the physical properties of arteries can affect the pumping capacity of the heart. He is truly a pioneer in this area and his research has been of practical benefit in the development of mechanical devices for assisting the failing heart.'

Michael Taylor's knowledge, insight, wisdom and methodology had benefited many, including his former research students. 'His influence on younger researchers is therefore on-going', concluded Professor McNicol.

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