

Professor Antony James Underwood

The honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon Antony Underwood by the Chancellor, Ms Belinda Hutchinson AM at a Faculty of Science graduation at 11.30am on 8 April 2016.

Citation

Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present Professor Antony James Underwood to you for admission to the degree of Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*).

Tony is an experimental ecologist whose research has defined the field of marine ecology over the last 40 years.

Tony's work has demonstrated major advances in many aspects of ecological and environmental science. His challenge to ecologists to be clear about ecology as a science is directly responsible for the high standard of rigour within the discipline.

For many years, he has contributed to governmental and public fora to ensure effective management based on sound ecological methods. Above all, his postgraduate supervision and positive responses to numerous invitations to teach advanced courses on experimental design world-wide have influenced numerous younger ecologists, many of whom have, in turn, made their own considerable advances in ecology.

His research achievements have been recognised in Australia and globally. Since receiving a Doctor of Science early in his career, his list of academic honours and prizes has been extensive.

Tony is a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London; an Honorary Foreign Member of the Ecological Society of America, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and in 2002 was awarded as a Highly-Cited Scientist (one of only 7 in the University of Sydney) from the Institute for Scientific Information. He was also a Professorial Fellow of the Australian Research Council.

He has been awarded the Australian Centennial Medal for services to experimental ecology, a Eureka Prize for Environmental Research; and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Tony has published over 300 refereed papers, chapters and books, with over 12,500 citations in Web of Science and an H index of 68.

In advancing broad ecological understanding, he was responsible for re-invigorating discussions of appropriate designs of experimental analyses of competition, some of the earlier re-evaluations of models for structure of intertidal assemblages, which led to the renewal of interest in "supply-side" ecology.

His larger contributions, however, are about the logic, design, analysis and interpretation of ecological experiments. His original contributions to this are extremely widely known and read and his 1997 book on the topic is de rigueur in many ecological and marine laboratories.

Tony has made a substantial and long-lasting contribution to the University. Aside from his research activities (which culminated in an ARC Special Research Centre being awarded, and renewed), Tony has been a significant contributor to the running of the School of Biological Sciences, the Faculty of Science and the University of Sydney Institute of Marine Science (previously the Marine Studies Centre). His legacy to the University and to the wider scientific community is his graduate students. He has successfully supervised over 70 PhD students from all over the world, including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Italy, Spain, Mexico, Peru, Iran, USA, New Zealand, UK, Hong Kong and Venezuela, all of whom are part of the University of Sydney family.

Chancellor, I present Professor Antony James Underwood for admission to the degree of Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*), and I invite you to confer the degree upon him.