

## **DR PATRICK THOMAS MAHONY**

### **Citation for the Conferral of a Doctor of Health Studies (*honoris causa*)**

Patrick Thomas Mahony was born in Tamworth in 1948. He attended St John's College at Woodlawn in Lismore and went on to gain his Bachelor of Pharmacy degree at The University of Sydney in 1967.

Following graduation and completion of his pharmacy registration period in Merrylands, Patrick worked in various 'pharmacist-in-charge' positions over the next three years. In 1971 he purchased his first pharmacy that he operated in partnership until 1977. Between 1978 and 1985 Patrick was involved in pharmacy consultancy and from 1981 to 1985 was manager of the microcomputer division of the Australian Pharmaceutical Industries where he developed dispensary computer systems.

In 1985 Patrick returned to pharmacy practice in regional New South Wales and purchased the Manilla Pharmacy which he continues to manage. In 1989 he was elected as a pharmacist member of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales and continues to serve with distinction on the Board. As a member he contributed to the Pharmacy Board's process of revision of the Pharmacy Act, and wrote "The Guide" for registration of pharmacies in 1990. Patrick has been actively involved in the development of competencies for entry-level pharmacists in Australia, including a continuing association with pharmacy graduates through the Postgraduate Training Course.

Patrick Mahony is known nationally and internationally as the founder of the Remote and Isolated Pharmacists' Association of Australia. Through his membership of the Association, and as a member of a number of governmental bodies, he has been instrumental in heightening awareness about the issues and problems facing pharmacists who practise in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia. In recognition of his contribution to rural pharmacy, Patrick was elected a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia in 1996.

Patrick Mahony championed the establishment of the Bachelor of Pharmacy course at Charles Sturt University. In the setting-up phase he visited the University on a number of occasions to provide advice about course development. As a member of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales he was instrumental in supporting the accreditation of the Charles Sturt University course through the Board, and in the subsequent monitoring of the course. During the past four years Patrick has developed a close affinity with pharmacy students at the University, being a regular visitor to the Wagga Wagga Campus. It has been through Patrick's initiative and encouragement that rural pharmacists throughout New South Wales and increasingly across Australia have come to identify closely with the Bachelor of Pharmacy course at Charles Sturt University.

Charles Sturt University has pleasure in conferring the award Doctor of Health Studies (*honoris causa*) on Patrick Mahony, this nation's leading rural pharmacist and advocate of the University's Bachelor of Pharmacy course.

**Dated this Sixth day of April Two Thousand and One**