



Citation

Citation for the conferral of the title of Professor Emeritus upon Professor John Robert Llewellyn HICKS

The citation will be read out at the relevant graduation ceremony with a copy presented to the recipient with the honorary award.

Appointed as Professor of Economics and Dean of the Faculty of Business in February 1993, Professor John Robert Llewellyn HICKS has served Charles Sturt University, and the larger academic community of the Economics discipline with great distinction for over thirty years.

As the Foundation Dean of the (then) Faculty of Business, a position he held for over sixteen years until 2009, Professor Hicks initiated, developed, and provided outstanding leadership and management of what was to become an innovative global outreach and international partnership program. He provided oversight of the simultaneous development of both high-quality courses and the capacity of staff as the Faculty grew and matured. His strategic course development included the development of the Bachelor of Business Studies (BBS) and the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA). Recognized for his strategic thinking in identifying and pursuing opportunities for the continued growth and development of the Faculty and University, it was his ambassadorship that led the University's expansion into international partnerships.

In the mid-1990s Professor Hicks took the Faculty into China and established four partnership arrangements with Chinese universities for the delivery of the BBS. All four programs achieved formal approval from the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. At the time they were four of only twelve Western undergraduate programs approved for delivery in China. These programs remain a very important part of the present Faculty's offshore business activities.

In South-East Asia Professor Hicks was responsible for the academic programs in the University's strategic partnerships with HELP University College in Malaysia.

CONFIDENTIAL

In North America, and at the post graduate level, Professor Hicks' success having CSU's MBA program approved for delivery in Canada was followed by the approval for the delivery of three undergraduate programs in Accounting, Human Resource Management and Marketing at the Burlington campus.

In Europe, he successfully introduced CSU's DBA to Switzerland, where it was taught in partnership with the University of Applied Science, Bern. It was then extended to other universities of applied science in Switzerland and Germany. Importantly for the professional standing of the University, Professor Hicks also worked to develop the CSU program in Australia in collaboration with the *Association of Professional Engineers, Scientists and Managers, Australia* through their education arm, the Chifley Business School.

In Australia, too, Professor Hicks worked to secure a partnership with the Australia Academy in Sydney for both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching – a partnership that evolved into the Faculty's joint program with Study Group when that organisation bought out the Australia Academy. And it was under his leadership that the Faculty successfully built a strong fee-paying postgraduate program with a suite of offerings including an MBA and masters' degrees in HRM, Management and Marketing, with all programs being taught in the distance education mode.

As a leader, his style was well known for being open and collegial. He enjoyed strong support from the staff of the Faculty and as Dean he was successfully able to integrate IT, Computer Science and Mathematics into the Business Faculty following a University-level restructure, and later managed the incorporation into the Faculty of staff from the former Orange Campus of Sydney University when Orange and CSU were merged.

As a passionate researcher in his own field, Professor Hicks was aware of the importance of growing a solid research environment for staff, courses and students in the Faculty. He was the key mover in the establishment of the *Western Research Institute*, recognised as the leading economic research and consulting body in Western New South Wales.

As Dean, his excellent record of teaching and research in applied economics led him to successfully mentor Faculty staff in a range of business disciplines, carefully developing the staff profile of the Faculty to the point where it had the highest proportion of staff with doctoral qualifications, the highest proportion of staff meeting CSU's research performance management targets, and the highest research output per head.

During Professor Hicks' extensive tenure in the role of Dean, his demonstrably successful budgetary management secured the importance of the Faculty of Business to the growth of CSU, and his responsibilities widened to include concurrent appointments as Acting Vice-Chancellor, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Head of Campus (Bathurst), as well as the Dean of the Australian Graduate School of Police Management.

Since stepping back from his Decanal management responsibilities, though, he has had (and relished) the opportunity to return to teaching and research as the Faculty's Professor of Economics. From this time he has continued to give distinguished academic service above and beyond the level normally expected of a member of the scholarly community – across teaching, research and leadership – within the University community and beyond. He continues to enjoy teaching both online and face-to-face, supervise higher degree research students, and present at national and international conferences.

As a member of teams earning nearly half a million dollars in research funding since 2010, Professor Hicks' current research interests focus on regional economic problems; national economic policy impacting upon the relationship between the China and Australia; regional labour markets and emerging issues in industrial relations theory and practice. This is important and topical research that focuses on and contributes to the national understandings of 'the common good' in the words of this University's namesake, Charles Sturt. He is regularly interviewed by national media on economic issues, and continues to present and publish scholarly papers. Just this year he presented on 'Disaster Fatigue' at the International Sociological Association 20th World Conference, with his colleagues Val Ingham, Lucia Weursch,

CONFIDENTIAL

and M. Rabiul Islam based on their case study of the Blue Mountains, published in the *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*.

As a colleague, and a teacher, Professor Hicks is known for kindness, willingness to teach almost any subject in business, willingness to help and collaborate on research projects, and wise and practical advice.

As we wish him well on his retirement from his substantive position here at this time, we wish to formally recognise and honour his outstanding service to his discipline, his Faculty and his institution by awarding him the title of Professor Emeritus of the University.

SUBMITTED BY

Professor Mark Morrison, School of Business
A/Professor Julia Lynch, Head of School of Business

21/09/23

CONFIDENTIAL