

DR ANTHONY DOUGLAS JORDAN, OAM
Citation for the Conferral of Doctor of Science

Dr Jordan commenced his academic career at the Riverina College of Advanced Education, a precursor institution of Charles Sturt University, in February 1974. His initial appointment was as a lecturer in chemistry, following his PhD study in chemical physics and post-doctoral and teaching appointments in the USA and UK.

Not long after his appointment, he was invited to develop a submission for the establishment of a wine science degree, along with a diploma in viticulture.

On formal approval of the course, Dr Jordan was appointed as wine science course coordinator. Through extensive engagement with the wine industry, he developed a strong academic/industry partnership that has always been the hallmark of the Charles Sturt University wine science/oenology program.

He participated with colleague Dr Brian Croser AO in the development of the College winery as an enterprise where students could experience the reality of commercial wine production. The first vintage was in 1977.

In 1978, Dr Jordan decided that the time was right to move into wine industry consulting, and so he departed Riverina College of Advanced Education to set up Oenotec with Brian Croser. Oenotec quickly developed a reputation for high quality consulting across all aspects of the wine industry from feasibility studies, through vineyard and winery design, control of winemaking and wine styles to advice on marketing and promotion. Oenotech was without a doubt the most effective and influential wine consulting/advisory business in Australia.

In the mid-1980's, Möet&Chandon, a Champagne House in France, was searching for a suitable site in Australia and the Yarra Valley in particular to establish Domaine Chandon Australia. Oenotec was engaged to advise on establishment options.

Dr Jordan was so successful in his consulting role that he was offered the position of Managing Director of Domaine Chandon Australia, commencing in August 1987.

Here he was responsible for the establishment of the vineyard and winery as well as creating the national and export marketing strategies and the visitors' centre at Green Point in the Yarra Valley. The challenge was to develop a super premium sparkling wine using the traditional Champagne grape varieties of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier with a smaller range of still or non-sparkling wines. The success of his strategies can be measured in the growth of the business with Chandon now a market leader in the super premium sparkling wine category.

In 2000, he was appointed as CEO of Domaine Chandon Australia, Cape Mentelle (Western Australia) and Cloudy Bay (NZ), all wineries within the Möet Hennessy group.

All this came to an end in 2008 when Dr Jordan retired from the Möet Hennessy group to re-establish his own consultancy business as well as to set up his own vineyard and winery business.

The Wine Show system has a major force in enhancing the culture of excellence in the Australian wine industry and Dr Jordan has been an active leader in this role. Anyone who has judged with him will know his astute and definite approach to scoring wine. He was Chair of the Royal Hobart Wine Show, the Perth Royal Wine Show and the Hong Kong International Wine Competition as well as judging over the last 25 years at all national and most regional wine shows in Australia

In the international scene, he has judged at the Decanter Awards in the UK, the Trophy Wine Show in South Africa, Winpac (Hong Kong), the Hong Kong International Wine Competition and the Easter Show in New Zealand.

Dr Jordan has been effective in the wine industry administration at the national and regional level. He was a non-executive member of the board of Wine Australia Corporation serving a maximum six year term between 2008 and 2014.

He was President of the Yarra Valley Wine Growers Association from 2008 to 2010 and now elected in 2019 to the Association's Hall of Fame.

As President of the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology in the early 1980's, he played a key role in the formation of the Society, recognised in his recent election as a Fellow of the Society.

Although Dr Jordan's work over the last 25 years took him away from fulltime engagement with Charles Sturt University, he remained a strong supporter of the wine science program. He would actively promote the course throughout the wine industry and openly reinforced this support by employing Charles Sturt University graduates or providing support for new employees to obtain their qualifications through distance education study at the University. He generously sent his staff to provide guest lectures in sparkling wine production as well as providing sufficient wine through all stages of the sparkling wine process. Sufficient wine was sent to allow students to work in groups to blend base wines, perhaps the most critical step in style creation for sparkling wine production. This openness to wine styles reflects his commitment to education: there are 'no hidden secrets or house styles – all are free to see and comment'.

Dr Jordan's contribution to the Australian wine industry was recognised at the national level when he was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day 2013 Honours list. Life membership of the Australian Wine Industry has been awarded to Dr Jordan 'in recognition of his significant contribution to the Australian wine sector' and Wine Australia has inaugurated the Dr Tony Jordan OAM Award, an annual award for an outstanding PhD student.

Charles Sturt University has enormous respect for Dr Jordan's outstanding commitment to the University and the Australian wine industry and is very much deserving of the title of Honorary Doctor of Science.

Dated this Twelfth Day of September Two Thousand and Nineteen