

## **PROFESSOR BOB PERRY**

### **Citation for the conferral of the title of Emeritus Professor**

Professor Bob Perry has a long history with Charles Sturt University and its predecessors having taught at Mitchell College of Advanced Education in Bathurst from 1972 to 1979. After working in other institutions, Professor Perry returned to Charles Sturt University as Associate Professor of Education based in the Murray School of Education in Albury and was promoted to Professor in 2009.

Professor Perry has made an outstanding contribution to the University and scholarly community during his tenure. He continues his commitment to the University through doctoral supervision, participation in funded research projects as the Chief Investigator, and participation in local, national and international forums through collaborative research and invited keynote presentations.

Professor Perry's employment at Charles Sturt University has been characterised by distinguished services across the areas of teaching, research and administration. He has been Chief Investigator on multiple externally funded research grants, supervised five doctoral students to completion, with another four to graduate in 2016 and maintained a superior record of high quality publications.

Professor Perry is a recognised national and international leader in the fields of early childhood mathematics and educational transitions, particularly in the transition to school. In addition, his research in and with Indigenous communities has earned him the esteem of community members and Elders, as well as his peers in the university community.

In recognition of his significant and distinguished academic service and achievements in the area of early mathematics, he was a member of the team awarded the Beth Southwell Practical Implications Award, from the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia in 2016.

This award recognises Professor Perry's role as the lead academic in the development, implementation and evaluation of the early years mathematics program Let's Count – a key outreach program delivered by The Smith Family.

Professor Perry's publications are highly regarded and widely cited. In the period 2012-2016 he has been an Australian co-leader of a European Union Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme grant, which has supported extensive and extended collaborations between researchers at universities in Iceland, Scotland, Sweden and New Zealand. His international leadership of this program resulted in the award of Honorary Doctor from Mälardalen University in 2015. Part of the citation for this award commended Professor Perry as a "role model for both doctoral students and fellow researchers in the way he initiates new projects, extends the scope of research and is active in international exchanges". As a senior researcher in this international alliance, he has delivered keynote addresses at major conference events held in each of the partner countries, engaged in discussions with key educational policy-makers, and delivered a series of open public lectures. On each occasion, he has been a prominent and highly regarded ambassador for Charles Sturt University.

Professor Perry has earned enormous respect for his work in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, particularly in New South Wales and Queensland. In addition to building and maintaining strong and respectful links with the University's local Aboriginal communities, he has undertaken research in a number of sensitive Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in a manner which has resulted not only in the successful

completion of specified projects, but also in invitations to return to these communities as a trusted friend.

In addition to his eminent national and international reputation, Professor Perry has made a distinguished contribution to the University's local communities. He has been the recipient of Vice-Chancellor's awards highlighting his superior contribution to doctoral supervision and collaborative research teams.

In a recent book published to mark his retirement from the University both national and international researchers, as well as former and current students outlined the profound impact of Professor Perry's research on their own research direction.

The University has enormous respect for Professor Perry's intellect, vision and commitment to the fields of early childhood mathematics and educational transitions, as a means to benefit society and the public good. He has been an outstanding role model as an academic leader and is deserving of the title of Emeritus Professor.

**Dated this Thirteenth Day of December Two Thousand and Sixteen**