

MR RONALD BARRY CAMPLIN

Citation for the conferral of a Master of Arts (Communication) (*honoris causa*)

Ron Camplin has been in the radio industry for over forty years. He began his career as an office boy at Radio 2CH in Sydney and held announcing positions at 2XL in Cooma and at 2MG in Mudgee. In 1958 at the age of 25, he acquired his first radio station by becoming part owner of Radio 2MG in Mudgee. He then acquired 2LF in Young and currently owns Radio 2BS in Bathurst.

He has been involved in the training of broadcasters through the Australian Film, Television and Radio School and was instrumental in establishing the TAFE technical engineering course in the Central West. For nearly ten years Ron Camplin ran weekend training schools. He has promoted and encouraged broadcasters who overcame special challenges of disability to achieve prominence in their field.

Apart from remarkable commercial success, Ron Camplin's career in radio has been characterised by a warm and gentle nature that has constantly promoted and encouraged those who have shared his passion for radio. Many of today's radio station managers, sales managers, agency personnel, and even television personalities, have benefited from his guidance.

His enthusiasm for radio is boundless. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of the industry from his involvement in the International Broadcasters Idea Bank of which he is the foundation Australian member. He is a Federal Councillor with the Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters.

He has committed himself and his radio stations to supporting the rural communities of New South Wales. He founded the Christmas Miracle Appeal, the Farmer of the Year Award and the House of the Day award and his radio station has given community service promotion to the value of over one million dollars a year.

Ron Camplin's contribution to Charles Sturt University and his interest in Mitchell College of Advanced Education have reflected his deep interest in the communication industry and his support for young people. As President of the Mitchell Foundation he has seen that organisation grow from humble beginnings to the point where it has now provided students with more than five hundred thousand dollars to pursue study opportunities he never had.

Ron Camplin did not enjoy many advantages as a young man, having spent all his early life in orphanages, Dalmar, Dalwood, Warrawong and finally Fairbridge Farm at Molong where his mother was a Cottage Mother.

This and his lack of education clearly had a profound impact on the man he has become, a man prepared to direct enormous energy to encouraging young people to pursue formal study, to overcome disadvantage, to strive to excel and to rejoice in the success that comes from that effort.

There are many graduates of this university who have benefited from his experience, his wisdom, his interest, his support and above all his enthusiasm and encouragement.

Dated this Second Day of April One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Three