

MR ALAN LESLIE MORSE

Citation for the conferral of a Master of Business (Local Government Management) (*honoris causa*)

Today Charles Sturt University recognises the contribution made by Alan Morse to the Bathurst community, the local government industry and the accounting profession. Alan Morse holds the qualifications of Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Fellow of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants (Honours), Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrators and is a Certified Local Government Auditor (NSW). His involvement with the local government industry spans a period in excess of fifty years during which time he has served with distinction in a number of roles and capacities. The founding of the Bathurst Chartered Accountancy firm of Alan Morse and Company in 1934 saw the commencement of an ongoing audit service to a large number of local councils including the provincial cities of Bathurst, Dubbo, Lithgow and Orange and the outer metropolitan cities of Bankstown and Campbelltown, as well as the Prospect County Council.

Some three years later Alan Morse's service to the local community increased when he was made an Alderman on Bathurst City Council, a role in which he served for 24 years from 1937 to 1961 and again from 1987 to 1991. During this long period of public office, he had the distinction of being elected as Deputy Mayor for three terms and Mayor for nine terms. During this period of service to Bathurst City Council, his commitment to the Bathurst community was extended further to include Foundation Chairman of Southern Mitchell County Council in 1954 and delegate member in 1955.

Alan Morse's contribution to local government has however reached beyond the Bathurst community. He served on the Executive Committee of the Local Government Association of New South Wales from 1946 to 1961 and was Vice-President in 1956 and 1957 and President in 1958 and 1959.

In recognition of his capabilities and his extensive knowledge of the local government industry he was appointed Chairman of the NSW Local Government Grants Commission in 1968, a position he held for eighteen years until 1986. This public recognition was further endorsed by his appointment by Executive Council to the Committee of Inquiry into Local Government Areas and Administration in New South Wales from 1971 to 1973.

The Anglican community has also been a beneficiary of Alan Morse's willingness to respond to the call to service. From 1947 to 1983 his service as a Member of Bishop-in-Council, a Member of the Property Trust and Diocesan Treasurer allowed the Anglican Church Diocese of Bathurst to avail itself of his accounting and other expertise. Once again this service extended beyond the bounds of the Bathurst community for during this period he also served as a Member of General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia.

Service to education also forms part of Alan Morse's portfolio of commitment to the community. He was a member of the Council and Director of Finance for Marsden School from 1947 to 1977 and served in the same capacities for All Saints College from 1947 to 1983. Charles Sturt University and its predecessor Mitchell College of Advanced Education has been enriched by Alan Morse's service as a member of its Council from 1971 to 1980. During that time he served as a member of the Administrative Planning and Control Committee and the Standing Committee. His valued local government expertise has been

available to the University and Mitchell College in the planning and delivery of its local government courses through his membership of the Local Government Courses Advisory Committee which he has held since 1975.

Alan Morse's services to local government education began in 1953 as a member of the NSW Local Government Clerks and Auditors Examination and Qualifications Committee of which he became Chairman in 1967.

His influence on local government education is evidenced by his authorship of two books: 'Internal Control in the Administration of Local Government' which was published in 1960 and "Funding Local Government: The Third Tier" which was published in 1983. Both of these works became standard texts for local government courses and had a significant impact on the theory and practice of local government accounting.

Alan Morse received due recognition for his extensive array of community service when in 1960 he was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) and again in 1987 when he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Today, the University also recognises Mr Alan Morse's outstanding period of service to the Bathurst community and to the local government industry.

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