

Citation for the Award of the Degree of Doctor of the University (DUniv)

Dr Rosemary Barrington Bryant
PhD Q/d, GradDipBus(HlthServMgmt) SAIT, BA Adelaide, FRCNA, RN

Dr Rosemary Bryant continues to make great contributions to the field of health policy development as Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer of Australia, by providing leadership through innovation, promoting nursing as a profession and championing nurse education. Her commitment to furthering the nursing profession through education, balanced with the interests of industry, is not only well recognised in Australia but acknowledged internationally.

Dr Bryant has worked in the health industry for more than forty years, with twenty-five years in the clinical field as a registered nurse and nineteen years in policy development.

Dr Bryant was the first person elected to the office of Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, a new role which provides advice on nursing and midwifery to the Commonwealth Minister and Department for Health and Ageing. She has been instrumental in recent policy innovations which facilitate eligible midwives and Nurse Practitioners to practice in a self employed mode by entitling them to the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

Dr Bryant is the current President of the International Council of Nurses (ICN), based in Geneva, and is the third Australian in the organisation's history to hold this position. The International Council of Nurses was established in 1899 and represents nursing organisations from 134 countries, speaking for 13 million nurses globally and is closely affiliated with the World Health Organisation.

Dr Bryant is a leader who continues to make a significant contribution to health policy development, currently on the Australian Health Protection Committee, the National Health and Medical Research Council, and has previously been an active Executive in policy development and innovation with the Royal College of Nursing, Australia, the Australian Nursing Federation and the Nurses Board of South Australia.

Dr Bryant has also championed nursing education throughout her career by providing advice to government in maintaining undergraduate programmes which meet the needs of industry, through to lobbying for nurse training grants and promoting nursing as a broad profession, with areas of specialisation, requiring specific training and education.

Throughout her career, Dr Bryant has made noteworthy contributions in furthering the nursing profession, by representing the interest of industry and advocating for nurse education to government and policy decision makers in Australia and internationally.

11 August 2011