



Citation for the Award of the Degree of Doctor of the University *honoris causa*

Mr Austin Taylor OAM

Mr Austin Taylor was educated at Linden Park Primary School and Norwood Morialta High School and is a graduate of The University of Adelaide where he gained a Bachelor of Economics (Accounting) in 1979.

He joined KPMG as a graduate in 1981 before becoming a Partner at Horwath and Horwath in 1987 through to 2001 before moving to Grant Thornton where he was a Partner until 2004.

In 2004, Mr Taylor founded Meertens Chartered Accountants, a company specialising in Solvency Management, Insolvency Administration, Liquidation, Restructuring and Turnaround, which now has offices in Adelaide and Darwin, as well as associates across Australia. Mr Taylor, recognised as a senior and experienced insolvency practitioner, became Senior Managing Partner in 2014. Under his leadership, Meertens has an exceptional wealth of experience in Insolvency Business Turnaround and Administration.

In 2005, Mr Taylor began a number of Directorships with Masonic Homes, SA Health, Southern Area Local Health Network and most recently Enel Green Power. During this time he was also Chair of Airborne Research Australia and was the Founding Chair of FCD Health Limited in Darwin, a joint venture health clinic established by Flinders University and Charles Darwin University.

Mr Taylor is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also a Member of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association, the Banking and Finance Services Law Association and the Australian Institute of Credit Management.

Mr Taylor was a Member of the Flinders University Council from 2007-2018, including acting as a Member of the Council's Executive Committee from 2015-2018. Mr Taylor was also involved with the Flinders University Audit Committee as a member between 1996 and 2016 and holding the position of Chair from 2007 to 2016.

In 2012 he made a generous donation of \$15,000 to Flinders to establish the *Austin Taylor Indigenous Health in the NT Scholarship*. Mr Taylor is passionate about the Flinders University Northern Territory Medical program and the scholarship supports the retention and successful graduation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students as health professionals. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student enrolled in the program who is: of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; identifies as an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or; are accepted as an

Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander by the community in which they live or have lived.

In the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours list, Mr Taylor received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) *for service to education, and to community health*.

Mr Taylor's association with, and contributions to, Flinders University, together with his role in the business and wider communities, make him a worthy recipient of the degree of Doctor of the University *honoris causa*.