

CHANCELLOR,

In recognition of outstanding service to the University, I wish to present Keith Percy Pennell for the honorary award of Companion of the University, and acknowledge his dedicated service over 25 years in governance of the Northern Territory University and its preceding institutions.

Keith Percy Pennell was born in Wallington, Surrey UK on 10 July 1933. He studied at his local primary school and at Epsom County Grammar School for boys. On leaving school, Keith decided that he would like to be a surveyor and found work in London with a quantity surveyor firm. Whilst working at Mortimer, Burroughs and Partners as a trainee quantity surveyor, Keith attended the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. For several years he spent four evenings each week working towards qualification as a quantity surveyor. Keith's studies were interrupted by the requirements of National Service. He entered the army in Royal Artillery and became a land surveyor. After two years, including eighteen months in Hong Kong, Keith returned to Mortimer's and, soon after, married Pat.

In 1963 Keith, Pat and their three children emigrated to Australia, landing in Darwin and moving via Sydney to Adelaide. In Adelaide, Keith worked for Russell and Partners as a quantity surveyor. During 1966 the building industry in Adelaide was depressed and Keith decided to take up a job offer in Darwin. Soon after his arrival, Keith was interviewed for a quantity surveyor estimator position with John Holland. He accepted the job and worked with Holland's from 1966 to 1993.

During his time with John Holland, Keith was asked to look after the firm's apprentices. This was a turning point for Keith and he went on to spend the remainder of his time in Darwin working closely with apprentices. Keith became a member of the Apprenticeship Board in 1969 and served continuously through a succession of organisations that looked after apprentices; the Apprenticeship Board, the Industry Training Commission, the Vocational Training Commission, and the Vocational Education and Training Apprenticeship Committee.

Concurrently, Keith became active with this institution, initially with the Darwin Community College. He became a member of Council in 1974. Keith continued as a member of Council with the Darwin Institute of Technology and the Northern Territory University. In 1989 Keith became Chairman of the Institute of TAFE (ITAFE) Board; a role he held for the life of the board, prior to the restructure of the University in 1996.

Keith Pennell continued on the Council of the Northern Territory University until his resignation in 1999, when he retired and left Darwin. During his 25 years of service on Council, Keith was a member of many committees. Finance Committee and the Building Committee are two to which he contributed a great deal of expertise and help. Keith's skills as a quantity surveyor

served the University well when he was a member of the Building Committee. Other committee members always were confident that Keith would identify problems and provide wise guidance on how to ADDRESS them.

Throughout his time in Darwin, Keith made a very significant contribution as a member of the Master Builders Association, which became the Territory Construction Association, of which Keith is a life member. He was a member of the Government Contract Council, and a member of Lions, Apex and Rotary.

For all his other achievements, Keith's greatest contribution was as a member of the University Council, through the formative years of the institution. With this important group of people he made significant decisions about the future directions of the Northern Territory, and for the students who were to study at this University.

CHANCELLOR,

*For his dedicated service to the Northern Territory University for a period of 25 years, I present to you as a Companion of the University Keith Percy Pennell*