

Professor John Wakerman

Chancellor,

I have the pleasure of presenting Professor John Wakerman, who has been awarded the Honorary title of Emeritus Professor.

Professor Wakerman began his career as a medical practitioner after completing a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Sydney in 1981. In 1990 he completed a Master of Tropical Health at the University of Queensland, including research fieldwork in Malaysia. He was invited to continue with doctoral studies at UQ, but chose to pursue his career in Alice Springs, where he had been inspired on placement as a medical student.

Professor Wakerman held a number of senior roles at the Northern Territory Department of Health. As Director of Rural and Environmental Health Services and as District Manager he was responsible for managing the delivery of health services to a population spread over the 900,000 square kilometres of Central Australia, while maintaining his clinical work in remote communities as a District Medical Officer.

In 1996, Professor Wakerman joined the Menzies School of Health Research as a Senior Research Fellow, developing remote health research methods and teaching postgraduate Master of Public Health students.

In 1999, Professor Wakerman was appointed as the inaugural Director of the Flinders and Charles Darwin University Centre for Remote Health. He was responsible for the development of the Centre's infrastructure and staffing, and led the development of Australia's leading remote health postgraduate educational programs and remote health services research group. He was also a tireless advocate for remote areas, serving on many local, NT-wide and national boards and committees, including as Chair of the National Rural Health Alliance, the national peak body for rural health (2005-2008).

Professor Wakerman served as Associate Dean Flinders NT from 2014 to 2019, after which he returned to Menzies as Professor of Remote and Rural Health Services Research, where he built a successful, nationally and internationally recognised health services and workforce research program.

After a 30 year contribution as a researcher, educator, manager, advocate, clinician and proud Centralian, he retired from Menzies in October 2023. He continues to mentor and inspire the next generation of students and researchers

Chancellor,

In recognition of his outstanding academic contributions to public health, the development of remote health services, research and education, Charles Darwin University Council

awards Professor John Wakerman the Honorary title of
Emeritus Professor.