



Chancellor,

I have the honour to present to you Professor Ross Bailie, whom Council has determined should be awarded the degree of Doctor of Science, Honoris Causa.

Professor Ross Bailie graduated with a medical degree from the University of Cape Town in 1983. He migrated to Australia and has pursued a career as a teacher, researcher and evaluator at the Australian National University, Flinders University, our Menzies School of Health Research and now the University of Sydney.

In 1998, Professor Bailie commenced work at Menzies School of Health Research. Over the ensuing 18 years, until his departure in 2016 to take up an appointment with the University of Sydney, he held numerous roles including Scientific Director of the Centre for Primary Health Care Systems, Senior Principal Research Fellow/Professor of Public Health, Head of Research Development and Acting Deputy Director at Menzies. He was also the scientific leader for many National Health and Medical Research Council funded projects, including the Audit and Best Practice for Chronic Disease project that is now operating within more than 40 Indigenous communities.

This project has resulted in improvements in health centre systems - such as clarification of roles and responsibilities for chronic illness care; delivery of services according to best practice guidelines - such as more regular monitoring of blood pressure and blood glucose; and intermediate health outcomes - such as better control of blood glucose and cholesterol. The development of long-term research/service/policy partnerships have been critical to the success of this Project.

They were important in developing appropriate quality improvement processes and tools, achieving engagement of Indigenous primary care services and in demonstrating the benefit of a national resource to support development and implementation of systems.

Professor Bailie has investigated more than 40 funded research grants over his time with Menzies, 25 as lead investigator and led the establishment of many collaborative research and evaluation projects in partnership with community and government organisations, clinicians, policy makers, managers, and researchers. Over the past fifteen years these are collaborations that have pioneered the development and implementation of systematic quality improvement and participatory evaluation methods for enhancing health systems and services.

Professor Bailie led a program of research and evaluation which has informed government policy and programs in Indigenous primary health care in all Australian states and territories and internationally. In particular, he has pushed boundaries in the development, implementation and evaluation of quality improvement tools and processes widely utilised in Indigenous primary health care.

Through his research expertise Professor Bailie has been able to attract over \$50 million in research and fellowship grants and consultancies to the Northern Territory and has published more than 200 peer-reviewed papers, book chapters and consultancy reports.

In recognition of his outstanding research endeavours the Australian Research Council, in 2010 awarded Professor Bailie the prestigious Future Fellowship.

The Future Fellowships scheme supports research in areas of critical national importance by giving outstanding researchers incentives to conduct their research in Australia.

Today, in recognition of his distinguished scientific leadership and outstanding contribution to the development of primary health care systems for rural and remote Australians, Ross Bailie has been awarded by the Council of Charles Darwin University, the degree of Doctor of the Science, Honoris Causa.

Chancellor,

I present to you Professor Ross Bailie.