

NÉSTOR EDGARDO STANCANELLI

CITATION FOR AN HONORARY DEGREE

Mr Chancellor, it is my privilege to present to you for a degree of the University, His Excellency Mr Néstor Edgardo Stancanelli.

His Excellency has been Ambassador of the Argentine Republic in Canberra since 1997 and is currently the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. Ambassador Stancanelli is honoured by the University because of his distinguished creative contributions in the service of society and also his outstanding service to the University during his time in Canberra.

Néstor Stancanelli's career has straddled diplomacy and academe. Born in 1945 in Buenos Aires, he gained a Licenciado en Economía Política from the University of Buenos Aires in 1969. During 1970 and 1971, he was a professor of international trade at the Argentine University of Business Administration, and from 1971 to 1976, while Counsellor (Economic and Commercial) at the Embassy of Argentina in Perú, was also a professor of international economics at the University of San Marcos in Lima.

Following appointments as minister counsellor in Rome (1979-83) and Geneva (1986-93), he was in 1994 appointed Minister Plenipotentiary (First Class) in the National Foreign Service, International Trade and Worship, of Argentina. In 1996, he was appointed Professor of Business Administration at the University of Business and Social Studies in Buenos Aires. During 1997 he was invited as Professor on Regional and Multilateral Negotiations at the University of Economic and Social Sciences in Buenos Aires. Later that year, he was appointed as his country's Ambassador to Australia and as the non-resident Ambassador to Fiji. He took up his position in Canberra in February 1998. In 2004 he became the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Canberra. Ambassador Stancanelli has received the "Orden del Sol" of the Republic of Perú, and the "Orden del Mérito" of the Republic of Italy.

Ambassador Stancanelli's many publications deal with issues of trade liberalization, including papers on the effect of the Uruguay Round upon economic development in Latin America, environmental issues affecting trade, multilateral trade negotiations, free trade in the Americas, and trade issues affecting agriculture.

From 1986 to 1993 Néstor Stancanelli was negotiator for Argentina in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations. Since taking up his position in Canberra he has been instrumental in developing nuclear agreements between Australia and Argentina, the involvement of the Argentinian company, INVAP, in the construction of the replacement research reactor of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, and recently the Australia-Argentina Memorandum of Understanding on Science and Technology.

During his seven years in Canberra, Ambassador Stancanelli has developed and maintained very strong links with The Australian National University. He has facilitated student exchanges, and been a sponsor of concerts at the School of Music. He has been a key supporter in the diplomatic community of the Australian National Internship Program, and a regular speaker to the University's interns. He has facilitated academic exchanges involving the John Curtin School of Medical Research, and several other parts of the University.

In the area of the visual arts, Ambassador Stancanelli has sponsored exhibitions of Latin American art held at the Drill Hall Gallery. Most notably, he worked to promote and gain sponsorship for the work "Arch of the Sun" by the Argentinian sculptor Lucia Pacenza. That sculpture, located in the ANU International Sculpture Park, was unveiled by Ambassador Stancanelli in October 2003.

The Ambassador has been a leader of the Spanish-speaking community in supporting the development in 1999 of the Australian National Centre for Latin American Studies at the ANU, and, similarly, in supporting the University's development of a fully staffed Spanish section within the School of Languages in 2004. He has facilitated closer connections between the University and research and higher education organizations in Argentina, notably with his *alma mater*, the University of Buenos Aires.

Mr Chancellor, it is with great pleasure that I present to you Néstor Edgardo Stancanelli, that you may confer on him the degree of Doctor of Laws, on the grounds of distinguished creative contributions in the service of society, and outstanding service to the Australian National University.

Professor Ian Chubb AO
Vice-Chancellor
The Australian National University
18 November 2004