

RAYMOND WELLS WHITROD

Commander of the Royal Victorian Order
Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia

Bachelor of Economics and Master of Arts

Diplomate of Criminology in the University of Cambridge

Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management
Laudatis of the World Society of Victimology

has this day been admitted, *honoris causa*, to the degree of

DOCTOR OF LAWS

on the ground of his distinguished creative contributions
in the service of society

**Given under the Seal of
The Australian National
University
this twenty-fifth day of August
1997**

VICE-CHANCELLOR

REGISTRAR

RAYMOND WELLS WHITROD

CITATION FOR AN HONORARY DEGREE

Mr Chancellor, it is my privilege to present to you for a degree of this University, Raymond Wells Whitrod.

Ray Whitrod is held in high regard by all those who value law and justice in Australia. The esteem in which he is held is best captured by the words of Duncan Chappell and Paul Wilson in their book, *Australian Policing: Contemporary Issues*. 'This book is dedicated to Ray Whitrod - a courageous and vindicated fighter for integrity and policing.' The dedication explains that this 'vindication' refers to his 'long and lonely battle against a deeply entrenched corrupt police under his command', an issue over which in 1976 he felt obliged to resign as Commissioner of Police in Queensland, and on which his stand was vindicated in the late 1980s by the Royal Commission presided over by Justice Tony Fitzgerald.

Ray Whitrod has distinguished himself as a police officer of the highest integrity in his various capacities as Director of the Commonwealth Investigation Service (1953-1960), Commissioner of Commonwealth Police (1960 - 1969), Commissioner of Police of the Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary for the Territory of Papua and New Guinea (1969 -1970), and Commissioner of Police in Queensland (1970 - 1976). His administration as Commissioner of Police of the Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary was distinguished by tact and humanity in the face of problems characteristic of the late colonial era. His approach to policing also has been characterised by a deep concern for the education of police, a concern often resisted by colleagues and subordinates. He made a significant contribution to raising the educational qualifications and professionalism of police in Australia, particularly through his efforts which led to the establishment of the Commonwealth Police College and also the Australian Police Staff College.

In this he led by example, maintaining a continuing commitment to academic achievement throughout his life. In addition to a Bachelor of Economics (1963), he holds a Master of Arts in Sociology from The Australian National University (1972) and a Diploma of Criminology from the University of Cambridge at a time when such achievements were unusual distinctions in his profession. He is currently working towards a doctor of philosophy from the University of Adelaide. Further, he was a

Greeting presented to the
Le Iunivesite Aoao o Samoa

on the occasion of the celebration of the
opening of its new Campus

Friday, 5 September 1997

major contributor to the introduction of uniform crime statistics in Australia.

Behind Ray Whitrod's commitment to high professional standards, to justice and to equity are strong and compassionate values stemming from his Christian faith. Throughout his career, and in particular during the difficult period in Queensland, Ray Whitrod had the unwavering support of his wife, Mavis.

Since leaving policing as a career, Ray Whitrod returned to academe, first as a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Sociology at The Australian National University (1977-1981) and subsequently as a Residential Scholar at the University of Adelaide (1992-1995). He has enjoyed the opportunity to pursue longstanding intellectual interests; his colleagues have valued his critical intelligence, good humour and good company.

Concurrent with his academic interests in social welfare, Ray Whitrod maintained a strong intellectual interest in victims and has been a major contributor to the development of victimology in Australia at a time when it was not fashionable to do so. He found expression for this interest first as a founder and later as Chairman of the Victims of Crime Service in South Australia (1979 - 1992), and in being the driving force behind the establishment of the Australian Society of Victimology which has been responsible for legislative change and administrative reform. As a result Ray Whitrod was honoured with a *Laudatis* from the World Society of Victimology in 1994. His involvement in the community went much wider to include being the first National President of the Prison After-Care Council, the Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Scouts Association of Queensland (1971-1973) and a member of the South Australian Government's Commission for the Aging (1985-1990).

Ray Whitrod has been recognised for his service and achievements through many awards, including being made a Member and subsequently Commander of the Royal Victorian Order in 1963, winning the Queen's Police Medal in 1967 and being made Queenslander of the Year in 1972. In 1987 Ray Whitrod was made a Member of the Order of Australia and in 1993 he was made a Companion of the Order of Australia.

Mr Chancellor, it is with great pleasure that I present to you Raymond Wells Whitrod, that you may confer on him the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, on the ground of his distinguished creative contributions in the service of society.

Professor R D Terrell
Vice-Chancellor

The Australian National University
25 August 1997