

CITATION DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR PETER ROBINSON, DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR, ON THE OCCASION OF THE ADMISSION OF RICHARD MERLE LAMBRECHT AS A FELLOW OF THE UNIVERSITY ON 8 MAY 1997

Chancellor, I present Richard Merle Lambrecht

Professor Lambrecht was born in April 1943 in Salem, Oregon. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Oregon State University and a doctorate from the University of Nebraska. Richard Lambrecht is an outstanding research chemist and an internationally recognised authority in radiopharmaceuticals and the radiolabelling of compounds. He is currently a Professor at the Eberhard-Karls-University at Tübingen in Germany. He is also a great supporter and friend of this University and its Department of Chemistry.

After a succession of increasingly more senior research positions in laboratories in the United States, Germany and Saudi Arabia during the 1970s and 80s, Professor Lambrecht became Director of the Biomedicine and Health Program at the Australian Nuclear Science & Technology Organisation (ANSTO) in 1990. In 1992, during his time with ANSTO, he also accepted the position of Honorary Professorial Fellow in our Department of Chemistry. This attachment has proved to be a lasting and important one. Professor Lambrecht could have merely lent an illustrious name but has instead collaborated positively in research programs, working with staff and doctoral students. He has given valuable advice on research training and on building the Department's research infrastructure.

Richard Lambrecht has held senior research consulting appointments throughout the world. He has over 190 publications including 6 books and has had 10 US Patents. His many awards and citations include The Maurice R Chamberland Award in 1987 for notable innovation and discovery in chemistry, particularly to enhance the well-being of society. He has recently been nominated for a prestigious Max Planck Research Award for International Collaboration.

Professor Lambrecht is a Fellow and Chartered Chemist of both the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. He is also a Fellow of the Australasian College of Biomedical Scientists. He has been a member of the Editorial Boards for a number of respected international journals including the Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry and Nuclear Medicine Communications.

Chancellor, Richard Lambrecht is working in a powerful and sensitive field. He is trying to harness a force, that has been feared by many, to improve diagnosis and healing. Similarly, he is himself a highly regarded figure in his field but yet has not rested on his laurels but used his knowledge and experience to support and inspire colleagues and students. The great Jacob Bronowski, scientist and commentator, wrote that: - "We live in a civilisation in which science is no longer a profession like any other. For now the hidden spring of power is knowledge; and, more than this, power over our environment grows from discovery" (J Bronowski, "A Sense of the Future", 1978). Bronowski believed the essential counterweights to this power were science's and the scientific community's fundamental value for truth and independence of mind, together with a regard for the virtues of respect, honour and dignity. By this formula, Richard Lambrecht is an exemplary scientist who shows humility before the power of knowledge and a fine sense of responsibility. This University is proud indeed to have him as adviser and role model for its staff and students.

Chancellor, it is a privilege to present Richard Merle Lambrecht for the award of Doctor of Science honoris causa.