

Citation: Mr Malcolm Kinnaird AC

15 April 2010, 10:00am

Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present to you Mr Malcolm Kinnaird AC .

Mr Kinnaird is being admitted to the degree of Doctor of the University honoris causa for his distinguished creative contributions in the service of society.

Malcolm Alexander Kinnaird was born in Adelaide in 1933 and educated at Unley High School and the University of Adelaide where he graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in 1959.

In 1960, with Don Hill, Howard Young and Maurice de Rohan, he founded the consulting engineering firm Kinhill Pty Ltd and was the executive chairman of the group from its inception until it was acquired by KBR in 1997. During this time Kinhill grew from a start up company to become South Australia's most successful engineering firm and an international business with 27 offices in India, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines as well as all Australian capitals. When Kinhill was sold in 1997 it employed 1,700 people generating \$150 million annually. Malcolm Kinnaird was described by Don Hill as the "marketer and innovator" of the company.

Mr Kinnaird has a longstanding involvement in the wider professional and business community and has been chairman of the board or a director of a significant number of Australian companies from 1970 including Adelaide Brighton Pty Ltd, Asia Pacific Transport, FreightLink and Macmahon Holdings Ltd. He is currently chairman and director of a number of public and private companies and a member of several government advisory boards.

Mr Kinnaird has championed growth opportunities for the nation, such as the \$1.3 billion Adelaide to Darwin railway, and has been a driving force not only in iconic Australian projects, but also in development projects well beyond Australia's borders, in particular in the Asia Pacific region. In 1991 he was made an officer of the Order of Australia for service to engineering and the community. He was awarded a Centenary Medal for service to Australian society through business.

In 2003 he led the review of defence procurement processes which laid out an integrated approach to the management of defence business. In the same year he was recognised for his contribution to the field of engineering and development of the state with the award of South Australian of the Year. In 2006 he was an inaugural appointee to the South Australian Engineers Hall of Fame. He was made a companion of the Order of Australia in 2009 for service through the development of public policy in the defence procurement, infrastructure and energy sectors, and to business.

I am very pleased and proud to present to you Chancellor, for admission to the degree of Doctor of the University honoris causa — Mr Malcolm Kinnaird.