

## **Jacqui McGill citation**

*Friday 28th of April 2017*

*11:00am – Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences*

Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present to you Jacqui McGill.

The Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University is being awarded to Jacqui McGill in recognition of her exceptional achievements within the mining industry and as a highly active champion of diversity and gender equity, not just in engineering but in business and industry more generally.

She is a collaborative and inspirational leader and an incredible role model for our students and these new graduates who are making their first forays into the engineering and other professions. The Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences has already benefited significantly from her expertise and advocacy, particularly through research projects associated with Olympic Dam, but also in supporting our work to encourage more women to take up engineering careers.

Jacqui McGill graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Extractive Metallurgy from Murdoch University followed by a Master of Business Administration from La Trobe University.

She has been in the mining and resources industry for over 20 years, starting her career in mining as a metallurgist at the Stawell Gold Mine, followed by two years as Senior Metallurgist at Pegasus Gold in Mount Todd, and then changing metals to become Senior Metallurgist for the Ranger Uranium Mine in the Northern Territory.

In 2000, Ms McGill broke new ground as the first female mine manager in South Australia when she set up the Beverley Uranium Mine. The years that followed saw Ms McGill take on roles with BHP Billiton's iron ore operations, and again back in uranium, each step bringing new challenges.

In 2011, she became General Manager of the South Walker Creek Coal mine and responsible for the safe, effective and productive operation of the four million tonnes per annum coal mine. Just two years later she was elevated to the position of Asset President for BHP Billiton Mitsui Coal.

In 2015 she became Asset President of BHP Billiton's Olympic Dam, Australia's largest underground mine, producing copper cathode, uranium oxide concentrate, gold and silver. There she leads a team of 3000 employees and contractors and has been responsible for delivering a turnaround at Olympic Dam.

As a member of the Minerals Australia leadership team she also contributes to the broader business in areas of strategy, technology and wider business issues.

As the most Senior BHP Billiton executive in South Australia, Ms McGill engages with government stakeholders and community representatives.

She is also a member of the Inclusion and Diversity Council of BHP Billiton, providing input and thought leadership on diversity and leadership. She is also active in coaching graduates and is at the forefront of leadership training for graduates and other employees within the business.

Her continuing active engagement in diversity and inclusion has led to national recognition in the 2015 Gender Diversity Champion Women in Resources awards. In July 2016, she

became the South Australia State Winner of the 2016 Australian Award for Excellence in Women's Leadership. She is also one of South Australia's Chiefs for Gender Equity, and took part in the recent International Women's Day forum on flexible working here in Bonython Hall.

Our University's extensive research activities with BHP Billiton, particularly for Olympic Dam, and Ms McGill's willingness to make time for our students, are just part of the strong relationship that we have with her.

I am very pleased and proud to present to you Jacqui McGill, Bachelor of Science (Extractive Metallurgy), Masters Business Administration, for admission to the honorary degree of Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*).