

Citation for Honorary Doctor of Engineering (*honoris causa*)

Professor (Donald) Neil Furlong

BSc(Hons), PhD Brunel, FTSE

Professor Neil Furlong has been an active researcher in surface and colloid chemistry, engineering and environmental technologies for the past 28 years in industry, universities and CSIRO in Australia and Europe.

Currently Honorary Professor at the University of Melbourne, Emeritus Professor at RMIT University, Editor of the international Elsevier *Journal Colloids and Surfaces A* and Manager (Research) at the Australian Technology Network. Professor Furlong retired in 2008 after 9 years as Pro-Vice Chancellor and Professor of Applied Colloid Science at RMIT University. He had joined RMIT after 18 years as an active researcher in colloid science at CSIRO leaving CSIRO as a Chief Research Scientist/Program Manager (Environmental Technologies and Biosensors). During this career he has also contributed to the development of Colloid Science in Australia via lead roles in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) and Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE).

As an Honorary Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Melbourne Professor Furlong has provided strategic support and advice to the Particulate Fluids Processing Centre an Australian Research Council Special Research Centre at the University of Melbourne. His role has included furthering the on-going Australia-Japan partnership in Colloid (Materials) Science started by Professor Furlong more than 30 years ago. This partnership has resulted in a wide range of research collaborations involving numerous leading Japanese and Australian research groups, active exchanges of many younger as well as senior researchers as well as an established calendar of Australia/Japan Conferences now formally endorsed by the Japan Chemical Society and Royal Australian Chemical Institute. In recent years Professor Furlong has forged new formal partnerships between the University of Melbourne and two of the World Premier Research Institutes in Japan, the International Centre for Materials Nanoarchitectonics (WPI-MANA) within the National Institute of Materials Science (NIMS) at Tsukuba and the World Premier Research Institute, Advanced Institute for Materials Research (WPI-AIMR) within Tohoku University, Sendai.

For many years Neil Furlong has successfully developed international research partnerships with Vietnam, India, Japan and China. Neil is currently working with the Australian Technology Network of universities (ATN) to build the Australia/China NanoNetwork for research partnerships and strategic capability/capacity development.

Professor Furlong has published more than 120 refereed journal research papers (including 'Best Research paper Award' (2001) by the American Oil Chemists Society), registered four patents (adhesives, surface cleaners and biosensors), produced more than 100 Technical Reports to industrial partners while at CSIRO and presented over 100 invited Research Seminars nationally and internationally.

Professor Furlong's outstanding achievements in the technological sciences and engineering were recognised by his election as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering in 1997. Further, Neil Furlong's work has been recognised through the awarding of the University of Melbourne Grimwade Prize in Industrial Chemistry in 1987, the CSIRO Directors Research Prize in 1997, the CSIRO Research Medal (MIEX Ion Exchange Project Team) in 1999 and the Australian Government Centenary Medal in 2002.