

**Professor Hedley Beare**  
**Citation for Honorary Doctor of Education**

Emeritus Professor Hedley Beare is one of Australia's leading educators, having shaped schools, systems of schools, national education policies and management, and the profession of teaching, for over 55 years.

After qualifying as a secondary teacher from the University of Adelaide in 1955, he completed a Master of Education at The University of Melbourne in 1965, and a Doctorate in Education from Harvard in 1970. During that time, he was a Harkness Fellow at Harvard, and later, in 1978-79, he returned to the USA as Fulbright Senior Scholar, at the University of Oregon and at Stanford University.

Hedley Beare began his career teaching English, Mathematics and Latin in South Australian schools for ten years from 1954. This was followed by a Regional Directorship, centred at Whyalla, and then in 1972, an appointment as the Foundation Director of Northern Territory Education – Australia's seventh public school system. Pioneering work with indigenous and with remote schooling, and with the early stages of what is now Charles Darwin University, quickly followed. Whilst there, he led the team that implemented the civilian evacuation of Darwin following the devastation of Cyclone Tracey, at Christmas 1974, moving 28 000 people in eight days.

In 1975, he became Foundation Chief Education Officer of the Australian Capital Territory Schools Authority—the eighth public school system in Australia. He led innovative teachers' and schools' management, student curricula and assessment design, and system accountabilities.

From 1981 to 1995, Professor Beare held a Chair in Education at The University of Melbourne, where his accomplishments include establishing an internationally recognised program in Educational Administration, from Bachelor to Doctoral level. He also was centrally involved in consolidating the amalgamation of the Melbourne College of Advanced Education with the University's Faculty of Education – one of Australia's most successful reforms in the 'Dawkins' higher education era. He was Head of the large Department of Education Policy and Management in the early 1990s, and helped establish Australia's first professional doctorate in Education, the Doctor of Education. In 1996, he became Emeritus Professor, upon retirement from full-time academic work at this University.

Throughout these past thirty years, Professor Beare has published prolifically. He has authored, co-authored or edited 18 books, often on schooling and teaching and curricula of the future, 40 book chapters and hundreds of pieces in a wide variety of journals, some as recently as 2010. His contribution to the professional development of educators in all sectors, and of teachers in general, is shown in the vast array of awards he has received. For example, he is a Fellow and a Gold Medallist for both the Australian College of Educators, and the Australian Council for Educational Leaders, the two national professional bodies for education leaders. In 2010, he was the sole Australian recipient of only four inaugural Life Memberships of the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement, a body he co-founded,

His contribution to the community extends to sustained and creative published contributions to theology and spirituality, through the Uniting and Anglican Churches, and to the appreciation of children's literature, through the Dromkeen Foundation.

Professor Beare has achieved magnificently for Education. He has put the rigorous study of Educational Management and Leadership on the academic map; he has been the foundation CEO of two systems of schooling; he has contributed a vast range and number of accessible and scholarly publications; he has earned the highest esteem from his peers and colleagues in Education, internationally, across Australia, and within this University, and he has maintained a generosity of spirit to humankind, throughout all these achievements. This generosity was acknowledged by the Australian people, in the Australia Day Honours List 2009, when he was awarded Member of the Order of Australia.

Hedley Beare is a truly great Australian. It is fitting that the University of Melbourne recognise such a distinguished academic through the award of the Doctor of Education *honoris causa*.

12 July 2010