

DR MARK SCHIPP

Doctor of Veterinary Science, *honoris causa*

Dr Mark Schipp is a veterinarian who has achieved exceptional distinction in the field of animal health and welfare. He is a celebrated advocate and representative for the veterinary profession, providing national and international leadership as the current Australian Chief Veterinary Officer and as President of the World Organisation of Animal Health (the OIE).

During his career, spanning 30 years to date, he has led and enabled the development of major national animal health policies and initiatives to safeguard Australia's animal health status. He is a veterinary graduate of Murdoch University, and after a strong grounding in State veterinary medicine and international trade, including roles as an Agricultural Counsellor based at Australian Embassies in Korea and China, Mark has been a member of the Senior Executive Service of the Australian Government since 2006. As Australian Chief Veterinary Officer since 2011, Dr Schipp is the primary representative of, and advisor to, the Australian Government on all matters relating to the maintenance and improvement of Australia's animal health status and the systems that support this. His key achievements include leading national initiatives to enhance animal health surveillance and emergency preparedness, influencing international animal health standards and supporting new and maintained market access for the export of animals and animal products from Australia. Of note is his leadership in the field of antimicrobial stewardship, which is undoubtedly one of the major challenges facing both animal and human health worldwide. Working with the Australian Chief Medical Officer, he developed Australia's first antimicrobial stewardship strategy and continues to lead the development of the animal systems to support this strategy.

Mark has represented Australia as its Delegate to the OIE since 2011. Following a term as Vice-President, he was appointed its President in 2018, becoming Leader and principal representative of the 182 Member Countries of this intergovernmental organisation that works to improve animal health worldwide and support a strong and engaged global animal health community. Dr Schipp advocates for a *One Health* approach that recognizes the intricate interdependencies among animal, human and environmental health sciences, and the benefits and value of bridging across disciplinary divides to embrace areas such as economics, behavioral and other sciences. These contributions have underpinned international animal health standards and facilitated the establishment of new and improved market access for the export of animal products from Australia.

He has a passion for Australia's unique wildlife, recognizing not only the vital importance of the conservation of biodiversity but also the role that wildlife can play as a reservoir of disease for domestic animals and humans. Mark was Chair of Wildlife Health Australia until 2018, the peak body in Australia for wildlife health and under his leadership developed world-leading wildlife surveillance and monitoring systems.

Championing continuing education and the sharing of knowledge has also been a continuing focus and priority for Mark, and he initiated and chairs a 'CVO Forum' for government and other veterinarians to encourage continuing veterinary learning. He is also recognised for his Philanthropy, including as a significant donor to Rotary and other charities.

Dr Mark Schipp is a worthy recipient of the honorary degree of *Doctor of Veterinary Science*.