

**Citation for the Award of Doctor of Letters (DLitt)  
*honoris causa***

**Emeritus Professor Faith Trent, AM FACE**

Professor Faith Helen Elly Trent has a long and distinguished career as an academic and educational leader both at Flinders University and elsewhere. She holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Sydney and a Diploma of Teaching from Sydney Teachers College, a Master of Arts in Sociology/Social Geography from Simon Fraser University, Canada; and a Masters of Arts (Hons) from Macquarie University.

Professor Trent was born in Sydney to refugee parents and spent her childhood living on Sydney's North Shore. After completing her first degrees, she commenced her career as a secondary teacher of science in New South Wales before moving to Canada in 1967. Since then she has taught in education in both the secondary and tertiary sectors. These posts include positions at Simon Fraser University, in Vancouver, Canada between 1969 and 1973; at Macquarie University in Sydney, from 1973-1977, and at Newcastle University (former Hunter Institute) in NSW, from 1977-1988 before being coming to Adelaide, where she took up an appointment as Dean of Sturt College of the South Australian College of Advanced Education, a position she held until 1991 when the College became part of Flinders University and Professor Trent was appointed Dean of Academic and Student Affairs at the University. In 1994 she was appointed Dean of the School of Education in 1994, and in 1997 she became Head of Faculty of Education, Humanities, Law and Theology, the position she held (with a title change to Executive Dean in 2003) until her retirement in December 2010. She has held a Chair in Education in the field of Curriculum.

Professor Trent has served on many State and Federal bodies connected with education, including the National Committee for the Advancement of University Teaching, the National Conference on Distance Education and the SA Skills and Training Commission. She is the immediate Past President of the Australian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH) and an executive member of the Council of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. She has undertaken agenda- and policy-changing research in a range of educational areas such as the education of boys, the impact of technology on learning, teaching in multicultural Australia, the Australian Bachelor of Arts degree and problem-based learning. She has undertaken a range of consultancies in higher education in curriculum design and implementation, teaching and learning and multicultural education, and has provided advice to the governments of Brunei, Hong Kong and Canada, as well as to many universities in Australia and overseas. Since 1998 she has negotiated agreements with educational institutions and universities in China, Thailand, Norway, Canada, US, Singapore, Hong Kong, Denmark, Indonesia, Japan, Taiwan on behalf of the University, and has expanded opportunities for delivering Flinders courses both domestically and off-shore.

In 2003, Professor Trent was made a member of the Order of Australia for "service to education as an academic, as a contributor in the area of educational reform, and to the community, particularly in the areas of Indigenous and multicultural affairs." In 2007 she was elected to a Fellowship of the Australian College of Educators (ACE) for her distinctive contributions to educational leadership at a national, state and institutional level. She was awarded 2010 MacKillop Medal by the South Australian Chapter of the Australian College of Educators (ACE) for her exceptional contribution to and influence on South Australian education.

In 2011 Professor Trent received the inaugural DASSH award for services to Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities in Australia.

11 August 2011

Revised FT 14 October 2011