



## **Citation for the Award of the Degree of Doctor of the University *honoris causa***

### **Mrs Leonie Clyne OAM (BA '78)**

Mrs Leonie Clyne was born in Adelaide and educated at Presbyterian Girls College (now Seymour College) and at Flinders University where she was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in 1978.

Following the completion of her studies, Mrs Clyne worked as a Library Officer (Children's Services) for the State Library of South Australia and served with the South Australia Police as a Patrol Officer and as an Assistant Police Prosecutor, Legal Branch, Adelaide. It was, so the story goes, a mediocre police uniform that led Mrs Clyne into fashion and business.

Mrs Clyne and her husband Robert Clyne OAM, established Angus Clyne Australia, a corporate apparel business, in 1988. The company's reputation for quality and excellence reflects the training and skill base of its employees and has relied on vocational education and training (VET) for much more than sewing. The company worked with the TAFE system and private registered training organisations to train staff on other necessary components such as customer service, business management and manufacturing. The quality of VET has enabled Angus Clyne Australia to keep its skill base onshore, in Australia. As an Australian VET Alumni member, Mrs Clyne provides work experience opportunities to students and promotes VET as an excellent educational pathway.

Mrs Clyne has been involved with and assisted the business community through her roles as either Chair or Member of many business support and advisory boards, while also contributing generously to Flinders University. A selection of her past and current appointments includes as a Member of the Small Business Advisory Council; Small Business Finance Advisory Panel of the Reserve Bank of Australia; Vocational Education, Employment and Training Board (SA); and Chair, Goodwood Road Business Association. She has supported the next generation through her roles in the vocational education sector as a Member of the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) Board and as a lecturer, mentor and coach.

Mrs Clyne served Flinders University as a Member of Council from 2002 to 2018 and as Deputy Chancellor from 2009 to 2016. She was a member of the Senior Staff Remuneration Committee, Awards Committee, Governance Committee, Strategic Resources Committee, Strategic Marketing Committee and Executive Committee.

In addition to contributing her knowledge and skills for the benefit of Flinders University as a Council Member and Deputy Chancellor, Mrs Clyne also chaired the Boards of Flinders Campus Community Services and Flinders Consulting and was a Board Member of Flinders Partners; all University subsidiaries.

Mrs Clyne has engaged with Flinders alumni and donors and supported networking opportunities for women in leadership positions. She was co-leader of a group called Flinders Ambassadors in the Community (FACes), established by Flinders graduates to assist the University to further its reputation and be able to provide a better education for future students.

Contributions to the wider community include Mrs Clyne's service to many organisations, including as a Governor of the Freemasons Medical Research Trust, Co-chair of the Australian Disability Advisory Council Board and Member of the Royal District Nursing Society Foundation Board and a member of the Defence Reserves Support Council. At present, she chairs the Academic Board of the IKON Institute and Board of Directors of Proteus and she is a member of the Order of St John of Jerusalem – Knights Hospitalier Australasia and serves on their Grand Priory Council. Mrs Clyne has also been a member of the Wongana Circle since 2013, being only the second woman invited to the group since its formation by Adelaide University academics in 1934. Formed to discuss social, economic, and political issues of the time, the Circle is limited to 15 members and meets monthly.

Mrs Clyne has received numerous awards. Angus Clyne Australia was ranked for 3-years in the BRW Top 100 Fastest Growing Private Australian Companies, she received the Inaugural Enterprising Woman of the Year Award in 1997, the Prime Minister's Small Business of the Year Award in 1999, and an inaugural Flinders University Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006. In 2015 she was recognised with the Medal of the Order of Australia *for service to tertiary and vocational education, and to business*.

**Mrs Clyne's association with, and contributions to, Flinders University together with her role in the business and wider communities, make her a worthy recipient of the degree of Doctor of the University *honoris causa*.**