

CHANCELLOR,

I have the honour to present to you Jonathon Carapetis, who Council has determined should be awarded the degree of Doctor of Science *Honoris Causa*.

Jonathon Carapetis has a passion for social justice ignited early in his childhood through spending time in some of the developing countries in Africa. He attended the University of Melbourne where he graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in 1986. Later he trained in paediatrics at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

Jonathan commenced his association with the Northern Territory in 1994 when he undertook doctoral research at the Menzies School of Health Research. Here, he was able to combine his passions for child health, infectious disease research, global health and Indigenous well being. His research into group A streptococcal diseases in the Indigenous population directly led to the establishment of the first rheumatic heart disease control program in Australia.

After returning to Melbourne, Jonathon was instrumental in setting up of the Centre for International Child Health at the University of Melbourne. During this time he was also a Theme Director at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute in Melbourne and Consultant in Paediatric Infectious Diseases at the Royal Children's Hospital.

In 2006 Jonathon Carapetis returned to Darwin to take on the role of Director of the Menzies School of Health Research. It was in this same year that he was recognised as one of Australia's Top Ten Scientific Minds under 45 years of age in the Bright Sparks Awards by Cosmos Magazine. The leadership and vision displayed during his tenure as Director has been instrumental in steering the School's research agenda towards its current position as a national and international leader in indigenous health education and research. He challenged staff to focus on the diagnosis and prevention of disease, and to increasingly examine the social determinants of health. His initiatives to combine health research with education and the social sciences have led to a broadening of Menzies scope, and the establishment of the Centre for Child Development and Education.

Jonathon's deep commitment to encouraging the aspirations of Menzies staff in seeking research scholarships and fellowships has been vital in their collective success in securing significant grant funding to expand the School's innovative research programs. This has positioned Menzies with an international reputation as a pre-eminent health and medical research institution. Its location in Darwin has been critical for its success, allowing world-class facilities and people to be located in the middle of some of the world's most important and far reaching health problems. His work in the region was recognised in 2008, when he was voted

the Northern Territory Australian of the Year for his dedication to improving the health and well being of children.

The work undertaken by Jonathon Carapetis and his colleagues in the area of rheumatic fever has informed and shaped the current national strategy, and is setting the agenda for work in this field in Africa, the Pacific and India. Along with other world-class research currently being conducted into diseases such as melioidosis and malaria, the Menzies continues to undertake research of significant global impact building on the legacy of Jonathan Carapetis.

Jonathon Carapetis left Menzies in June 2012 to assume the position of Director of the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in Perth, Western Australia. His legacy of world-class, relevant and important research and his dedication to both improving child health and to social equality will continue to resonate throughout the Territory for many years to come.

CHANCELLOR

In recognition of his distinguished academic leadership and outstanding contribution to medical research of importance to the people of the Northern Territory, Jonathon Rhys Carapetis has been awarded by the Council of Charles Darwin University, the degree of Doctor of Science *Honoris Causa* -Dr Jonathon Carapetis