

CHANCELLOR,

I have the honour to present to you for appointment as Companions of the University Minna Lydia Ruth Sitzler, Member of the Order of Australia and Paul Otto Sitzler, holder of the Medal of the Order of Australia

This appointment recognises the outstanding contribution made by Mr. and Mrs. Sitzler to this University through benefactions to the University Foundation.

It also recognises their conspicuous service to the Northern Territory community as a whole.

Minna Sitzler was born in Alice Springs and grew up at Hermannsburg, where her parents were the notable missionaries Friedrich and Minna Albrecht.

In 1959 Minna married Paul Sitzler, who had earlier migrated to Australia from Germany and who in 1957 had, in partnership with his brother Peter, established the building and construction company Sitzler Brothers.

Sitzler Brothers has been one of the most outstandingly successful enterprises in the Northern Territory's recent history. Its success has been shared with the Territory community through numerous substantial benefactions and sponsorships.

Minna Sitzler trained as a pre-school teacher and taught in Alice Springs schools. She had been an active craftswoman since childhood, and as a weaver she created many exceptional works which featured in major exhibitions and are now held in collections locally and interstate. She was actively involved in the Alice Springs Craft Council, The Alice Springs Art Foundation and other Central Australian cultural organisations.

In 1997 Mrs. Sitzler was appointed the first Deputy to the Northern Territory Administrator, a role she performed with grace and distinction for four years.

The Sitzlers have conscientiously accepted a responsibility to promote the well being of others, and they have done this by the giving and sharing of their talents and good fortune.

Through the University Foundation this Institution has benefited substantially from the public spirited and generous benefactions of the Sitzlers. In this, and in many other ways, the Sitzlers have made the Northern Territory a better place.

CHANCELLOR,

In recognition of their outstanding service to the Northern Territory and in particular their exemplary philanthropy for the benefit of this University, I present to you for appointment as Companions of the University Minna Lydia Ruth Sitzler and Paul Otto Sitzler