

Citation for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine (honoris causa)

Wednesday 25 September 2013, 11.00am

Faculty of Health Sciences: All Schools
Faculty of the Professions: School of Economics

Presenter: Professor Justin Beilby, Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences

Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present to you Emeritus Professor Grant Sutherland AC

Professor Grant Sutherland is Emeritus Geneticist at the Women's and Children's Hospital (WCH) and, since 1991, has been an Affiliate Professor of the University of Adelaide, in the School of Paediatrics and Reproductive Health. He was Head of the WCH and men's the WCH Cytogenetics and Human Genetics Unit. He has been a member of the Australian Health Research Council since 2005.

taken to learn all that is to be known about the approximately 85,000 genes. The estimated cost of \$3 billion. The body responsible for this program was the Human Genome Organisation (HGO), the mission of which is to promote international collaborative research and the myriad issues raised by knowledge of the genome. Professor Sutherland's involvement in the characterisation and understanding of the human genome and his major scientific contributions, he was elected President of the Australian group to be actively involved in the worldwide Human Genome Project.

acknowledged by his peers in many ways. In 1998 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society. This was for "service to science in the field of human genetics and genomics, in particular, for his contribution to the discovery of the human genome and in the field of inherited diseases." In the same year he was also a recipient of the PM's Prizes for Science, in the Molecular Science category for his work on Huntington's disease. Professor Sutherland was awarded a Centenary Medal (for his contributions to science in human genetics and genomes) in 2001. This award is for those whose achievements in science, research or the arts made a national level. In that year, he was also acclaimed as an 'Australian of the Year' by the Australian Council awards; a recognition given to eminent Australians for their achievements in their field. In 2004, Thomson Reuters ISI included Professor Sutherland in their 'Influential Seventeen, Giants of Australian Research'. The 17 were among the most influential research papers have been or cited by other researchers. Professor Sutherland was also acknowledged by Thomson Reuters when they included him in their ISI category of Molecular Biology and Genetics.

one of the world's leading molecular geneticists. He is distinguished for applying his expertise in molecular genetics to the analysis of genetic defects which underlie a range of human conditions including some forms of mental retardation, myotonic dystrophy, and epilepsy. He has also made significant contributions to human genetics through his work on the Human Genome Project and the molecular genetics of epilepsy and intellectual disability. His most significant discovery was his demonstration and detailed investigation of the structure and function of human DNA which contain a repetitive three base pair

present to you Chancellor, for admission to the degree of Doctor of Medicine (honoris causa) by Professor Robert Grant Sutherland.