

2015 UQ DECEMBER GRADUATION CEREMONIES

Monday 14 December 2015 – 6pm
UQ Centre, Union Road, UQ St Lucia Campus

Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and Faculty of Science

CITATION FOR PROFESSOR SIR RICHARD FEACHEM KBE CBE

Chancellor

Professor Sir Richard Feachem is a renowned leader in public health who has had a compelling influence on global responses to malaria, HIV/AIDS, childhood diarrhoea, and health policy, and has thus improved the health and life prospects of many millions of people.

His distinguished four-decade career has included paradigm-shifting advocacy on malaria. Through this he has helped convince powerful people and organisations to overcome doubts that the disease - which still kills 600,000 people each year – can be eliminated, and to work together to shrink and ultimately erase the “malaria map”.

Ever since the 1960s, when he was a teenage volunteer building an airstrip in the Solomon Islands, Professor Feachem’s scholarly and career choices have been characterised by a desire for greater equity in global health outcomes.

He has given governments, not-for-profits, philanthropists and industry the scientific and technical muscle to reform policies, invest in public health, and develop practical and affordable health-enhancing technologies.

Generations of students and young professionals have been challenged by him to create change through innovation, never accepting “impossible” as an answer.

Knighted in 2007, Professor Feachem is currently Professor of Global Health at both the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and the University of California, Berkeley, and Director of the Global Health Group at UCSF.

In 2008 his UCSF team joined with The University of Queensland, and the Australian Government to establish the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network. The network achieved a milestone in November 2015 when government leaders at the East Asia Summit endorsed a roadmap towards expunging malaria from the region by 2030. Success would save more than a million lives and deliver \$US300 billion in economic benefits.

Professor Feachem was founding executive director of The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. During his term from 2002 until 2007 the fund developed assets of \$US11 billion and became the largest financing institution for health programs in the developing world.

Concurrently, he was Under Secretary-General of the United Nations. His many other high-impact roles have included Director for Health, Nutrition and Population at the World Bank, and Dean of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

He has authored or co-authored approximately 200 published papers and co-authored or co-edited 14 books, and is an energetic convener of high-level policy conferences.

Chancellor, I present to you Professor Sir Richard Feachem, Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire, Commander of the Order of the British Empire, Doctor of Philosophy of the University of New South Wales, Doctor of Science (Medicine) of the University of London, Bachelor of Science with honours and Doctor of Engineering *honoris causa* of the University of Birmingham, Chartered Engineer, Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Fellow of the Institution of Water and Environmental Management, and Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, for the award of Doctor of Medicine *honoris causa*, bestowed by the Senate of The University of Queensland.