

**CITATION**  
**Award of Doctor of Business *honoris causa***  
**Ms Ann Sherry AO**

Chancellor

Ann Sherry is a pioneering executive, a corporate and cultural reformer who has been a force for positive change throughout her eclectic career.

Ms Sherry stamped herself as one who would be prepared for diverse challenges when she followed her training as a radiographer with a University of Queensland Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Economics and Politics.

By 1977, when she graduated and was accepted into the commonwealth public service graduate program, she had already become a mother, and was making plans to move to London and work as a prison social worker.

Returning to Australia in the 1980s, Ms Sherry worked in the trade union movement and then the Victoria public service, focusing on issues such as child care and employment for people with disabilities.

She became head of the federal Office of the Status of Women in 1992, a role which included representing Australia at the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation, and working on childcare and women's superannuation policies.

Two years later she was headhunted by Westpac Banking Corporation, where she remained for 12 years in a range of executive offices including Head of Pacific Banking Division, CEO of Westpac New Zealand, and CEO of the Bank of Melbourne.

Her authority at a "Big Four" bank enabled Ms Sherry to channel her passion for social justice as never before. At Westpac, she is credited with introducing paid maternity leave to corporate Australia, overseeing the creation of new anti-sexual harassment guidelines, establishing an employment program for people with disabilities, and fostering personal finance education in remote Indigenous communities.

Such achievements have been recognised through awards including a Centenary Medal, and an Order of Australia for the promotion of corporate management policies and practices that embrace gender equity, social justice, and work and family partnerships.

Ms Sherry shifted gears yet again in 2007, to become CEO of Carnival Australia and a member of the global leadership team of Carnival Corporation, which has more than 100 ships and is the world's only company listed on both the S&P 500 and the FTSE 100.

Part of her mission was to help revitalise the reputation and culture of the Australian cruise industry, and particularly of Carnival's high-profile P&O line. Carnival holds more than 70 per cent of the Australian cruise market, and since Ms Sherry joined as CEO the number of Australians taking a cruise holiday has trebled.

In demand as a non-executive director, she chairs Safe Work Australia, was the first woman appointed to the board of the Australian Rugby Union, and serves on boards including Jawun Indigenous Corporate Partnerships, The Myer Family Company Holdings, Sydney Airport Corporation and ING Direct (Australia).

Chancellor, I present to you Ms Ann Sherry, Officer of the Order of Australia, Bachelor of Arts of this University, Graduate Diploma in Industrial Relations of the Queensland University of Technology, Doctor of Letters *honoris causa* of Macquarie University and Fellow of the Australian Institute of Public Administration for the award of Doctor of Business *honoris causa*, bestowed by the Senate of The University of Queensland.