

2013 UQ DECEMBER GRADUATION CEREMONIES

Thursday 12 December 2013 – 11.00am
UQ Centre, Union Road, UQ St Lucia Campus

Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences

CITATION

Award of Doctor of Letters *honoris causa*
Mr Peter Martin Tesch

Chancellor,

Peter Martin Tesch is a leader in cultural understanding. He has helped strengthen some of Australia's most important diplomatic ties and has served as an ambassador in every sense of the word.

As Australia's Ambassador to Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein from 2009 until November 2013, Mr Tesch led dialogue that enhanced collaboration between Germany and Australia, Queensland and The University of Queensland.

The warm and supportive bilateral relationship between Australia and Germany, and the expanding links across traditional and new commercial spheres, owe much to his work and influence.

A UQ Arts Honours graduate who is fluent in German and Russian, Mr Tesch has long been a strong supporter of Australia's education and research sectors. He has demonstrated this through his leadership in the development of links between Australian and German research bodies and higher education institutions.

He has given valuable support to UQ's activities in Germany and Western Europe, and has been a powerful force for engaging alumni based in Germany.

An impressive and continuing career has seen Mr Tesch serve Australia's interests from Canberra, Melbourne, Moscow, Kazakhstan, Hannover, New York, Shanghai, Berlin and many points between.

He was Commissioner-General for Australia and Executive Director for Australia's presence at the 2010 Shanghai World Expo – an exhibition that attracted millions of people from around the world.

As Australia has deepened international dialogue on key issues such as the global economy, security, climate change, and involvement in the Asia Pacific region, Mr Tesch has held leadership roles with significant responsibility.

He has contributed to Australia's global profile as an engaged, innovative and competitive nation, and has earned esteem for his country and his alma mater.

Chancellor, I present to you Mr Peter Martin Tesch, Bachelor of Arts with Honours of The University of Queensland, for the award of Doctor of Letters *honoris causa*, bestowed by the Senate of The University of Queensland.
