

2013 UQ DECEMBER GRADUATION CEREMONIES

**Friday 13 December 2013 – 11.00am
UQ Centre, Union Road, UQ St Lucia Campus**

Faculty of Health Sciences

CITATION

**Award of Doctor of Medicine *honoris causa*
Doctor Gary Sidney Samuel Roubin**

Chancellor,

Dr Gary Roubin is an inventor, innovator, mentor, clinical scientist and medical practitioner whose impact has helped save and improve the lives of millions of people.

His pioneering activities include co-inventing, with Dr Cesare Gianturco, the first coronary stent to be approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, and conducting the world's first procedure to place a balloon expandable stent in a patient in 1987.

Dr Roubin's first degree was a University of Queensland Bachelor of Veterinary Science, which he gained in 1970 when his ambition was to work on the land and with animals.

A few years later, while working for the Queensland Government on meat inspection for zoonotic diseases, he was awakened to the potential to make contributions outside food production and animal health.

Professor Eric Saint, UQ's then Dean of Medicine, was a regular customer at Dr Roubin's father's business, the Brookfield General Store, and he advised a young Dr Roubin to complete one additional year to receive a medical degree.

By 1975 Dr Roubin had a UQ Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, funding his studies by delivering newspapers and working as a veterinarian at night clinics. He then moved to Sydney to complete his PhD.

He gained a National Heart Foundation of Australia postdoctoral research grant to train in interventional cardiology at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, where he pursued his ground-breaking work on stents and minimally-invasive surgical techniques.

His innovations have since been widely applied, with up to three million patients now receiving stents annually, worldwide.

In the nineteen eighties and nineties he became Director of Research at the Andreas Gruentzig Cardiovascular Center of Emory University – which is named after his

Emory mentor – and Professor of Medicine and Radiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr Roubin began work at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York in 1997, and today he is Director and Physician-in-Chief of the Cardiovascular Service Line, Continuum Cardiovascular Centers of New York (Beth Israel Medical Center, St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospital Centers).

As the principal and co-principal investigator on numerous ground-breaking studies, Dr Roubin has published more than 250 articles in major peer-reviewed journals and more than 200 abstracts for presentations at international scientific meetings. He has edited two textbooks on interventional cardiovascular medicine and coronary artery stenting, and contributed to 15 textbooks on interventional cardiology.

Dubbed a 'cardio-maestro' by some, he is admired for integrating the expertise of cardiologists, vascular surgeons, radiologists and other specialists into the research and care of patients. He also continues to lecture extensively.

With his wife, Peta, the father of five is renowned for philanthropic gifts, such as the parcel of almost 100 hectares to the Jackson Hole Land Trust. The donation has helped ensure the permanent protection of more than 9,307 hectares of habitat and historic ranching heritage in Jackson Hole and Yellowstone area of Wyoming.

Awards and accolades have been numerous, and include a Premier of Queensland's Expatriate Achievement Award in 2006.

Chancellor, I present to you Doctor Gary Sidney Samuel Roubin, Bachelor of Veterinary Science with Honours of this University; Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of this University; Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Sydney; Doctor of Medicine of this University; Fellow of the Royal Australian College of Physicians; Fellow of the American College of Cardiology; Fellow of the Council on Clinical Cardiology, American Heart Association; Fellow of the Society for Cardiac Angiography and Intervention; Fellow of the Society for Vascular Medicine and Biology; Fellow of the International Society of Endovascular Specialists; for the award of Doctor of Medicine *honoris causa*, bestowed by the Senate of The University of Queensland.
