CITATION
Award of Doctor of Science *honoris causa*
Professor Maria Orlowska

Chancellor,

Professor Maria Orlowska has built a distinguished scientific and academic career upon many years of expertise in computer science – particularly in databases and business IT systems.

A Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science since 2003 and Chair of the Australian Research Council's major infrastructure panel in 2004, she has also had significant impact in her homeland, Poland, as Secretary of State in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education since 2008.

In this role, Professor Orlowska assists cooperation between European entrepreneurs and the Polish research sector. She is responsible for more than $7 billion a year for research and development and infrastructure, and for transposing European Union higher education standards and encouraging international student exchange.

Professor Orlowska had a 20-year academic career and completed her Doctor of Science at The University of Queensland. Beginning as a senior lecturer in 1986, she became Professor of Information Systems in 1988 and led the Data and Knowledge Engineering Research Division from 1995 to 2007. With her guidance, the division became an international leader, achieving representation in major journals and at key conferences.

In 1996 she was elected as the only Australian representative on the United States-based Very Large Databases Endowment, which is devoted to the promotion and global exchange of scholarly work in databases and related fields.

While building this international profile, Professor Orlowska supervised more than 30 successful UQ PhD students. Her contributions in this area earned her the 2003 UQ Award for Excellence in Higher Degree Supervision.

Professor Orlowska also served for two years on the Expert Advisory Committee for ARC Mathematics, Information and Communication Sciences. She has co-authored more than 220 research papers published in peer-reviewed international journals and presented at conferences, and has been awarded for her work on IT systems by the Queensland Government and in the Asia Pacific.

Her strength and research focus in distributed databases were major factors in the successful establishment of the Federal Government's Cooperative Research Centre for Distributed Systems Technology, of which she was one of three founders.

Chancellor, I present to you Professor Maria Orlowska, Doctor of Science (Computer Science), The University of Queensland; PhD in Computer Science, Warsaw University of Technology; and Master of Science (Computer Science), University of Warsaw, for the award of Doctor of Science *honoris causa* bestowed by the Senate of The University of Queensland.