

## Geoff Wood Citation

Chancellor, I am pleased to present Mr Geoff Wood to you for the title of ‘fellow of the University of South Australia’ in recognition of his substantial and continuous support for the University.

Throughout his career, Geoff has worked in industry, in universities and TAFE Institutions and in the broad management of the vocational education and training system. He is currently Executive Director of Education Services and Programs in the Department of Further Education, Employment Science and Technology.

Trained in engineering and with qualifications in science, engineering and education, Geoff began his career in education as a member of staff at one of the University of South Australia’s founding institutions, the South Australian Institute of Technology. Whilst at the Institute, Geoff says he was, “given real responsibility and all the opportunities that this brings.”

He learned about teaching, and the worth of learning at all levels from certificate to post-graduate and says, “he looks back on that time with affection and gratitude to the institution and all the people involved.”

Following his time with the Institute, Geoff joined TAFE SA. His roles included (but not all at once!): Lecturer, Superintendent of Operations, Regional Director of Operations, Director of Curriculum Services, and finally, Director of the Regency Institute of TAFE.

During his time with TAFE SA, in the early 1990’s, Geoff worked with our current Vice Chancellor, Professor Denise Bradley, to develop the first Memorandum of Agreement between a university and a TAFE institution in South Australia. This provided the basis for the many developments which have occurred since, establishing a strong foundation from which our collaborative relationship with TAFE SA continues to grow.

In his current role, as Executive Director of Education Services, he is responsible for implementing training packages and developing curriculum; developing learning materials and systems; marketing and international activities; student admissions and services for TAFE SA; and for providing support to the TAFE SA Board and Program Management system.

Geoff has represented South Australia in numerous national bodies including the Australian Committee for Training Curriculum, the National Training Board, the National Training Quality Council, the Board of Australian Training Products, and numerous intergovernmental committees on training reform. In South Australia, he has been a member of the Apprenticeship Commission and the Industrial and Commercial Training Commission, and currently supports the work of the TAFE SA Board. He also has a particular interest in training of VET staff, and chairs the national reference group for Reframing the Future.

Throughout his working life, Geoff has worked towards helping to ensure all South Australians have a program of education and training available to them which equips them for employment, enriches their lives and is enjoyable and affordable. He is also concerned that enterprises have available to them a potential workforce with the skills and knowledge on which all our futures depend.

This personal mission of Geoff's strongly supports UniSA's mission in providing access to tertiary education programs to meet the needs of groups in the community that the University considers to have suffered disadvantages in education. He has been a consistent supporter of UniSA and has helped us to become a leader in accepting students, with credit, on the basis of TAFE qualifications. In 2003, TAFE SA had in place 135 arrangements for credit transfer with UniSA and currently, 75% of local TAFE entrants entering University in this way enrolled with UniSA .

In addition to fostering links with TAFE SA, Geoff has helped to foster UniSA's relationship with the relevant State Government Education Department over the years – currently the Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology. He

has worked with the University on the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding and continues to help monitor it, constantly seeking innovative ways to move forward together. He has contributed to the development of new awards and the opening of new markets, including internationally.

In the recent AUQA audit of the University of South Australia, Geoff agreed to support us as one of our key industry stakeholders, displaying a further commitment to the success of the Institution.

We are grateful for all he has done to further access and equity opportunities in this state, for his experience and knowledge, his ongoing support of this University, and for his friendship.

Chancellor it is my great pleasure, on behalf of the University of South Australia, to present to you, Mr Geoff Wood, for the title of 'fellow of the University of South Australia'.