

Warren Snowdon

Chancellor, I have the pleasure of presenting Warren Snowdon, who has been awarded the Honorary Doctor of Letters.

Mr Snowdon was born in Canberra and graduated from the Australian National University (ANU) and Murdoch University.

He first arrived in the Northern Territory as a student teacher in 1975 and spent time at the Nhulunbuy Area School. In 1976 he taught in Darwin, before teaching part-time at the Darwin Community College, a precursor to Charles Darwin University (CDU).

In 1979 after taking leave from teaching, Mr Snowdon became a researcher at ANU on the Aboriginal Childrens' and Families Heritage Project led by Dr H C (Nugget) Coombs and Dr Maria Brandl.

Mr Snowdon spent the majority of his time on this project at Pipalyatjara in the Pitjanjatjara Homelands in South Australia and at the North Australia Research Unit in Darwin.

On this work's completion, Mr Snowdon returned to teaching before accepting a position as senior policy officer at the Central Land Council in Alice Springs.

He was involved in community and sporting organisations, and an executive member of the Northern Territory Teachers Federation and the Northern Territory Trades and Labor Council.

He was also active in the Australian Labor Party (ALP) and won pre-selection for the ALP for the electorate of the NT and contested and won the election for the Seat in the 1987 Federal election. He won the Seat at the 1990 and 1993 elections but was defeated in 1996. He won the Seat again in 1998.

In 2001, after a redistribution in the NT, Mr Snowdon was elected as Member for Lingiari which he held until 2022, when he retired in his 33rd year as a Member of the House of Representatives advocating for the NT.

Throughout his career, Mr Snowdon held numerous executive roles including Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of Anzac.

Significantly Mr Snowdon was the Minister for Indigenous Health and for a time the Minister for Regional and Remote Health and Regional Service Delivery.

The primary focus of Mr Snowdon's public life has been representing and advocating for the people of the NT, having their rights recognised, their needs met and their life opportunities improved. He cites his achievements as not having been possible without the love and support of his family.

Chancellor,

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Indigenous Affairs, education, health, politics and public policy in the

Northern Territory and Australia, Charles Darwin University council awards Warren Snowdon the title of Honorary Doctor of Letters.