

CITATION

**PROFESSOR DAVID GEOFFREY PENINGTON AC, MA, DM (Oxon), LLD(HON),
DSC(HON), FRCP, FRACP, FRCPA**

David Geoffrey Penington was born in Melbourne. He began his academic training as an undergraduate of the University of Melbourne and went to Oxford on a scholarship in 1950, graduating there in medicine in 1955. He worked as a medical specialist, teacher and researcher in London. He was Professor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne from 1970 to 1987 and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for eight years from 1978. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne for eight years from 1988, a period of major change within the University and for Australian higher education.

David Penington was Chairman of the the National Blood Transfusion Committee of the Australian Red Cross Society (1976-1983), and led Australian aid programs to establish modern blood transfusion in Nepal 1978-1981, and to modernise blood transfusion equipment in China 1978-1982. He was a member of the Council of NH&MRC from 1980-1985. He chaired the federal body which came to be known as the National AIDS Task Force (1983-1987), and a Commonwealth inquiry into Private Practice in Public Hospitals (1984). From 1994 to 2002 he was President of Museum of Victoria, leading the building and development of the major new Melbourne Museum. He chaired the Victorian Premier's Drug Advisory Council in 1995/1996, and an advisory committee on illicit drugs for the Australian Capital City Lord Mayors (1997-1999). He chaired the Drug Policy Expert Committee of the Victorian Government from November 1999 to November 2000.

He extended his expertise as an academic and community leader to the private sector as a non-executive Director of Pacific Dunlop Limited from 1991 to 2000. From 1995 to 2002, he was Chairman of the Board of Cochlear Ltd , a listed public company developing and marketing a cochlear implant internationally. He chaired Cerylid Ltd from 2000-2003, an unlisted biotech company. He became Chairman of Neurosciences Victoria Ltd in 2002, a not-for-profit company involving two universities and a number of research institutes, committed to collaborative development of basic and applied neuroscience research and appropriate commercialisation. He was founding Chairman of Neurosciences Australia Ltd in 2002-2003, managing a National Neuroscience Facility. He became Chairman of Bio21 Australia Ltd in 2002, following a major restructuring of that company. He also served as a Principal of Foursight Associates Pty Ltd. From December 2000, he chaired the Board of the Cranlana Programme funded by the Myer Foundation which became an independent company.

He became a Companion of the Order of Australia in 1988 for services in health care and education.

18 March 2004

DAVID PENINGTON BUILDING

Named after David Geoffrey Penington AC, MA, DM (Oxon), LLD(HON), DSC(HON), FRCP, FRACP, FRCPA, who after commencing his academic training at the University of Melbourne, travelled to Oxford on a scholarship where he graduated in Medicine in 1955. After working as a medical specialist, teacher and researcher in London, he returned to Australia to take up a position as Professor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne in 1970 – a position he held until 1987. David Penington was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine from 1978 until 1986. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne from 1988 until 1995.