

Citation for Silver Medal

Timothy Lyle Anning

Tim Anning was elected to the University Council in March 1995, making this his twelfth year of service. He first joined the University as a Junior Technical Assistant in the then Department of Biochemistry in 1978. He rose to become a Senior Technical Officer in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and it was as a member of that Department that he stood for election to Council by the General Staff of the University.

Tim has always shown an alert concern for the interests of those who elected him, but his great strength as a Council member has been in never limiting his contributions to its debates to matters affecting those interests. He has consistently shown a proper awareness of the full responsibilities of a member of the University's governing body, and made thoughtful and valued contributions to its discussions on major decision items.

Tim has been a valuable contributor to Council's committee work. Particular mention should be made of his long service to the Legislation and Trusts Committee and its predecessors, where not only his eye for detail but his awareness of the general context of University policy behind the legislative instruments have made his contributions invaluable. Members will recall the not infrequent occasions when court commitments have prevented the Chairs of those committees from attending Council to present the legislation, when Tim has stepped in to do so with great clarity and competence. His service on other committees of Council, notably the Building and Estates Committee and the Council Nominations and Governance Committee, has also been greatly appreciated.

A less visible service to Council has been in his work with the University's ethics committees. Coincidentally, his involvement with the Animal Welfare Committee began around the same time as his Council membership, initially on a part-time basis. Later his responsibilities expanded to include a period supporting the Biohazards Committee (now the Gene Technology and Biosafety Committee) and the committee of management for the National Macaque Facility. (The codes of practice under which such research is conducted require that Council is advised on matters relating to the use of animals for scientific purposes by a Committee which oversees and monitors such work through faculty-based sub-committees. These research compliance reports are submitted to Council through the Academic Board.) Animal ethics and gene technology are areas of high public interest, both to government agencies and to the animal welfare and other lobbies. Tim's competence and diplomacy continue to be of great value to the University in these areas, and these qualities have ensured that the University compliance has been of the highest standard.

Tim's length of service on Council has now reached the maximum normally allowable under the Commonwealth protocols, but it is its quality, not its quantity, which prompts this recommendation that he be awarded the University's silver medal to recognise service of exceptional distinction to the University in a particular capacity or field of activity, that of elected member of Council.

The Chancellor and the University Secretary have strongly endorsed this recommendation.