The University of South Australia awards the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University to a person of eminence who has made a distinguished contribution to public service, or a field of academic endeavour or artistic pursuit. It is my pleasure to present Air Chief Marshall Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC (Ret’d) for the honorary degree of Doctor of the University, in recognition of his distinguished service to the community.

Sir Angus Houston was Chief of the Australian Defence Force before he retired in 2011 after 41 years of service in the military.

In the Australia Day Honours in 2015 he was awarded the Knight of the Order of Australia for his extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia, through distinguished service in the Australian Defence Force. The award also honoured his continued commitment to serve the nation in leadership roles, particularly the national responses to the MH370 and MH17 airline disasters of 2014 where he headed the Joint Agency Coordination Centre to oversee the efforts to find the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370. He also lead Australia’s efforts on the ground in Ukraine to help recover, identify and repatriate the victims of Malaysian Airlines flight 17 which had been shot down while flying over eastern Ukraine.

Sir Angus is Chancellor for the University of the Sunshine Coast and is Chair of Airservices Australia; the Defence South Australia Advisory Board; the Order of Australia Council; the Sunshine Coast Mind and Neuroscience Thompson Institute; the Victorian Police Corporate Advisory Group; the University of NSW Canberra
Citation for Air Chief Marshall Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC (Ret’d)
Tuesday 15 August 2017 at 10:30am

Advisory Board; the Canberra Symphony Orchestra and the Supashock Advanced Suspension Advisory Committee.

He is a Board Member of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, the Australian Cancer Research Foundation, the Anzac Centenary Public Fund Board, GreaterGood Canberra and the Victorian Police Executive Command. Sir Angus is also a visiting fellow of the Australian National University National Security College and the South Australian Special Envoy for International Trade and Investment.

In addition, he is the Ambassador/Patron of numerous charitable organisations. These include Bravery Trust, the Bomber Command Association in Australia, the European Alliance Against Depression’s Australian Chapter, Griffith University’s Glycomics Childhood Leukaemia project, Soldier On, Stand Tall for PTSD, Sunnyfield Disability Services, Shelterbox Australia and The Centenary of Anzac Centre.

Chancellor, on behalf of the University of South Australia, I am pleased to present Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC for the honorary degree of Doctor of the University, in recognition of his distinguished service to the community.