



University of
South Australia

Vice Chancellor and Chancellor's dedication of the Bradley Building

Time: 10:00am - 12:00 noon

Date: Monday 29 March 2021

Place: MOD. Lecture Gallery



CHANCELLOR OPENS PROCEEDINGS

- Your Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC
Governor of South Australia;
- Mr Matt Cowdrey OAM Member of Parliament,
representing the State Minister for Education, Mr John
Gardner MP;
- Dr Susan Close Member of Parliament;
- Emeritus Professor Bruce King and his daughter, Laura;
- Denise's sons James, David and Patrick;

- The Hon Sir Eric Neal AC CVO DUniv – it's always good to see you at a UniSA event Sir Eric;
- And while I had hoped to welcome one of my predecessors and Denise Bradley's Chancellor, Professor David Klingberg, we are instead joined by his delightful wife Maggie, and it's good to see you too Maggie.
- Good morning and welcome to all of you, our distinguished guests, donors, supporters and partners of the University;
- I am enormously proud to welcome you all to this important event, one that has been a long time in the planning, but one that has been impacted by many of the inconveniences that COVID-19 has brought us.

- Not least of which were the border closures that prevented Denise Bradley's loved ones being here earlier.
- And it's important that they are here, along with all of you, because this building, the largest ever capital project in UniSA's history,
- is being re-dedicated to honour one of this nation's greatest educators, and one of our greatest educational leaders.
- Before we officially begin, allow me to introduce Uncle Lewis Yarlupurka O'Brien, Senior Kaurna Elder to deliver the Welcome to Country

(UNCLE LEWIS PERFORMS WELCOME TO COUNTRY;
CHANCELLOR RETURNS TO STAGE TO THANK HIM)

- Thank you Uncle Lewis. This building has its own Kaurna name, Purrana Wardli, (POO RANNA WADDLY) which means 'Healthy Place' in the Kaurna language.
- It's also the place that education first found its footing in 1838 when South Australia's first school was opened.
- That event was followed the next year by the opening of a school at Pirltawardli (POOLTA WARDLY) in the west Parklands north of the River Torrens where the children were taught to read and write in Kaurna.

- In a number of ways this is the perfect building to dedicate to the late and much lamented Emeritus Professor Denise Bradley,
- It now gives me great pleasure to introduce Mr Matt Cowdrey MP who is representing the State's Education Minister Mr John Gardner MP.
- Matt is a lawyer, politician and athlete,
- the most successful Australian Paralympian, having won 13 Paralympic gold medals and 23 Paralympic medals in swimming at the 2004, 2008 and 2012 Paralympic Games,
- and the 2006, 2010 and, 2014 Commonwealth Games in total over these games.

- In 2005 Matt was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to sport.
- Please join me in giving him a warm welcome.

(MATT COWDREY SPEAKS; VICE CHANCELLOR GOES ON STAGE TO THANK HIM)

- Thank you Matt. I am very pleased that you joined us here this morning.
- Good morning.
- For the one or two people in the room who may not know me, I am David Lloyd, Vice Chancellor and President of today's UniSA.

- And I'll always remember the day that I met Denise Bradley.
- It was like meeting my spiritual Mum.
- She and I "connected". We got each other.
- She knew that I had done my homework about what UniSA stood for and she was proud that I identified so much with her ideals of what UniSA was all about.
- I think she thought UniSA was in good hands and she was very supportive.
- Which is not to say that she held back when she didn't agree with some of the decisions that were made in the years following our meeting ...
- No prizes for guessing what they were but those of you who knew Denise well could pretty much imagine what her sentiments were.

- There are many people in this room this morning who could regale you with Denise stories of her passionate support for some ideas and the people who created them,
- and her disdain for others.
- I'll leave you to reminisce amongst yourselves about where you might fit on that spectrum because who we are celebrating this morning was one of the giants of education in this nation.
- From her earliest days as an educator, Denise was always a fierce advocate for the vital role of education in transforming lives.
- She fiercely believed that equality of access to the opportunities education provides should be a core principle of our society.
- And it was that spirit and practice of equity that she built into the university's culture and practice.

- After years of wrangling two disparate antecedent institutions in the South Australian College of Advanced Education and the South Australian Institute of Technology together, and being the midwife at the birth of the University of South Australia in 1991,
- she created this university as a place unshackled by tradition, where optimism, industry connectivity and inclusion were foundational values and where more Australians from more diverse backgrounds would start to build their careers.
- When she finally took on the role of Vice Chancellor in 1997 those goals were embedded in the very foundations of the institution.
- She defined the role of what a new university could, and should, be.
- And as the university grew, she guided its outlook to one that was internationally focused and engaged.

- We obviously owe Denise a great debt and the opportunity to acknowledge that debt has been a long time in the planning.
- It had to be big. It had to be important. It had to respect who she was and the incredible contribution that she made to higher education in this nation.
- The forum named in her honour in the Hawke building never seemed enough.
- And so we chose to honour her by naming this building as the Bradley Building.
- It is home to researchers dedicated to controlling cancer and its effects on the quality of life.
- Denise was ever willing to challenge the status quo, as do our researchers within that facility.

- They're not only dedicated to controlling cancer and its effects on quality of life but they're looking at the wider impact of cancer – not only on the individual, but also on the community which surrounds and supports them.
- It's the kind of medical research, with a focus on the community, that Denise would have been proud of.
- Our researchers are discovering and developing new drugs, creating novel treatments and methods of detection and diagnosis, and improving prevention, screening, treatment and supportive care strategies.
- Evidence-based research translated into practice.
- Under our Enterprise25 Plans this building will also house health students, bringing together the teaching and research mission that has been at the core of UniSA.

- It was always Denise's conviction that we could help build the State of South Australia as a place where excellent research, quality teaching and an engaged international outlook would flourish.
- As a great believer in collaboration with business and industry, with other universities and research agencies, wherever it made sense to work together to achieve better outcomes for students, for science and research and for society, she was all for it.
- So also in this building is the Industry Collaboration Centre – which brings industry and higher learning together to support and incubate the ideas and businesses of the future.
- And then there's MOD. the university's futuristic museum of discovery, which inspires adults of all ages about science and technology and showcases our research and how it shapes our understanding of the world.

- UniSA has always been about engaging with the community and MOD is the newest model of that. It's creative and adventurous. Knowledge made accessible.
- You might find in this latest exhibition how you can start out trying to wipe out malaria but end up with parachuting cats.
- It'll all become clear if you stop by and have a look after this morning's celebrations.
- In time this building too will house the Chancellery of UniSA. My office and the offices of future Vice Chancellors will be here – and I think it is a very good thing that future leaders of the institution will have the building's name to remind them of our origin.
- And as you will see in a minute, I think it is also a great idea to have future leaders walking up the stairs in having to pass under Denise's gaze.
- Watching over. Always.

- Denise would have loved this building and the activity within it.
- And now it stands as testimony, not just to her enduring contribution, but as a reminder for future generations that it is people just like Denise who create change, shape fairer societies and work to find solutions to society's problems.
- Denise said that she believed a University should always feel young, that its days should always feel like first days. I hope in this building that now carries her name, that spirit of youth and invention is permanently on display.
- And now I'd like to welcome back to UniSA – and introduce Emeritus Professor Bruce King, who had the singular honour of being Denise's husband.

- Bruce it is good to have you able to cross the border to be with us at last.
- Please join me in welcoming him to the stage.

(EMERITUS PROFESSOR BRUCE KING. AT THE CLOSE
CHANCELLOR RETURNS TO STAGE)

- Thank you Emeritus Professor King. We certainly share your pride in Professor Bradley, and also your deep sadness at her loss.
- And now Ladies and Gentlemen, if you would turn your attention to the stairs, - on behalf of the University of South Australia and the University Council, I would like to officially name this building,

- the Bradley Building.

(SCREEN RISES. ONCE IT HAS RISEN COMPLETELY THE CURTAIN WILL DROP AND REVEAL THE PORTRAIT AND PLAQUE)

- You'll note on closer look that we have immortalized Denise's sage words: *the days of a successful University must all be first days*
- They will live on engraved as they are on the front of the building between the doors and also on her portrait on the LED big screen that overlooks North Terrace.
- And now may I propose a toast. Would everyone please raise your glasses in honour of Emeritus Professor Denise Bradley.

- That concludes this morning's ceremonies and I thank you again for joining us this morning and remembering someone who, we feel, will never be forgotten.
- Thank you again Your Excellency Hieu van Le for joining us this morning.
- Also a special thanks to Mr Matt Cowdrey MP and Dr Susan Close MP;
- Emeritus Professor Bruce King and his family;
- Denise's fine sons James, David and Patrick;
- And all of our distinguished guests, donors, partners and friends.
- It was good to share this occasion with you this morning,
- and I hope you'll stay a while and celebrate with us.
- Thank you.