

Mr Mark Charles Allison

Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present to you an outstanding candidate for admission to the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University (honoris causa): Mr Mark Charles Allison.

With a wealth of leadership experience spanning technical, manufacturing, supply and distribution roles, Mark Allison has been a champion of Australian agriculture and agribusiness for over 40 years. As the Managing Director and CEO of Elders, one of Australia's oldest and largest agricultural companies, Mark has a highly successful track record of strategic leadership, turning around complex businesses for wider impact and benefit of the agricultural industry in Australia.

Born into a sugarcane and beef cattle family in Ayr, north-eastern Queensland, agriculture was a passion for Mark from an early age. Combining an Agricultural Science degree with a Bachelor of Economics at the University of Queensland provided a foundation for Mark to build a career that would make a tangible contribution to the rural and regional communities for which he cares so deeply.

Starting as a research agronomist in Queensland's Darling Downs and Lockyer Valley horticultural region, Mark also worked in cotton and broadacre cropping in north-western New South Wales. Improving the sustainability and environmental stability of the industry was also a focus through research into new varieties, technology and farming systems. country, folk and r

Agribusiness Australia. He remains a member of the Rabobank Food and Agriculture Advisory Board.

His invaluable contribution to linking research with Agricultural industries continues through his role as Chair of the Agriculture and Natural Resources End-User Advisory Board of the SmartSat CRC, and as co-Chair of the University of Adelaide's Agrifood and Wine Industry Advisory Board.