

HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE DAME MARIE BASHIR AD CVO – FORMER CHANCELLOR (2007–12)

Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO, was Chancellor of the University of Sydney from 1 June 2007 to 15 December 2012.

PROFILE

AC CVO, MB BS HonMD *Sydney*, FRANZCP, Governor of NSW

- **Fellow of Senate and Chancellor, 2007 - 2012**
- **Chair, Chair Appointments Committee, 2007 - 2012**
- **Chair, Nominations and Appointments Committee, 2010 - 2012**
- **Chair, former Advisory Committee for Honorary Awards, 2007 - 2010**
- **Chair, former Nominations Committee, 2007 - 2010**
- **Chair, former Senate/Student Associations Liaison Committee, 2007 - 2010**

Professor Bashir is Governor of NSW, the first woman to be so appointed, and took up office on 1 March 2001.

Born, of Lebanese descent, in Narrandera in the Riverina district of NSW, and educated at Narrandera Public School and Sydney Girls High School, Marie Bashir gained her bachelor degrees in medicine and surgery in 1956 from the University of Sydney.

Dr Bashir taught at the Universities of Sydney and NSW, increasingly working with children's services, psychiatry and mental health services, and indigenous health programs. At the time of her appointment as Governor of NSW, she was Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Sydney (a post she took up in 1993); Area Director of Mental Health Services Central Sydney (from 1994); and Senior Consultant to the Aboriginal Medical Service, Redfern (from 1996) and to the Aboriginal Medical Service, Kempsey.

Professor Bashir's widespread involvements and interests have included juvenile justice, research on adolescent depression, health issues in developing countries, education for health professionals and telemedicine and new technologies for health service delivery. Along with many professional medical association roles, she was, at the time of her appointment as Governor, a member of societies as diverse as Amnesty International, the National Trust, the NSW Camellia Research Society and the Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Centre, as well as being a patron of the Sydney Symphony and Opera Australia. She was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1988 for her services to child and adolescent health and subsequently made a Companion of the Order in 2001. She was later invested by Her Majesty The Queen, with the insignia of a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) in 2006.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred upon Her Excellency Professor Bashir by the University of Sydney on 11 October 2002, at the ceremony to mark the sesquicentenary of the inauguration of the University of Sydney and of the commencement of Higher Education ceremony.

Professor Bashir received an inaugural Women's College Alumni Award on 26 May 2007.

Professor Bashir is married to Sir Nicholas Shehadie AC OBE and together they have three children and six grandchildren.

Chancellor, 2007 - 2012

Professor Bashir's terms of office as Chancellor:

- term 1: 1 June 2007 - 31 May 2011
- term 2: 1 June 2011 - 15 December 2012
- As Chancellor, Professor Bashir was Chair of Senate and of the following Senate committees:
- Chair Appointments Committee
- Nominations and Appointments Committee

She also chaired the following former Senate committees:

- Advisory Committee for Honorary Awards
- Senate/Student Associations Liaison Committee

Patron of University of Sydney organisations

As Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Professor Bashir is Patron of a number of University organisations including the following:

- Chancellor's Committee
- China Education Centre
- Sydney University Musical Society
- As Governor of NSW, Professor Bashir is Patron of a number of University of Sydney organisations including the following:
- Australian Lebanese Foundation within the University of Sydney
- Hoc Mai, The Australia-Vietnam Medical Trust, a not-for-profit foundation of the University
- International Science School of the Science Foundation for Physics within the University
- Microsearch Foundation of Australia, which recently become part of The Medical Foundation within the University of Sydney
- Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Sydney University Graduate Choir

Marie Bashir Institute for Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity 2013

The University's Sydney Emerging Infections and Biosecurity Institute (SEIB) was re-named as the Marie Bashir Institute for Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity at a special event on 5 December 2013.

Queen's Birthday Honours 2014

Retiring NSW Governor Marie Bashir has become the second recipient of a Dameship awarded by Prime Minister Tony Abbott.

Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO was named Dame (AD) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, the highest honour bestowed, in the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours. Professor Bashir steps down as Governor on 1 October 2014, to be replaced by Defence force chief General David Hurley.