Ms Gillian Hutchinson

The title of Honorary Fellow of the University of Sydney was conferred upon Gillian Hutchinson by the Pro Chancellor Alec Brennan at the Faculty of Arts graduation ceremony at 11.30am on 14 October 2011.

Citation

Pro Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to commend Gillian Hutchinson to you for the award of Honorary Fellow of the University. Gillian Hutchinson has distinguished herself through her outstanding contribution in supporting the interests and welfare of the University of Sydney in her voluntary role as Convenor of the Chancellor's Committee Shop.

Gillian Hutchinson graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Sydney in 1957. Many years later she joined the Chancellor's Committee and in 1995 was elected Convenor of the Committee's Shop Committee. Mrs Hutchinson has been unanimously re-elected to that position every year since.

The Chancellor's Committee is a volunteer group of University supporters who collaborate to raise funds for projects of University-wide significance. It was established as an informal group by the then Chancellor Sir Hermann Black in 1977, and became an official Alumni and Friends group of the University of Sydney in 2010.

Along with the annual Bookfest and the annual Antiques Fair, the Chancellor's Committee Shop has been a major fund-raising venture of the Committee. In the past four years the shop has raised approximately $130,000 for the University.

As Shop Convenor, Gillian has taken responsibility for all aspects of the shop’s operations. These include inducting volunteers, monitoring stock levels, ordering new stock, undertaking periodic stock-takes, certifying the receipt of and arranging payment for new stock, accounting for and banking sales receipts, managing staffing levels and filling in on her days off if volunteers are not available. She is also responsible for the special sales of University merchandise which take place on approximately 17 graduation days each year.

Gillian has developed a mail order business for the Shop, and established a loyal customer base among University departments looking for appropriate memorabilia and gifts.

The Chancellor’s Committee Shop is located in a prominent position in the Quadrangle and Mrs Hutchinson’s energy and generosity of spirit make it an important introduction to visitors to the University.

Pro Chancellor, I present Gillian Hutchinson and invite you to confer the title of Honorary Fellow of the University upon her.