

Background notes on Chancellor Mr Lawrie Willett, AO

The Chancellor was born in Brisbane in 1938. He completed his secondary education at Brisbane State High School before entering the then Commonwealth Public Service in 1957. The Chancellor worked in various positions in Queensland, before transferring to Canberra in 1963.

The Chancellor's public service background is extensive. During the early years of his career he held a number of key positions in such areas as customs and excise, business and consumer affairs and industry and commerce, including more than three years with the Australian Embassy in Japan as Australia's senior customs representative in Asia (1971-1975), and membership of Australia's GAAT negotiating team in Geneva (1978-1979). He was Director General of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Chairman of the National Health and Medical Research Council in 1983-84, and from 1985-1990 was Commissioner of both the Health Insurance Commission and the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth Superannuation Fund Investment Trust.

In the private sector, he has served on many boards, including chairmanship of Collyfarms Cotton (1987-1990) and Australian Hospital Care Ltd (1996-2001). He was Chairman of Jupiters Ltd (1992-2004), Breakwater Island Ltd (1994-2004) and the Gungahlin Development Authority (1996-2005). He was National President of the Building Owners and Managers Association (now the Australian Property Council) from 1989 to 1991. He has also served as a director for Sunbeam Victa and By-Vest Advisors (1987-1991), the Indigenous Land Corporation (1993-1998), the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commercial Development Corporation (1989-1996), ANZ Managed Investments Ltd and ANZ Life Insurance Ltd (1995-2002) and has served as director of ANZ Trustees Ltd. He was a Director of TabCorp Pty Ltd from 1994 until 2010 and a member of the Government Relations Board of Minter Ellison a major transnational law firm.

Despite his heavy involvement in the public and private sector arenas, the Chancellor has given of his time, serving in the capacity of Mayor of Gunning Shire Council from 1999 until 2004 and Vice President and President of the Commonwealth Club from 1999 until 2008, and as Chairman of Radford College in Canberra from 1985 until 2008.

Quick Comparison During Mr Willett's Tenure: 2003-2013

	2003 (using 2003 calculation methods)	2013 (using 2013 calculation methods)	Estimated % Change
Student Load	33,991	39,315	+15.6%
Staff	1,471	2,205	+49.9%
Rural and Regional Students	11,582 (2004)	14,510	+25.3%
Indigenous Students	294 (2004)	827	+181%
International Students	4,986	5,948	+20%
Revenue	\$215 million	\$483 million	+124.8%
Jobs created in the Regions	3,100 equivalent full time employees (2004)	4,996 equivalent full time employees (2011)	+61.2%
Contribution to Household Income in Regions	\$164.3 million (2004)	\$331 million (2011)	+101.5%
Economic Value-Add to Regions	\$264 million (2004)	\$524 million (2011)	+98.5%

Note: The information above is illustrative only. The percentage change indicated in the third column is only an estimate because the way data was calculated in 2003/4 is different to the data calculations in 2013 (for example, the classification scheme used by the Department of Education for rural and regional students was different in 2003). As a result the data sets used are comparing similar, but not exactly the same, information.

Some Other Notable Points

Major New Courses	Pharmacy, Dentistry, Veterinary Science
Retention of Rural Graduates in Rural Areas	88.1%
Graduate Employment Outcomes	84.6% (8.3% above the national average)
Broad Course Satisfaction	93.6%

ends

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