

BIOGRAPHY: John Phillips, AO

Chancellor of The University of Western Sydney and
member of The Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation Board of the Public Fund.

John Phillips has been Chairman of the Foreign Investment Review Board since 1996. His other government positions have included membership of the Committee on Banking in Papua New Guinea, the Taskforce on the Australian Financial System, the Intergovernmental Committee on Offshore Banking, the Prime Minister's Committee on International Monetary Reform, and the Medical Indemnity Policy Reform Panel. He attended meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank as a member of the Australian delegation from 1972 to 1992. He also represented Australia at working parties on financial reform and corporate governance organised by the APEC Ministerial Committee.

His executive career was with the Reserve Bank, retiring in 1992 as Deputy Governor and Deputy Chairman of the Board. He had previously occupied a range of senior positions in the Bank and was also the first Chairman of Note Printing Australia.

He stepped down from his role at the Reserve bank in 1992 and accepted appointment to the Boards of a number of companies. Among these were the Australian Gas Light Company (Chairman), IBJ Australia Bank Ltd (Chairman), QBE Insurance Group Ltd (Deputy Chairman), Woolworths Limited (Deputy Chairman), and WMC Limited.

In the charitable field, he has been National Committee member and Treasurer of Caritas Australia, a member of the Leadership Committee of the YWCA, a member of the Pontifical Council 'Cor Unum' and Inaugural Chairman of the Australian Charities Fund. He is a member of the Sydney Archdiocese Finance Committee and a member of the Board of the Public Fund of The Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation.

In higher education, his previous positions include Inaugural Principal of the Papua New Guinea Bankers College, Member of the Senate of Australian Catholic University, the Advisory Council of the Australian Graduate School of Management, and the University of Sydney Chancellor's Business Advisory Committee.

He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1987, and an Officer of the Order in 2004. Also in 2004, he was awarded a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Gregory the Great (KGCSG) by Pope John Paul II.