



Communications

Order of Australia for John Croucher

In the Australia Day Honours, Professor John Sydney Croucher has been made a member (AM) in the Order of Australia ‘for significant service to mathematical science in the field of statistics, as an academic, author, and mentor, and to professional organisations’.



John Croucher has been with Macquarie University since 1974, first in the Statistics Department, and then in the Macquarie Graduate School of Management.

He received his first PhD from the University of Minnesota in 1974 with a thesis titled *Game theoretic models with applications*, and a second PhD, in modern history, from Macquarie University, with a thesis titled *A science which cannot fail to elevate and purify the heart: the life and times of Janet Taylor and her role in the development of sea navigation*.

In 2011, he was awarded an honorary PhD from Divine Word University, in Madang, Papua New Guinea, where he had designed and taught the new MBA program, and served as a Council Member. The inscription read ‘for services to humanity’.

In 2015 John was awarded a fourth PhD, this one from the University of Technology, Sydney, for a thesis on capital markets.

Throughout his teaching and writing, he has contributed to the practical application of quantitative methods to business and management. John is the winner of numerous national and international teaching awards, including Australia’s prestigious Prime Minister’s Award for Outstanding University Teacher of the Year in 2013.

An interesting part of his career was spent as a television presenter for seven years on rugby league telecasts on Channel 10 where he gave forecasts and statistical analysis of the matches. For 12 years he was the author of the popular Number Crunch column that appeared weekly in both the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age* in Melbourne.

John is the author of over 130 research papers and 27 books, including his most recent ones:

- 2014 *The Kid from Norfolk Island*: Woodslane Press,
- 2012 *Introductory mathematics and statistics (6th Edition)*: McGraw-Hill Australia,
- 2011 *Love by Numbers: uncovering the secrets of sexual attraction*: Woodslane Press,
- 2010 *Quantitative analysis for management*: McGraw-Hill Australia,
- 2010 *The Secret Language: the real meaning behind what people say*: Harper Collins Publishers.

Amongst his other achievements, John has been

- Benefactor, Parramatta High School, John S. Croucher Prize ‘for Excellence in Mathematics’, since 2003,
- Inaugural Chair, Responsible Gaming Committee of New South Wales, in 2001,
- A Visiting Professor at both the University of London and Divine Word University, PNG,
- Winner of the inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award at Macquarie University
- Fellow, Australian Mathematical Society, since 2001,
- Fellow, Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA), since 2006,
- Elected Member, Australian Academy of Forensic Sciences, since 2005.