

Emeritus Professor Ifan (Odwyn) Jones AO

Emeritus Professor Ifan Odwyn Jones was in charge of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder based WA School of Mines between 1976 and 1991 and living in Kalgoorlie-Boulder during this time.

"Odwyn was Principal of the WA School of Mines at Kalgoorlie and Dean of Mining and Mineral Technology at WAIT/ Curtin University of Technology for 15 years. During a period of outstanding development and resurgence of the Kalgoorlie Campus.

Thereafter he became Director of University Development (International) and Director of the Brodie-Hall Research and Consultancy Centre for a further 4 years before retirement. He is a long-standing member of the Minerals and Energy Research Institute of WA (MERIWA) and is currently Chairman of its Minerals Research Advisory Committee."

During his time, Prof Jones was instrumental in fighting attempts to relocate the school from the Goldfields to Perth. The Whitlam Government spent heavily on education in its term of Government, this spending was severely curtailed by the next (Frazer) government and funding was progressively diminished. This resulted in the Federal Government attempting to reorganise the tertiary education system. It was proposed that the School of Mines should be in federated association with the Eastern Goldfields Technical College. This was fought for five years, until 1982, when the proposal was abandoned, and the School of Mines was left with the WA Institute of Technology, and given increased autonomy, with its own Board of Management.

Prof Jones was awarded the Order of Australia (OAM) medal for service to the mining industry and to the Kalgoorlie-Boulder community.

Chairman, Minerals Research Advisory Committee, Minerals and Energy Research Institute of Western Australia, since 1998; Deputy Chairman, 1983-1998; Scholarship Student Awards Committee, since 1998; Ministerial appointee, since 1981.

Chairman, Advisory Boards, Central TAFE, 1996-2001.

Chairman, Board of Directors, Resource Information Unit Ltd, 1986-1992.

Director, Kalgurli Mines Ltd, 1985-1989.

Member, Selection Panel, State Government Science and Innovation Studentship Awards, 2004-2005.

National Vice-President, Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 1994; National Councillor, 1991-1994; Chairman, Eastern Goldfields Branch, 1990; Fellow.

Chairman, Mining, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Panel, Institute of Engineers Australia, 1984-1987; Accreditation Board Member, 1984-1987.

Fellow, Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, UK.

Member, Federal Government Trade Mission to China, 1993.

Member, Western Australian Government Trade Missions to Iran, 1992 and 1994.

Consultant to Government agencies in Thailand, Papua New Guinea and Iran regarding proposed education programs, 1992-1993.

Member, IDP Education Australia mission assessing need for Australian educational services in Kuwait, 1992.

Member, Joint Australian-Indonesian Postgraduate Selection Committee, Australian International Development Assistance Bureau, 1984-1985 and 1990; other programs in the Indonesian Mining and Energy Sector 1989, and in Burma 1987.

President, Welsh Society of Western Australia Inc.

Vice-President, Perth's Welsh Free Church.

Past Chairman, Property and Finance Committee, Como Uniting Church.

Committee Member, Christian Men's Association.

Past Vice-President and Committee Member, Australian-Britain Society (WA Branch).

Council Member, Eastern Goldfields Branch, Royal Flying Doctor Service, 1990-1991.

Awards/recognition include:

'Odwyn Jones Mining and Surveying Building' at the WA School of Mines, Curtin University of Technology, was named in his honour, 2004.

Emeritus Professorship, Curtin University of Technology, 1995.

Gold Bicentennial Medal, Graduates Association of the WA School of Mines, 1988.

Citizen of the Goldfields, 1978.