



## **COLIN THOMPSON**

### **Class of 1957**

Colin Thompson (1953-57) attended UNSW and obtained a B.Sc. (Hons) and a Ph.D. in 1964 in Applied Mathematics. He held research and teaching positions at University of California, M.I.T., Princeton and Northwestern Universities in U.S.A. in 1972 he returned to take up the Chair of Mathematics at University of Melbourne. He has published books and research papers in diverse areas such as theories of superconductivity, statistical mechanics, dynamical systems and chaos theory, theoretical biology and ecology.

Colin was the co-discovered of the Golden-Thompson inequality. He has developed applications of mathematics and modelling of real-world complex systems in environmental science, industry, business and finance. He has also consulted for BHP, CSR, Telstra, Western Mining, Merrill Lynch, AMP and other financial and governmental institutions.

He was elected fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 1995 and a recipient of the Centenary Medal in 2001 for contributions to Australian science.