

## **Biographical Note**

**Basil Taliangis, AM**

Award of Companion of the University

Basil Taliangis is a well-known and respected South Australian who has tirelessly engaged in multicultural affairs and support for ethnic communities. As Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission, as a member of the Tertiary Multicultural Education Advisory Committee, Chair of St George College Council and many other organisations, Basil Taliangis has been committed to cultural diversity, bilingual education and issues of access and equity in education and other areas of community welfare, including working with the aged.

The close involvement of Basil Taliangis in the University in the past four years has brought many tangible benefits for students, staff, and the University as a whole. His advocacy has resulted in funding for a staff post in Italian, courtesy of the Italian consulate and a five year commitment for \$250,000 per year in the form of staff and other resources, from the Greek community and the Greek Government through the consulate. Mr Taliangis has also worked with the State Government to provide support for the University in the provision of remote and rural delivery of Greek language programs and assisted in the development of an agreement with St Georges School to provide a venue for the training of language teachers and other educational links.

Basil Taliangis is made a Companion of the University for his promotion of the University's programs in languages other than English, his general support of the University, his outstanding achievements in negotiating funds for University purposes and his active role in supporting the interests of the University in the wider community.