

# MEDIA RELEASE

26 January 2026



## IHEA Congratulates Alan Finch AM on Australia Day Honour

Independent Higher Education Australia (IHEA) congratulates Alan Finch on being made a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2026 Australia Day Honours List.

In addition to his more-than three-decade career with Bond University culminating as Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Student and Support Services, Mr Finch was a founding member of IHEA's predecessor organisation in 2001.

Mr Finch's commitment to the sector was evidenced by his service on a wide range of board, and committees, and other government appointments during his career, including his role as Chair of the Board of IHEA from 2019 to 2023.

Chief Executive Officer of IHEA, the Hon Dr Peter Hendy welcomed the news, saying: "Alan Finch is a stalwart of the Australian independent higher education sector, and his recognition in the Australia Day Honours is thoroughly well deserved."

Mr Finch was made a Member of the Order of Australia 'For significant service to higher education, through the design and implementation of models of governance', per the Honours List released yesterday by Government House.

**Ends**

**Media contact:** Mitch Tanner, Head of Advocacy ([mitch.tanner@ihea.edu.au](mailto:mitch.tanner@ihea.edu.au))