



## PRESS RELEASE

### Two ACO Greats Receive Queen's Birthday Honours

**The Australian College of Optometry (ACO) congratulates its President, Professor Nathan Efron AC, on being the first Optometrist awarded the Companion of the Order of Australia in the general division of the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List.**

Professor Efron is a Queensland-based academic optometrist and the first optometrist to have been accorded this significant honour for "eminent service to medicine in the field of clinical optometry, particularly to vision correction and corneal physiology, as an academic, researcher and author, to the treatment of juvenile diabetes, and through executive roles with national and international professional organisations". Professor Efron joined the ACO in 1977 and is currently its President, a role he has held for the past 3 years.

The Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia is **the highest level of Queens Birthday Honour aside from Knights and Dames.**

**The ACO also congratulates its Life Member, Dr Alan Isaacs AM, on being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in the general division of the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List, in recognition of his "significant service to medical education, particularly in the field of Ophthalmology".**

Dr Isaacs also has a long and close association with the Australian College of Optometry since 1947 when he became the youngest member of the College Council and then in 1948 proceeded to completely rewrite the curriculum of the College's optometry course. He completed a medical degree at the University of Melbourne in 1962 and then trained in London as an Ophthalmologist. Upon returning to Melbourne, and for the next 50 years, Dr Issacs taught optics and refraction to ophthalmologists. His enjoyment of ophthalmic practice is testified by his continued practice of ophthalmology, but more as an optometrist than a surgeon, past the age of 90.

The ACO is exceptionally proud of its long and close association with both of these distinguished gentlemen, and values their continued leadership in the fields of Optometry & Ophthalmology.

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