MEDIA RELEASE

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Australian Hearing Hub launched at Macquarie University

Dr Chris Roberts, CEO of Cochlear Limited has given the keynote address at the launch of the Australian Hearing Hub at Macquarie University.

A wide range of VIP guests, including Senator the Hon John Faulkner, attended the launch of what is expected to be one of the world’s leading collaborative research facilities for hearing health.

The Australian Hearing Hub is a revolutionary independent research facility inspired by the interdisciplinary working environment of Macquarie University. Featuring the National Acoustic Laboratories’ anechoic chamber, specially designed ‘echo chambers’, and three MEGs – including one specifically for children – it offers state-of-the-art facilities to more than 2000 professionals from some of the country’s best hearing and allied health organisations, together with staff, students and researchers from one of the country’s leading research universities.

Cochlear will join the Australian Hearing Hub to further its research capacity. As described by Chris Roberts, the hub will be ‘a multi-disciplinary environment that will be a catalyst for global collaboration’. Other partners joining the hub include Macquarie University, Australian Hearing, the National Acoustic Laboratories, the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, The Shepherd Centre, the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre, and the ARC Centre of Excellence in Cognition and its Disorders.

The launch coincided with the inaugural conference at the Hearing Hub entitled Language, Literacy and Cognition in Children with Hearing Impairment, opened by Senator the Hon Jan McLucas, Minister for Human Services.

Professor Jim Piper, who will retire later this year as Macquarie University’s Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, jointly unveiled a plaque bearing his name, as the champion behind the development. He initially proposed the idea to the Federal Government, whose approval for funding helped make it a reality. Senator Faulkner helped unveil the plaque on behalf of the Government. The Senator is a graduate of Macquarie University, and a former member of University Council.

For more information on the Australian Hearing Hub visit www.hearinghub.edu.au
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Media contact

Piers Shervington
Senior Corporate Communications Manager
Cochlear Limited
P: +61 2 9425 5416 / pshervington@cochlear.com