



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

4 MARCH 1987

The Prime Minister announced today the appointment of two new members of the Australian Science and Technology Council (ASTEC) and the reappointment of two members.

The two new members are Professor James McCleod, Professor of Medicine at the University of Sydney, and Dr Alessandra Pucci, Managing Director of the biotechnology company Australian Monoclonal Development. Professor McCleod has been the Bushell Professor of Neurology since 1978 and a member of the Board of Royal North Shore Hospital since 1980. Dr Pucci was the Bulletin/Qantas Businesswoman of the Year in 1986.

Both appointments are for three years; Professor McCleod's appointment commenced on 28 February 1987 and Dr Pucci's appointment will commence on 1 June 1987, after she returns from overseas.

The two reappointments are Dr Don Watts, Vice-Chancellor of the Curtin University of Technology, and Dr Peter Jones, Managing Director of Techway Pty Ltd. Both reappointments are for a second term of three years.

ASTEC is a statutory body which reports directly to the Prime Minister on matters of science and technology policy. Recent reports by ASTEC include reviews of CSIRO and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation. ASTEC's latest report, entitled "Improving the Research Performance of Australia's Universities and Other Higher Education Institutions", is expected to be tabled in the Parliament shortly.