

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

THE FIFTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF CONVOCATION

**to be held on Saturday 11 June 2016, 14.00-15.30
in the Curtis Auditorium, Herschel Building.**

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Chair of Convocation, Mr Antony Jones

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 20 June 2015

To receive:

The Minutes of the Fifty-eighth Ordinary Meeting of Convocation held on 20 June 2015.

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3. MATTERS ARISING

4. THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO CONVOCATION FOR 2015-16

To report:

As members of Convocation will know, Professor Chris Brink will retire in December this year. Professor Brink has kindly agreed to deliver the Convocation Lecture today, which will be held in the Curtis Auditorium at 17.00hrs

To receive:

A presentation from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Chris Brink.

QUESTIONS

The Vice-Chancellor will be pleased to answer questions at the meeting from members of Convocation and would be grateful to receive notice of these, as far as possible. Members are asked to submit these by email to the Chair of Convocation at: advancement@ncl.ac.uk or alternatively please call the NU Advancement Office on 0191 208 7250 for the postal address.

5. FREEDOM CITY 2017 : MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATIONS

An exclusive opportunity for an advance preview of 'Freedom City 2017'

To receive:

A presentation from Professor Richard Davies, PVC Engagement and Internationalisation, on the city-wide plans to celebrate the 50 year anniversary of Newcastle University awarding an honorary degree to Dr Martin Luther King on the 13th November 1967

6. ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT: FUTURE PLANS

To receive:

An update from Dr John Hogan, the Registrar, on current and proposed alumni engagement activities.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7. HONORARY DEGREES AWARDED IN 2014-15 and 2015-16

To report:

Honorary degrees were conferred on the following individuals at degree ceremonies held on the **9th and 10th July 2015**:

Dr Tony Trapp DEng - a serial entrepreneur. He is one of the founders of: SMD (local subsea company), the IHC Engineering Business and also OSBIT Power (another successful company). He was an owner-director of SMD for 16 years, and founded The Engineering Business in 1997. He founded OSBIT Power in 2010.

Bruce Babbitt DCL- a successful, well-respected and internationally-renowned politician and environmental campaigner. He served as Governor of Arizona from 1978 to 1987 and as Secretary of the Interior from 1993 to 2001. His Arizona Groundwater Management Act of 1980 remains the most comprehensive water regulatory system in the US.

Harpal Kumar DSc - Harpal Kumar is the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Executive Board of Cancer Research UK. He has been a strong and active supporter of cancer research in Newcastle for over 10 years.

Patsy Healey DCL -Patsy Healey retired from the University on the 30 September 2002. She is now Professor Emeritus in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape at Newcastle University, where she is a member of the Institute for Policy and Practice.

She is a specialist in planning theory and practice, with a particular interest in strategic spatial planning for city regions and in urban regeneration policies.

Anthony Sargent DMus- set up the Sage Gateshead in 2000 and was its Director until March 2015. Sage Gateshead is an international home for music and musical discovery, bringing about a widespread and long-term enrichment of the musical life of the North East of England.

To report:

In 2014, Senate agreed to award honorary degrees in areas related to the University's three societal challenge themes at December 2015 congregation ceremonies.

An honorary degree was conferred on the following individual at a ceremony held on the **9th December 2015**:

Baroness Ros Altmann DCL (Ageing)- Rosalind Miriam Altmann is a leading independent UK pensions expert and campaigner. In 2013 she was named in Top 50 Most Influential People in UK Pensions. Although best known for her pensions work, she is also involved in economic analysis and most recently in highlighting the inadequacies of the social care system. Appointed as Minister for Pensions in 2015.

To report:

That honorary degrees were also offered to Mr Danny Boyle (Social Renewal) and Professor James Syvitski (Sustainability).

Professor Syvitski has deferred his award to July 2016. Mr Boyle declined our offer.

8. HONORARY FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED IN 2015-16

To report:

Honorary fellowships were conferred on the following individuals at a ceremony held on **12 October 2015**:

Mr Michael Bird

Michael was appointed to the RBP Board as a Trustee Director from August 2008 until he retired at the end of December 2012, and chaired the Investment Sub-Committee during this period. He served as a Trustee of the Development Trust from 2006 to December 2013 and was Chair of the Trustees from April 2010. He was also on the Durham University Council and Vice-President of St. John's College Durham. Michael has taken a very active and positive interest in the RBP Investment sub-committee during his period as Chair. The performance of the RBP investments is crucial to the sustainability of the scheme; it continued to prosper under his leadership

Leading the investment sub-committee effectively requires an excellent knowledge and understanding of the financial investment world generally, and the ability to liaise with the scheme's investment advisers, individual investment managers, University senior

managers and the Board of Trustees. Michael brought significant investment management experience to the Investment Sub-committee and great leadership skills in his role as Chair of the Trust. He was very influential in the ongoing exercise of realigning the purposes and use of the Development Trust endowments with the current priorities of the University, which will maximise the benefit to the University in the long term.

Ms Cathryn Harvey

Cathryn Harvey was an outstanding public servant for over forty years. She was Academic Registrar at Newcastle University from 2006-2011. In this position she led a transformational project to improve the quality of student services culminating in the construction of a new £35m student and administrative services building, King's Gate, which was officially opened in February 2010 by His Royal Highness the Duke of York.

Cathryn's working life was characterised by a deep and passionate commitment to support those socially disadvantaged and a commitment to improving service standards. She commenced her career in 1969 as a social worker in Manchester before moving to the North East in 1980 as a lecturer in life and social skills at South Tyneside College. This was followed by a period as a social worker with Barnardos followed by a further period as a teacher at Northumberland College covering a wide range of social work and social care issues. She then became the Education Manager at the Northumberland Training and Enterprise Council (TEC) in the mid-1990s. In this role, she established a countrywide family learning programme delivered by the Centre for Lifelong Learning in Newcastle and developed a strategy for co-operation between the TEC and higher education institutions. It was, therefore, a natural step for her to move to the Careers Service in Newcastle University in the late 1990s becoming Director in 1999. She pioneered a new approach to the provision of careers advice to students. This was recognised in two national awards from the Institute of Career Guidance and external accreditation under the Matrix Standard becoming the only higher education careers service nationally to achieve this quality mark.

Following this, in her role as Academic Registrar, Cathryn was a popular member of staff who won the trust of successive generations of Student Union sabbatical officers who turned to her for advice and guidance. Cathryn is a graduate of Newcastle University. She continues to be active in alumni events and in support projects. She recently completed a three year period on the University's ethical review committee for animal work. She has therefore enjoyed an association with the University going back fifty years.

Mr Ian Shott

Ian is the founder of Shott Trinova and focused on supporting and investing in organisations in the Life Sciences industry. Since 2010 and together with his partner Paul Ryan, Ian has helped found, or reposition, and lead half a dozen SMEs. Prior to this, he was the founder, majority owner and CEO of Excelsyn, a development and manufacturing services company to the global pharmaceutical industry, which he sold to AMRI in February 2010.

Ian has held many senior executive business leadership positions over the last thirty years, working for multinational chemical and life science companies including ICI, AstraZeneca, Alusuisse-Lonza, Chirex and Rhodia; and has been located in the UK, France and Switzerland with extended periods in the USA and Australia.

Ian founded and was inaugural chair of the UK government's Leadership Forum for Industrial Biotechnology. He also founded and is the current Chair of the Royal Academy of Engineering Enterprise Committee. He is a visiting professor in the School of Chemical Engineering and Advanced Materials Newcastle University having been a member of Council from 2006-2012. He is the Honorary Professor of Sustainable Process Technology at the University of Nottingham as well as chairing the Strategic Advisory Board for Chemical Engineering at Imperial College. He is a Fellow of the RAEng, the IChemE previously serving as Technical Vice-President and President, and the RSC and has deep knowledge of biotechnology.

Ian's professional specialisations include corporate investment, merger and acquisition work, strategic planning, technology development and manufacturing. He has focused on innovation and entrepreneurialism throughout his career. Ian managed major transformational projects inspiring high calibre teams on an international basis. He has been primarily involved in the development and implementation of game changing strategies, which included taking Lonza into large molecule technology, now an established global leader.

Ian is a highly successful businessman who has an ongoing relationship with the University via a number of small and medium sized businesses which he has helped develop. He is best known at the University for his role on Council and particularly as a member of the Science City Council Advisory Group.

9. DEATHS AND OBITUARIES

A list of deaths is available on the Alumni & Supporters webpage and hard copies available at the meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To report:

The *provisional* date of the sixtieth Ordinary Meeting of Convocation is Saturday 17 June 2017. This date is to be confirmed.

Mr Antony E Jones
Chair of Convocation
31 May 2016