The Chancellor is the formal head of the University and as such is a source of wise counsel to the institution. They are an important public representative and senior ambassador for the University, the city of Newcastle and the North East of England. Reflecting and embodying the University’s Values and Guiding Principles, the Chancellor should possess a highly respected international reputation with good political, business and media connections. With a global outlook, the Chancellor is expected to play an active role in promoting the interests of the University within the city, region, the UK and internationally, thereby helping the University to pursue its strategic goals and have a genuinely global impact.

As the formal head of the University, it is expected that the Chancellor will regularly preside at graduation ceremonies. The University currently holds two sets of ceremonies during the year in Newcastle and two in London together with annual congregations in Malaysia and Singapore. The London and international ceremonies are relatively small, and attendance is not anticipated on a frequent basis. The University normally awards honorary degrees to 4 to 6 outstanding individuals as part of the Newcastle ceremonies and the Chancellor would be expected to preside, if possible, at these ceremonies.

The University holds these main degree ceremonies during two weeks in early July and a smaller number of ceremonies, mainly for postgraduates, over four days in December. Since the University’s preference is to hold small ceremonies of around 120 students, a large number of such ceremonies are held during this period. The Chancellor would not therefore be expected to preside at all such ceremonies, although, as an excellent public speaker and well-respected cultural figure, their presence at some of these events will be much appreciated by students, their families, friends and members of staff.

The University also recognises individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the University by the award of an Honorary Fellowship. Two or three Honorary Fellowships are awarded each year at a dinner held in October, where again, the presence of the Chancellor would be highly desirable.

Alongside performing these specific duties, the Chancellor’s participation, as a well-respected and engaging figure, in a small number of events across the University community with students, staff, alumni, and specifically in support of fundraising campaigns, would also feature in a typical year. Wherever practical, these events are timetabled around other scheduled activities or visits to the University.

The post is not remunerated but the University will pay reasonable expenses that may be incurred.

John Hogan
Registrar

21 January 2019