NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

THE SIXTY FIRST ORDINARY MEETING OF CONVOCATION

to be held on Saturday 23 June 2018, 14.30-16.00
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 17 June 2017

   To receive:

   The Minutes of the Sixtieth Ordinary Meeting of Convocation held on 17 June 2017. 
   Document A

3. MATTERS ARISING

4. THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT TO CONVOCATION FOR 2017-18.

   To receive:

   A presentation from the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Chris Day.

QUESTIONS

The Vice-Chancellor and President 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. EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENTATIONS

   To receive:

   i) A presentation from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Julie Sanders.
   ii) A presentation from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Professor David Burn.

6. NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY AWARDS 2019

   Honorary Fellowships of the University
Court invites nominations in writing for the award of next year’s Honorary Fellowships of the University. Any lay member of Academic Board, Court, Council, and the alumni present at meetings of Convocation at which the request for nominations is tabled may make a nomination. Where several members make a joint nomination, one should be shown as the nominator and the others as supporters. The grounds on which the nomination is made should be clearly stated.

Principles for the award of Honorary Fellowships and Nomination Forms can be found at: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/congregations/honorary/nom_honfell/

Proposals should be sent by email marked ‘Confidential – Honorary Fellowships’ to Dr John Hogan, Registrar (Email: John.Hogan@ncl.ac.uk) by Thursday, 28 February 2019.

When making a nomination for an honorary fellowship, this should be done in the strictest confidence and must not be discussed with the potential recipient. Successful nominations will be publicised following approval by Court as the awarding body in advance of the relevant honorary ceremony.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7. CHANCELLORSHIP

To report that:

(i) The process for the appointment/re-appointment of a Chancellor requires Court and Senate sitting in joint session to make a recommendation to Convocation. Convocation then makes the official appointment/re-appointment.

(ii) In 2009, Convocation resolved to “approve the recommendation to appoint Sir Liam Donaldson as Chancellor of the University, for a further five year term from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2019.

(iii) Sir Liam has indicated that he will be stepping down as Chancellor when his appointment expires.

To note that:

The University will be establishing a working group to begin the process for the appointment of a new Chancellor. This group will make a recommendation to a joint meeting of Court and Senate which in turn will make a recommendation to Convocation for approval at its 2019 meeting.

8. CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR OF CONVOCATION

To report:

The second, five year term of office of the current Chair of Convocation, Mr Antony
Jones (BA Politics 1980) is due to end on 31 July 2019. The first five year term of office of the current Deputy Chair of Convocation, Mr Ally Robson (BA Combined Studies in Arts 2003) is also due to end on 31 July 2019.

Convocation is a statutory body of the University. All alumni are members. The Chair of Convocation is also an ex officio member of the Court of the University providing a further formal channel of communication between alumni and University. Statute 47 states that:

“Convocation, from its own members, shall elect a chairman and may elect a deputy chairman who shall respectively hold office for five years. Any retiring chairman or deputy chairman shall be eligible for re-election. Neither the chairman nor the deputy chairman shall be a member of the salaried staff of the University”.

Nominations will be invited for the roles of Chair and Deputy Chair early in 2019, so that an election may be held and appointments made at the meeting of Convocation in June 2019.

9. HONORARY DEGREES AWARDED IN 2016-17 and 2017-18

To report:

Honorary degrees were conferred on the following individuals at degree ceremonies held on the 12th and 14th July 2017:

Mr Michael Morpurgo OBE, MBE, FRSL - DLitt
Author, poet and playwright

Michael Morpurgo is one of Britain’s best loved story makers, known for his children’s books including War Horse and Private Peaceful. He has written over 130 books and is widely regarded as one of the most significant contributors to children’s literature of his generation.

Professor Vicki Hanson - DSc
President of the Association for Computing Machinery

Throughout her career, Vicki Hanson’s research has focussed on accessibility of technology for people with disabilities, the ageing population and related research ethics. Her long-term aim is to create information technology that is easily used and useful to all, regardless of perceptual, motor or cognitive abilities.

Professor Emerita Silvia Dorn – DSc
Professor Emerita of Applied Entomology, ETH Zurich

Silvia Dorn is an outstanding scholar and scientist who has been at the forefront of her discipline throughout her career. A passionate advocate for the role of women in
science, she has devoted time and energy to supporting, mentoring and promoting women scientists.

**Professor Chris Brink – DCL**  
**Emeritus Vice-Chancellor, Newcastle University**

An eminent logician and mathematician, Chris Brink held academic posts in South Africa and Australia before becoming Vice-Chancellor of the University in 2007. During his decade in office, he championed the University’s impact on civil society by focusing on two fundamental questions about the role of the University: ‘What are we good at?’ and ‘What are we good for?’

To report:

An honorary degree was conferred on the following individual at a ceremony held on **13 November 2017**, as part of the Freedom City 2017 celebrations:

**Malorie Blackman OBE - DLitt**  
**Author**

Described by The Times as a ‘national treasure’, Malorie Blackman is acknowledged as one of today’s most imaginative and convincing writers for young readers.

Since publishing her first book Not So Stupid! in 1990, she has written more 60 books promoting racial equality, with messages delivered with both sensitivity and authenticity. Her Noughts and Crosses series gained global recognition for raising the issue of racial prejudices and how they impact the lives of young people. Malorie works tirelessly to communicate these messages and is committed to encouraging more young people to read and write.

She gives regular talks, is an active participant in the World Book Day scheme and manages a very popular blog, posting updates of her work and communicating with readers all over the world. Malorie has also written scripts for radio, stage and television, including episodes of the long-running children’s drama Byker Grove.

Malorie has received several prizes and awards for her work, including the Red House Children’s Book Award and the Fantastic Fiction Award. Her book Pig-heart Boy was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal. In 2005 she was honoured with the Eleanor Farjeon Award in recognition of her contribution to children’s books and in 2008 she received an OBE for her services to children’s literature. From 2013-15 she was the Children’s Laureate.

**Thomas Caulker - DCL**  
**Business owner, entrepreneur and anti-racism campaigner**

Having worked in, and for, Newcastle his whole life, Tom Caulker can rightly be described as one of Newcastle’s unsung underground heroes. His values, ethics and commitment have influenced generations of young people in the city. He has worked tirelessly to be a catalyst and motivator for anti-racism and equality in Newcastle for
many years and believes in giving everyone an opportunity.

Tom’s work to promote equality and racial harmony through music programming has recently been recognised in a Channel 4 short film, Any Colour You Like. The film explains the legacy and multiculturalism behind the nightclub, World Headquarters (WHQ), which Tom has owned and managed since the early 1990s. The club, and the Trent House Soul Bar which Tom managed for 25 years, shared strong values rooted in social change, aimed at bringing people together and supporting musical diversity.

In addition to his work at WHQ, Tom is a board member of NE1 Business Improvement District Company and chairs Board of The Tyneside Cinema Bar Café. Previously, he chaired Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums Audit Committee for nine years, stepping down in 2015. He was instrumental in the fundraising, production and delivery of the Newcastle Unity Festival in Leazes Park in 2015. Tom’s events company, WHQ & Nat Turner Live Events, organises and promotes live shows in the North East and Edinburgh, working with artists such as the London African Gospel Choir.

**Archibald ‘Archie’ Sibeko - DCL**  
Anti-apartheid activist, trade unionist and political leader

Archie Sibeko, also known as Zola Zembe, grew up in a small village in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. After completing a diploma in Agriculture he moved to Cape Town, where he encountered trade unionists who rejected racial discrimination.

He joined the African National Congress (ANC), the mass movement opposing apartheid, soon becoming an activist and full time union organiser. His stance led to his arrest and trial, together with Nelson Mandela and 154 others in the 1956 Treason Trial. The case against him was discharged and he remained active and committed to bringing down apartheid. After it was banned in 1963, making all peaceful means of opposing apartheid impossible, the ANC sent Archie overseas for military training and he became a commander in Umkhonto we Sizwe, the Liberation Army. He was not able to return to South Africa and his family for nearly three decades.

After ill health forced him to retire from politics in 1992, Archie helped found a charity, Tyume Valley Schools, in the Eastern Cape, a voluntary organisation helping to improve teaching and learning of more than 5,000 children. He has also written four books, including Freedom in Our Lifetime, that are an inspiration for young South Africans wishing to understand the struggle against the apartheid regime.

**Andrew J Young - DCL**  
Activist, politician and diplomat

After graduating from Howard University, Andrew Young studied at Connecticut’s Hartford Theological Seminary and in 1955 and became an ordained minister. In the early 1960s, he joined the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and began working closely with Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1964, Andrew was named executive director of SCLC becoming one of Dr King’s
principal lieutenants. As his colleague and friend, he was a strategist and negotiator during the Civil Rights Campaigns including Birmingham and Selma. In November 1967 he travelled with Dr King to Newcastle University and was present at the honorary degree ceremony in the King's Hall. Andrew was also at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, when Dr King was assassinated in 1968.

In the 1970s Andrew become involved in politics, serving as a US congressman, as ambassador to the United Nations during President Jimmy Carter’s administration and as Mayor of Atlanta.

The Andrew J Young Foundation, of which he is chairman, was founded in 2003 to further his vision of inspiring leaders worldwide to work toward peace, prosperity and inclusion. His work has gained him many accolades, among them the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the French Légion d'honneur, as well as honorary degrees from more than 60 institutions, including his alma mater Howard University, Dartmouth, Duke, Yale, Notre Dame, Atlanta and the University of Georgia.

10. HONORARY FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED IN 2017-18

To report:

Honorary fellowships were conferred on the following individuals at a ceremony held on 9 October 2017:

**Mrs Jacqui Henderson**

Jacqui has been a key figure in the University’s governance since her appointment to Council in 2005. In particular in her role as Vice-Chair she has provided superb support to two Chairs of Council, three Vice-Chancellors and the Executive team. All of Jacqui’s University roles are unpaid and we owe her a great debt of gratitude for the amount of time, effort and skill she has committed to the University. Among her many leadership roles in the education and health sectors, Jacqui has been Chief Executive of UK Skills and Regional Director for the Learning and Skills Council in Greater London; Chief Executive of the Training and Enterprise Council’s National Council; Managing Director of Northumberland Training and Enterprise Council; and Chair of Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group and of Northumberland Care Trust. Awarded a CBE in 2001 for services to education and training, Jacqui also received a special President’s Award from the European Federation of Black Women Business Leaders in 2004.

**Dr John Lloyd**

John first joined Newcastle University in 1967 as a postgraduate student, gaining his PhD here in 1972. In the ensuing four decades, he held numerous senior appointments, notably Head of the Department – and subsequently the School – of Computing Science from 1997 until 2006. He was acting Head of the School of Natural Sciences from 2006 to 2008. Throughout his academic career, John taught a wide range of courses and acted as external examiner in the UK and abroad. He is a Fellow of the British Computer Society (BCS) and former secretary of the executive committee of the Council of
Professors and Heads of Computing. Post-retirement, John has continued to be of great service to the University through a range of voluntary roles outside of his core expertise in computing science. In particular, his work on the ethical review process for animal research – probably the most sensitive work the University undertakes – has helped to confirm our commitment to ethical principles.

Mr Nick Swales

Nick Swales has probably saved this University more money than any other individual in recent years by his extremely astute investment guidance for both the Development Trust and, critically, the University Retirement Benefits Plan. Nick has pursued a career in finance since graduating from the University in Politics and Economics in 1986, first with Wise Speke (now Brewin Dolphin), then at Merrill Lynch and UBS. He is now Regional Director of investment management company, Rathbones. He is a trustee of the Newcastle University Retirement Benefit Fund and of the University Development Trust which now administers 100 separate funds totalling around £53m. Nick is also Chairman of the Percy Hedley Foundation, which provides educational, vocational and residential care opportunities for disabled people in the North East. He joined the board in 2005 and was elected chair in 2008.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To report:

The provisional date of the sixty second Ordinary Meeting of Convocation is Saturday 15 June 2019. This date is to be confirmed.

Mr Antony E Jones
Chair of Convocation
14 May 2018