

SENATE: 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

REPORTED BUSINESS

1. Chair of Senate's Action

On 19 June 2025, the Vice-Chancellor and President took Chair's action on behalf of Senate to grant the title of Emeritus Professor on Professor Andrew Newman (School of Arts and Cultures), and Professor Anil Wipat (School of Computing).

On 11 August 2025, the Vice-Chancellor and President took Chair's action on behalf of Senate to grant the title of Emeritus Professor on Professor Louise Crawford (Business School), Professor Alan McKinlay (Business School), Professor Jonathan Pugh (School of Geography, Politics and Sociology) and Professor Andrew Russell (School of Geography, Politics and Sociology).

On 28 August 2025, the Vice-Chancellor and President took Chair's action on behalf of Senate to grant the title of Emeritus Professor on Professor Chris Dennison (Biosciences Institute).

2. Deaths

June 2025 Ann Laybourn. Ann joined the Computing Laboratory as the second member of its secretarial staff in 1959, and over time rose to be the Departmental Secretary and later Executive Officer in 1974. When the Laboratory split she became Executive Officer in the Department of Computing Science until her retirement in December 1997.

August 2025 Trevor Bedford. Trevor was previously the Head of Engagement and Enterprise in the Business Development and Enterprise (BDE) team. He was known by many colleagues across the University having worked at Newcastle for almost 20 years from 2004 until retirement in June 2021.

David Aitken Shaw. Emeritus Professor Shaw's life was dedicated to medical science and education. Having qualified in 1951 in Edinburgh, he developed a specific interest in neurology and went on to become lecturer at the National Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery in London. In 1964, Professor Shaw's talents were brought to Newcastle when he was appointed Senior Lecturer in Neurology at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, where his work expanded research activities into cerebrovascular disease. He went on to become Dean of Medicine and University Public Orator. Professor Shaw retired in 1989 having overseen the opening of the current medical school buildings. Before and after his retirement, Professor Shaw served with the General Medical Council. He was Chair of the Education Committee, which published Tomorrow's Doctors – a legacy that has transformed the training of generations of doctors. Professor Shaw was awarded a CBE for his pioneering work and also received a Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur.

Angus Lunn. Angus Lunn MBE, who spent most of his professional career in the Department of Adult Education, passed away peacefully in hospital on 10 August 2025. Beloved husband of the late Jean, wonderful father of Jenny and Ian, grandad to Dominic, Lottie, Izzy and Katie and father-in-law to Zena and Graham, Angus will be greatly missed by all his family and friends

September 2025 Jim White. Emeritus Professor Jim White joined the Department of Metallurgy and Engineering Materials in 1975. He quickly established a research group being the sole polymer scientist amongst a department dominated by metals and ceramics specialists. He became a Reader in 1994 in the merged Department of Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering. Later, in 1998, he was awarded a personal chair as professor of polymer science and engineering. He retired in 2006 and was granted Emeritus status for his substantial contribution to polymer science. Jim put a lot of energy into his research working with industries such as Akzo-Nobel but he also found time outside of work to follow football, travel on steam engines and seek out CAMRA real ale!

Senate records its deep regret and sympathy for the relatives concerned.