



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Office
Of The
President &
Vice-Chancellor.

The Council, 24 April 2017

Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee

Held on 16 March 2017

Professor Wyn Morgan, Vice President for Education, in the Chair

- 1 The Committee recommended that the following Honorary Degrees should be conferred and these were approved by the Officers' Informal Group, who were in receipt of detailed due diligence reports:**

Dorothy Byrne, (LittD, Social Sciences)

An alumna of the University, Byrne is currently Head of News and Current Affairs at Channel Four, with strategic responsibility for Channel Four News and all their current affairs output. She joined Channel 4 in 1998 as Commissioning Editor in Current Affairs to edit 'Dispatches' and was appointed Head of News and Current Affairs in September 2003. During her time on Dispatches Byrne won the Women in Film and Television award for Best Woman in Factual Television and was made a Fellow of The Royal Television Society for her "outstanding contribution to television journalism". Whilst under her lead the Channel has won numerous awards from Bafta, RTS and the Emmy's including Channel Four News winning the RTS Best News Programme of the Year for two year's running.

Dr Francis Froes (DEng, Engineering)

An Alumnus of the University with an MSc and PhD in Physical Metallurgy, Froes is an internationally recognised distinguished scholar in the field of titanium science and technology. He served with distinction as an Institute Director and Department Head (Materials Science and Engineering) at the University of Idaho where he was awarded a prize for outstanding research in 2004. He has presented key-note addresses in more than 40 different countries on the science and technology of Titanium and its alloys. His achievements have been recognised with awards including being elected as a Fellow of ASM, receiving the award of Service to Powder Metallurgy from the Metal Powder Association and the Ben Gurion Medal for his achievements in the field of Titanium Science and Technology.

Dr Brian Gilvary (DSc, Science)

A Mathematics alumnus of the University, Gilvary is currently Chief Financial Officer and Director of BP. In a career spanning over 30 years with BP, Gilvary has built an outstanding career with the company both in the US and UK in various management roles including Chief of Staff for the Refining & Marketing arm, Vice President, Strategy and Chief Executive Officer of Integrated Supply & Trading. His expertise is widely recognised and in September 2000 he was seconded to the UK Government to advise the Cabinet Office on the fuel crisis. Highly regarded in his field, in 2015 Gilvary was ranked in the top 3 of UK CFOs in Oil & Gas Exploration & Production in Institutional Investor's annual ranking.

Agnes Grunwald-Spier (LittD, Arts & Humanities)

An alumna of the University with an MA in Holocaust Studies, Grunwald-Spier has become a passionate campaigner to ensure awareness of the Holocaust and its survivors remains in the public eye. Born in Budapest in 1944, in the midst of World War Two, she was sent to the ghetto with her mother when she was only a few months old having narrowly avoided being sent to Auschwitz. In 1947 they moved to the UK where she remained, including many years in Sheffield where she worked as a Civil Servant. Wishing to learn more about her past Grunwald-Spier later undertook an MA in Holocaust Studies at the University. It was her dissertation on rescuer Varian Fry which led to her writing two highly significant books on the subject – ‘Who Betrayed the Jews?’ and ‘The Other Schindlers,’ written to ensure survivors’ stories are recorded before they are lost. She was awarded an MBE in 2016 for her work as a Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Trustee and for ‘services to Holocaust awareness.’

Andy Haldane (LittD, Social Sciences)

An Economics alumnus of the University, Haldane has forged a highly successful career at the Bank of England in various senior roles and is currently their Chief Economist and Executive Director of Monetary Analysis and Statistics. With overall responsibility for research and statistics across the Bank of England, he is now the UK’s most senior economist. Emerging as a key figure in the aftermath of the global financial crisis he is considered a leading expert on financial stability. He is credited with helping to “detoxify” global banking practices and has argued for banks to take greater account of societal inequality. In 2014 he was named by TIME magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world.

Emeritus Professor Peter Hill, (DMus, Arts & Humanities)

A former Head of the University’s Department of Music, Hill is regarded as one of the foremost experts on the music of Olivier Messiaen, as well as one of the finest British pianists of his generation. His performances and recordings are highly regarded and his complete Messiaen cycle has been described as ‘one of the most impressive solo recording projects of recent years’ (New York Times). Hill has also made a huge contribution to the city of Sheffield culturally, establishing Sheffield as a centre for the performance of chamber music. The initial Chamber Music Festival soon established a major international reputation, one that has not diminished in its new ‘brand’ as the hugely successful ‘Music in the Round’.

Jane Humphries (LittD, Arts & Humanities)

A Fellow of the British Academy, Humphries has become a leading scholar in Economic History where she is currently a Professor at Oxford University. Humphries grew up in Coningsborough, South Yorkshire, and this industrial landscape has echoed through her distinguished academic career, as has an awareness of the macroeconomic conditions that facilitate social mobility. Her work focuses on industrialisation, child labour and the history of women’s work, which has changed our understanding of the meaning and nature of the Industrial Revolution. Humphries has played a leading role in her profession and in 2016 became the first woman to give the Ellen McArthur lectures at the University of Cambridge.

Air Vice Marshal Alan Johnson (MD, Medicine, Dentistry & Health)

A Medical alumnus of the University, Johnson became one of the most well-respected and highest ranking officers in the Royal Air Force. In an illustrious career that spanned over 40 years he served in the UK, Germany, Borneo, Cyprus, Singapore and USA. His Medical career saw Johnson in roles such as Chief of Aerospace Medicine at the HQ of the Strategic Air Command in the US Air Force, Commanding Officer at the Princess Alexandria Hospital at RAF Wroughton, Principal Medical Officer, RAF Germany and Principal Medical Officer for RAF Strike Command. Johnson was also appointed Honorary Surgeon to HM The Queen. Retiring from the

RAF he joined the Metropolitan Police as Director of Occupational Health and then Chief Medical Officer. Alongside his medical career Johnson was a founder member of the RAF Sport Parachuting Association and Head of the British delegation at three World Parachuting Championships leading them to victory on each of these occasions.

Dr Bernard Johnston (DEng, Engineering)

An Engineering alumnus of the University and former member of staff, Johnston went on to co-found Cundall Johnston & Partners, a multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy. The firm, now known as Cundall achieved rapid success and since 2003 has evolved from a UK-based multi-disciplinary practice of consulting engineers with three offices to a worldwide organisation with 20 offices in 12 countries. Returning to the University in 2006 as a visiting Professor, Johnston introduced an innovative new Masters in Architectural Engineering Design blending mechanical engineering, structural engineering and the technical aspects of architecture. The work Johnston put into establishing this new, unique degree programme has ultimately led to it being recognised as a Royal Academy of Engineering Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Design – one of only four in the UK.

Dr Lowell Lewis (MD, Medicine, Dentistry & Health)

A Medical School alumnus, Lewis has had a highly distinguished career in both the medical and political fields of his home nation of Montserrat. Currently a Consultant General and Specialist Surgeon in Antigua, he has worked tirelessly to help support and advance the lives of the people of Montserrat. Lewis developed an active role in politics alongside his medical career. Following leading roles as Minister for Tourism and Minister of Communication and Works, in 2006, he co-founded and became political leader of the Montserrat Democratic Party. Following the country's elections he became Montserrat's 7th Chief Minister. During his three years as Chief Minister, the country's economy grew by 8%. Throughout his international career Lewis has continued to serve Montserrat through both his political and medical practitioner duties.

Paul Monaghan (LittD, Social Sciences)

An alumnus and visiting Professor of the University, Monaghan has risen to the top of his field with the architecture practice he co-founded becoming one of the foremost architecture firms in the UK and internationally. Monaghan's projects have been recognised as demonstrations of outstanding design, collaborative creativity, applied technology, research and sustainability. His key projects in the workplace, arts, education, residential and master planning sectors have won numerous national and international awards culminating in the international RIBA Stirling Prize 2015 for Burntwood School.

Lucy Nickson (MD, Medicine, Dentistry & Health)

An alumna of the University, Nickson has developed a successful career in healthcare, particularly in the field of cancer and palliative care. Beginning her career as a nurse she has moved from the bedside into counselling and management roles before moving into the charity sector. In 2011 she became Chief Executive of Helen's Trust, Bakewell, a charity helping people with terminal illnesses to remain at home. Since 2013 Nickson has been Chief Executive of Ashgate Hospicecare in Chesterfield, leading a programme of considerable change and modernisation whilst continuing to provide care benefiting thousands of terminally ill patients and their families in the region.

Peter & Ann Samsom (LittD, Arts & Humanities)

Distinguished poets in their own right, the Sansoms have been leading lights of the region's poetry scene, nurturing local talent for over 30 years. Through their 'The Poetry Business' work they have not only brought distinction to the city of Sheffield and the north of England, they have given new poets a voice, nurturing unseen talent and giving them a forum to be recognised on a larger scale. They have also worked tirelessly within the Sheffield community to advocate the benefits of writing and giving wider access and opportunity to people of Sheffield who may

not otherwise have had the chance to develop their talents. The Samson's publications have helped to launch many national and internationally recognised artists and their poets have won or been shortlisted for almost every major poetry prize, including 11 Poetry Book Society awards.

Professor Dr Sarah Springman (DEng, Engineering)

An internationally renowned expert in Geotechnical Engineering, Springman has achieved global success in academia and is currently Professor of Geotechnical Engineering and the Rector of ETH Zurich – the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. There she has a commitment to removing barriers for women into academia, science and engineering. A pioneer in the field of geotechnical modelling of soil structure interactions, she is also a recognised expert in the study of geotechnical aspects of natural hazards. Alongside her academic career Springman has achieved remarkable sporting success, representing Great Britain at elite level from 1983 to 1993. She competed in the 1990 Commonwealth Games triathlon and amassed 21 elite European Championship medals in triathlon and duathlon, including three individual and five team golds. She has received the OBE and CBE for services to sport.

Sir Willard White (DMus, Arts & Humanities)

An inspiring figure in the operatic world, White has had an illustrious career which has seen him perform in the world's most prestigious opera houses alongside conductors and orchestras of the highest calibre. Born in Jamaica where he began his musical training at the Jamaican School of Music, he made his operatic debut with the New York City Opera in 1974 and now performs regularly at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; English National Opera and Glyndebourne. He is also a regular soloist at the BBC Proms. White is committed to promoting black civil rights through music, speaking publically of using music to fight oppression and to strengthen human relations. He has been highly honoured in the UK where he was knighted in the 2004 Queen's Birthday Honours and in Jamaica where he was awarded the Jamaican Order of Merit.

2 Any Other Business

It was agreed that a review of the criteria for awarding Honorary Degrees to former members of staff and to high profile 'celebrity' names should be undertaken prior to the next meeting of the Honorary Degrees Committee.

Mrs Claire Rundström
Development, Alumni Relations & Events