University of Glasgow

Commemoration day

Bute Hall, Wednesday, 17 June 2015

INSPIRING
PEOPLE
PAST
PRESENT
FUTURE

Welcome to Commemoration Day

Ceremony of Honorary Graduation

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this ceremony. Today, in the magnificent setting of the Bute Hall, we celebrate the foundation of the University in 1451, commemorate the benefactors who have contributed to Glasgow's success throughout the centuries, and recognise outstanding achievement by conferring honorary degrees.

This brochure sets out the order of proceedings for today's ceremony and includes the text of the orations that will be given for each Honorary Graduand.

To those receiving honorary degrees today, and to those who have been awarded Talent Scholarships, I offer my sincere congratulations. To those attending, I hope that you have a very enjoyable and memorable day.

Thank you for joining us on Commemoration Day 2015.

Professor Sir Kenneth Calman
Chancellor, University of Glasgow

Order of Proceedings

Ceremony of Honorary Graduation

Those assembled are invited to stand as the Officers of the University followed by the Honorary Graduands and their Promoters enter the Bute Hall in procession, and to join with members of the Chapel Choir in singing:

Gaudeamus Igitur

Gaudeamus igitur, juvenes dum sumus,
Gaudeamus igitur, juvenes dum sumus,
Post jucundam juventutem, post molestam senectutem,
Nos habebit humus, nos habebit humus.

Vivat Academia, vivant Professores,
Vivat Academia, vivant Professores,
Vivat membrum quodlibet, vivant membra quaelibet,
Semper sint in flore, semper sint in flore!

Let us rejoice while we are young,
Let us rejoice while we are young,
After the joys of youth and the troubles of age,
We shall return to the earth.

Long live the University, long live the professors,
Long live the University, long live the professors,
Long live each member,
May they always flourish!

The Graduation Prayer

Aeterne Deus et clementissime Pater, gratias tibi quam maximas agimus quod nos a fera et agresti vita ad artes ingenuas et scientiarum cognitionem deduxeris, quod domum nostram perpetua largitate et misericordia usque ad hunc diem prosecutus sis, quod viam nobis et veritatem et vitam in Filio tuo indicaveris. Suppliciter te, Pater, oramus ut gratia tua adiuvante tuae voluntati semper oboediamus et beneficiis tuis ad gloriam sancti tui nominis utamur, per Iesum Christum Dominum nostrum.

Eternal God and most merciful Father, we offer you most grateful thanks for having guided us from a rough and rustic existence to pursue the liberal arts and knowledge of the sciences, for having accorded our house unending generosity and mercy till this day and for having revealed to us the way, the truth and the life in the person of your Son. We prayerfully entreat you, Father, that with the help of your grace we may always obey your will, and make use of your kindnesses for the glory of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Chancellor will welcome the congregation

Honorary Graduations

Professor James Chalmers will present for the Degree of Doctor of Laws

The Rt Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal
Lawyer and Politician

The Principal will present for the Degree of Doctor of Science

Dr Gerald Chan
Co-founder of Morningside Foundation

The University Chapel Choir will sing

Professor Rhian Touyz will present for the Degree of Doctor of Science

Dr Hermann Hauser
Co-founder and Partner of Amadeus Capital Partners

Professor Miles Padgett will present for the Degree of Doctor of Science

Professor Sir Peter Knight
Scientist

Professor Anna Dominiczak will present for the Degree of Doctor of Science

Mr Andrew Ogilvie Robertson
Chairman of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

The University Chapel Choir will sing

Professor Anne Anderson will present for the Degree of Doctor of the University

Professor Suzanne Fortier
Principal of McGill University, Canada

Professor Dee Heddon will present for the Degree of Doctor of the University

Dr Frank Carlton Mugisha
Executive Director of Sexual Minorities Uganda

Excellent Service Awards

The Principal will address the congregation

The Benediction

Gratia Domini nostri Iesu Christi et caritas Dei et communicatio Spiritus Sancti sint cum omnibus vobis.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Members of the Chapel Choir will sing
An Irish Blessing
(Composed by James Moore)

Those assembled are invited to stand as the Officers of the University and others retire in procession from the Bute Hall, and are then invited to take refreshments in the Quadrangles with members of the Senate and Court of the University.

During the procession the University Organist will play Final (Symphony No. 1, Op. 14) by Louis Vierne.

Katy Cooper is conducting the University Chapel Choir

Kevin Bowyer is the University Organist

The Blackstone Chair

During the ceremony, the Honorary Graduand is invited to come forward and sit on the Blackstone Chair while the oration is being delivered.

The Blackstone, a slab of black dolerite, has been in the possession of the University from its earliest days. In the medieval University the candidate for the Master's degree took his seat on the stone while he was being publicly examined, and the practice continued until the introduction of written examinations in 1858. The chair in which it is now set is of the late 18th century. The back is elaborately carved with the royal arms of Scotland and England; on the front, brass plates carry the arms of the College and the University and commemorate the founders and royal benefactors. Above is an hour-glass to mark the time of examination (as pictured on the front cover).

The Rt Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal

Lawyer and Politician

Patricia Janet Scotland, The Rt Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of Laws by
Professor James Chalmers

Patricia Scotland once said in a newspaper interview that she was ‘amazed by how many people know anything about me, or even are interested in me’. This modesty is misplaced. Born in Dominica in 1955, her family moved to Britain when she was a young girl, and she attended school in Walthamstow. Her school careers teacher advised her to become a supervisor at the local Sainsbury’s.

She did not. Instead, she studied law. Called to the Bar in 1977, she went on to become the youngest Queen’s Counsel since William Pitt the Younger, and the first black female QC. She achieved similar firsts on being appointed a government minister in 1999 and Attorney-General in 2007. From this remarkable record, you may begin to see why people know about her.

Important as these firsts are, they do not give a full picture of the significance of Patricia Scotland’s career. While in practice as a barrister, she specialised in family and public law, particularly cases involving child abuse, mental health and housing. She co-founded a successful legal chambers, but her career took a different turn when, in 1997, she was appointed a Labour peer. She served in the Foreign Office, Lord Chancellor’s Department and Home Office before her appointment as Attorney-General. Throughout this time, she was recognised as one of the most effective parliamentarians. She was named Peer of the Year by Channel 4 in 2004, and received similar awards from the Political Studies Association and *The Spectator*. She demonstrated considerable skill outside of Parliament as well, abseiling down a crevasse on a Foreign Office trip to Antarctica.

Throughout her career in government, she championed the fight against domestic violence, having felt passionately about the issue ever since dealing with her first domestic violence case as a 21-year-old trainee barrister. She made it clear when appointed as a minister that she was determined to tackle this issue. Her work in this area included the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. It was, as she explained when opening the Second Reading of the Bill, ‘the most radical overhaul of domestic violence legislation in thirty years [reflecting] the fact that domestic violence is unacceptable, that victims must be protected and offenders punished’.

One of the Act’s most significant innovations was the creation of a new offence of causing or allowing the death of a child or vulnerable adult, ‘to end the unacceptable situation in which those jointly accused of murder evade justice by remaining silent or blaming each other’, an offence used over the next five years to successfully prosecute 31 people, including those responsible for the death of Baby P. She rightly describes herself as proud of her work in reducing the level of domestic violence in England and Wales, and has continued to speak out on that issue since leaving office. Her leadership in this area echoes strongly in Scotland today, where the First Minister has identified tackling violence against women as a key priority of the Scottish Government.

In the same newspaper interview I mentioned earlier, Patricia Scotland said that she never set out to be a role model, but simply tried to do the best she could. Nevertheless, a role model she is, and a remarkable one.

In the year when we start to consider the legacy of the Commonwealth Games, held in Glasgow last year, and the greater awareness of our links with the wider Commonwealth, there can be few individuals who better capture what the Commonwealth can represent at its best than Baroness Scotland. As part of our Commonwealth Games activities the University hosted the 33Fifty Commonwealth Young Leaders programme, and one of the highlights of this programme was when Baroness Scotland gave the keynote speech to the graduating participants – encouraging them to fulfil their potential wherever they had begun, drawing movingly on her own life story.

Dr Gerald Chan

Co-founder of Morningside Foundation

Dr Gerald Chan
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of Science by the Principal

Chancellor, we are honouring Dr Gerald Chan as a scientist who has achieved major distinction in research, in business, and through this in encouraging and supporting education and research for the benefit of humanity.

Dr Chan was born in Hong Kong in 1951. He was educated at St Paul's Co-educational College, HK. He was later to recall that he felt fortunate 'to have attended a school which was so inclusive', an important principle he has stuck by to this day, but more of this later.

After his school days he went to America to study, initially at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in engineering, before furthering his studies at Harvard University, where he took a Master of Science in 1975 in medical radiological physics, and four years later, a doctorate in radiobiology.

What this brief account glides over is the sea change that took place in his academic focus during his time at Harvard. It was there that he came under the influence of Dr John B Little, who inspired him to turn from studying physics to studying life science, and so brought him into contact with the giants of biology of the 1970s. As a consequence, for him, in his own words, Harvard was a 'blast'. His interest in public health and association with the Harvard School of Public Health was established. He completed his postdoctoral training in pathology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where he was engaged in cancer research for a number of years.

Then there is Gerald the businessman.

Gerald has been a non-executive Director of Hang Lung Group Limited since 1986, a Hong Kong-based property holding company founded by his father Chan Tseng-hsi in 1960. It is now one of HK's largest property developers. In partnership with his brother, Gerald co-founded the Morningside Group in 1987, which engages in private equity and venture capital investments. Morningside has been an active investor across the world in various sectors from internet companies to biotechnology companies.

Gerald strongly believes in the power of science to improve human health. From oncolytic virus to cancer immunotherapy, from prophylactic to therapeutic vaccines for infectious diseases, from age-related degenerative diseases of the eye to diseases of the brain, his investments demonstrate a commitment to translating scientific discoveries to healthcare products that benefit mankind. His work exemplifies the progression of science from the laboratory to the clinic. This, rather than profit, is what drives him and the investments he makes. As he said himself in a speech at the BayHelix Lifetime Achievement award:

'Being a mere economic being may make you a good investment professional, but it will not make you a good human being. My reminder to myself and advice to others is always to mind that core of humanity in you.'

Gerald's belief in investing in the public good applies not only to scientific research but also to education. In 1996, the Chan brothers set up the Morningside Foundation to support education and medical research.

Following the example of their father, who helped families with school fees and assisted many young people to go abroad for their tertiary education, the Morningside Foundation is an enabler of education. It has focused on opening up access to education in rural areas and to disadvantaged students through a range of programmes. Since 1996, for example, it has offered financial support to 500 students each year at top Chinese universities.

In 2006, the Morningside Foundation supported the founding of Morningside College as part of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. At the inauguration of the College, Gerald remarked that he did not want the college to become 'a forbidding enclave of the privileged'. It was about access to opportunities and a means to greater good by empowering students to make a positive contribution to society.

These beliefs chime so well with this University's commitment to open up our doors to talent wherever it is to be found. This University is exemplary in widening access among research-intensive universities in the UK, and we are proud to acknowledge individuals such as Dr Chan, who works to this same end. This University strongly believes that access to education is a major driver to reducing inequality. This University is also pioneering the public good of scientific research, through initiatives such as Easy Access IP, and through our work in addressing major chronic, tropical and rare diseases.

Dr Hermann Hauser

Co-founder and Partner of Amadeus Capital Partners

Dr Hermann Hauser
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of Science by Professor Rhian Touyz

Dr Hermann Hauser, scientist, venture capitalist and entrepreneur, was born in Austria. He came to the UK in his young teens to learn English, and after completing a Masters degree in physics in Vienna, returned to the UK to pursue his PhD in Physics at King's College, University of Cambridge. It was clear from an early stage in his career that Dr Hauser was destined to do great things, because soon after graduating from Cambridge, he co-founded Acorn Computers, subsequently becoming vice-president of research at Olivetti. It was during this time that he established a global network of research laboratories which led him to establish over 20 technology companies. In 1997, he co-founded Amadeus Capital Partners, where he invested in CSR, Solexa, Icera, Xmos and Cambridge Broadband.

Hermann is a Fellow of the Royal Society, the Institute of Physics and the Royal Academy of Engineering and an Honorary Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. In 2001 he was awarded an Honorary CBE for 'innovative service to the UK enterprise sector'. In 2004 he was made a member of the Government's Council for Science and Technology and in 2013 he was made a Distinguished Fellow of BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT. He has numerous honorary doctorates in recognition of his contributions, further exemplified more recently when he was awarded a KBE for services to Engineering and Industry.

As a science-based innovator and exceptional entrepreneur in technology, it is not surprising that Dr Hauser was instrumental in the creation of the Catapult centres, a network of world-leading centres designed to transform innovation in the UK by bringing together businesses, scientists, academics and engineers with the goal of transforming high-potential ideas into new products and services to generate economic growth in the UK. He has worked tirelessly with the leadership of Innovate UK to ensure the success of the Catapult centres, seven of which were founded in 2010. At that time, he said that '… we must continue to invest in and support research excellence; ensure we support areas of UK industry, which have the ability and absorptive capacity to capture a share of high-value activity; and close the gap between universities and industry through a translational infrastructure to provide a business-focused capacity and capability that bridges research and technology commercialisation.' In 2014, when he was asked by the Secretary of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, to review the Catapult Network, he was satisfied that his vision had become a reality and that the time was ripe for further growth of the network. Dr Hauser has also left his mark here in Glasgow through his insightful suggestions and advice on how to further develop Scottish and Glasgow alignment to the UK-wide Catapult for Precision Medicine.

In summary, Dr Hauser is truly visionary. Through his science-based innovation, commitment to education and outstanding entrepreneurship, he has distinguished himself as a leading light in bringing together business and research and has taken UK innovation to a higher level of creating technology-based wealth. He is an insightful businessman, an influential leader in senior policy making and an inspiration to the current and next generation of UK entrepreneurs.

Professor Sir Peter Knight

Scientist

Professor Sir Peter Knight
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of Science by
Professor Miles Padgett

Sir Peter is one of the UK's most influential scientists and leaders of scientific policy. He has a distinguished career spanning over 40 years of groundbreaking research in theoretical quantum physics, especially in quantum optics, where he is one of the world's most highly referenced researchers. He is currently a Senior Research Investigator at Imperial College and the Senior Fellow in Residence at the Kavli Royal Society International Centre at Chicheley Hall, of which I will speak later.

Sir Peter's international research standing and profile is exceptional. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, the Institute of Physics and the Optical Society of America. Over his career he has won prestigious prizes and awards, including the Thomas Young Medal and the Glazebrook Medal of the Institute of Physics, the Ives Medal of the Optical Society of America and the Royal Medal of the Royal Society. He holds various visiting Professorships all over the world. In 2005, the International Year of Physics, he was named in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, and in 2015, the International Year of Light, we honour him with this degree.

Sir Peter's contributions extend far beyond his research itself. Throughout his career he has been in high demand for his international research leadership and policy advisory roles. He was the first non-North American President of the Optical Society of America and remains a Director of their Foundation. Until December 2010 Sir Peter was chair of the Defence Scientific Advisory Council at the UK Ministry of Defence and he remains a Government science adviser. Sir Peter has also served as Chief Scientific Adviser to the UK National Physical Laboratory.

As I mentioned already, Sir Peter is the Senior Fellow in Residence at Chicheley Hall, the Royal Society's International Conference Centre in Buckinghamshire. The Hall is basically a stately home 20 miles from Luton Airport with barns and stables equipped to host the world's leading thinkers, all supporting the Society's workshops and conferences. The grounds themselves would be ideal for a music festival, perhaps returning Sir Peter to his youth as a concert organiser hosting the likes of Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton and Jimi Hendrix.

However, the perfection that is Chicheley was not always so – when the Society first bought the property it was a bit of a wreck. Sir Peter devoted himself to its restoration – everything from the mortar in the brickwork, the design of the wrought iron gates to the colour of the gravel in the driveway. He was chief visionary, arbiter of taste and, above all, quality control. It was a delight upon my first visit there to have Sir Peter himself give me a personal guided tour, taking in such sights as the octagonal dovecote and even the summer house where John Newton read the words to the hymn 'Amazing Grace'. Chicheley Hall is now a significant asset to the UK scientific community and our intellectual shop window to the world. One just has to be careful not to disturb the peacocks, they're bigger than I realised and really rather scary.

As you can gather, for many years Sir Peter has been a valued friend and mentor to a number of us here in Glasgow. He campaigned tirelessly for the adoption of Quantum Technologies as a major UK funding initiative – now funded to the tune of £270m. As a result, here in Glasgow we now lead one of the UK's four Quantum Technology Hubs and I am delighted that Sir Peter has agreed to serve on our advisory board – ensuring that we can look forward to his wise counsel for years to come.

Mr Andrew Ogilvie Robertson

Chairman of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Mr Andrew Ogilvie Robertson
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of Science by Professor Anna Dominiczak

Andrew was born in Glasgow in 1943 and educated at the Glasgow Academy, followed by Sedbergh School in Cumbria, and gained a Law degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1964.

Arriving in Edinburgh, his imagination was captured by the possibilities of Law. His grounding in the fundamentals of Law and his appreciation for the fragility of human interaction led him instinctively to focus his own practice on disenfranchised and disempowered communities. The Glasgow law firm, T C Young & Son, which Andrew joined in 1967, is now one of the leading Social Housing Law and Charity Law practices in Scotland.

Outside the Law, he has always sought to help individuals and communities. Through volunteering and then Chairmanship of the Gorbals Adventure Playground in the 1960s, to his work with Community Association groups focused on improving housing in the Gorbals, to the development of the Maryhill Housing Association, which is now one of the largest providers of Social Housing in Glasgow – Andrew's work has opened up opportunities for Glasgow's less privileged communities.

Indeed, he is still in touch with many of the teenagers he worked with in the Gorbals over 50 years ago and has said that his impact on them is nothing compared to the valuable experiences that they have given him.

He was appointed OBE in 1994, in recognition of his achievements as secretary and treasurer of the Clydeside Federation of community-based housing associations and cooperatives, in giving housing association members a coherent, effective voice.

One organisation where Andrew continues to play a strategic role as Vice-President is the Carers Trust. The Griffith Report in 1988 indicated that the pattern of care for elderly people required rethinking, rebalancing of resources and much closer scrutiny. It was in direct response to this that Andrew was asked by the Princess Royal to act as Lawyer and Secretary in the formation of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. This was one of the founding partners of the Carers Trust, which has been fundamental in reappraising the role of carers and the legislation which has been enacted to protect and enhance their rights.

Andrew has been Chair of the Erskine Trust since 2011, having worked with them since the 1970s. As Chair he continues to oversee the management and delivery of first-class care for veterans throughout the West of Scotland. As well as campaigning for the disempowered, Andrew has contributed nationally to the scrutiny of the Post Office in his role as Chair of the Post Office Users Council of Scotland, and has served as a Director of the Merchants House and Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.

Andrew's contribution to leadership and governance for the NHS began in 1994, when he chaired Greater Glasgow Community & Mental Health Services NHS Trust until 1997; he was then Chairman of Glasgow Royal Infirmary University NHS Trust from 1997 to 1999 and Chairman of Greater Glasgow Primary Care NHS Trust between 1998 and 2004. Andrew's chairmanship of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde is the culmination of a lifetime of serving the community. Since his appointment in 2007, Andrew has overseen the transformation of healthcare provision across Greater Glasgow & Clyde. This transformation will reach a pinnacle with the opening of the £1bn South Glasgow University Hospital Campus in July 2015. The South Glasgow University Hospital and co-located Royal Hospital for Sick Children will deliver a truly gold standard of healthcare with maternity, children's and adult acute hospitals, state-of-the-art laboratory services and all clinical specialties together on the largest hospital campus in Europe.

The University's investment, exceeding £60m, at the heart of this campus includes a purpose-built Teaching & Learning Centre for medical education, an Imaging Centre of Excellence, incorporating the UK's first 7T MRI scanner on a clinical site, the Stratified Medicine Scotland Innovation Centre, and a Clinical Research Facility for clinical trials in adults, adolescents and children.

These developments have been facilitated by Andrew's support for the University. Our strong partnership with the NHS and shared strategic vision will continue to benefit local, national and international communities into the future by embedding world-leading research and innovation at the heart of South Glasgow University Hospital.

Alongside these considerable achievements, Andrew has been happily married to Sheila since 1974 and they have two children and four grandchildren. We are privileged to be joined today by Sheila, James and Alexander together with other family members and friends.

Professor Suzanne Fortier

Principal of McGill University, Canada

Professor Suzanne Fortier
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of the University by Professor Anne Anderson

Professor Fortier has had an outstanding career as student, scientist and academic leader, most recently since September 2013, as Principal of McGill University in Canada.

Professor Fortier was born in Saint-Timothée, a small town west of Montreal, one of five children. She reports she developed a passion for science from the age of ten. She would perform chemistry experiments in the dance hall of her father's hotel – as there was no room in the family home and her family felt she could do little harm among the spilt beer in the dance hall …

She went on to win an entrance scholarship to McGill University to study crystallography. She was inspired to focus on what became her specialism in the study of atomic and molecular structures to determine protein structures by attending a lecture by mathematician and future Nobel laureate Herbert Hauptman, with whom she later worked as a postdoctorial. During her time at McGill she graduated with a BSc and PhD and won the R P D Graham Scholarship for an exceptional student in the Geological Sciences. In her scientific career she has published over 80 scientific papers and has held a range of academic roles, including Vice-Principal (Research) at Queen's University, Ontario. She has also won the Clara Benson award for distinguished contributions to chemistry by a woman (1997), the Entrepreneurship Award from Communications and Information Technology Ontario (1997), the Queen's University Distinguished Service Award (2005) and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012). She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and an officer of France's National Order of Merit.

She served for seven years as President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), where she is credited with bringing a renewed focus on excellence as well as increasing international and business engagement and a concern for retaining talent and encouraging women in science and engineering.

Her great knowledge of research and strategic insight was demonstrated during her time at the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. We also benefited from her expertise here in the UK. Following her time at NSERC she agreed to chair a review of how our own Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council receives advice from the academic and business communities. As a council member of EPSRC at the time, I greatly appreciated both her insightful and robust exploration of the issues and wise advice to EPSRC.

She was appointed Principal of McGill University in 2013 and has expressed her passion for her role at her alma mater, even though there have been challenges, notably around university funding. McGill University is an outstanding institution – and goes from strength to strength under her leadership, for example achieving a rank of 21st in the world in the QS university rankings.

In her time as Principal she has also made a point of trying to experience McGill from the student perspective and she has attended classes right across the academic spectrum from anthropology to waste management. As a lover of classical music she reports her favourite as being the opera masterclasses. I don't know if she uses this training in opera singing when she is able to indulge her other passion, for Italian cooking. I am sure our Principal, Professor Muscatelli, like me, would love to try her famed risotto ai porcini.

There are long historical connections between the University of Glasgow and McGill, which was of course founded in 1821 by Glasgow graduate James McGill. We are both members of Universitas 21 and we have growing contemporary collaborations – particularly in my own College of Social Sciences. This means that we are particularly pleased to be able to honour the formidable achievements of its most recent Principal.

Dr Frank Carlton Mugisha

Executive Director of Sexual Minorities Uganda

Dr Frank Carlton Mugisha
Presented for the Degree of Doctor of the University by Professor Dee Heddon

It really is a great privilege to present Dr Mugisha to you today. Dr Mugisha is the Executive Director of Sexual Minorities Uganda, a coalition of 18 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex – or LGBTI organisations – founded in Uganda in 2004. The vision of SMUG is simple but powerful: 'A Liberated LGBTI people of Uganda'. Equally simple but no less powerful is its first objective – 'to advocate and lobby for the equality of all Ugandans, irrespective of gender, age, sexual orientation, tribe, religion, and social status'. Dr Mugisha has been advocating and lobbying for such equality for his entire adult life. More than a decade ago, he set up Icebreakers Uganda, a support group for those who were openly gay or who were coming out as gay. Frank himself claimed and owned his sexual identity at the age of 14.

In 2014, Uganda passed the Anti-Homosexuality Act. The passing of this Act makes tangible the precarious context in which Frank and his colleagues work daily to secure the human rights of Ugandan citizens. While the Anti-Homosexuality Act, which permitted life sentences for some sexual acts between consenting adults, was subsequently ruled unconstitutional because of a technicality, the threat of a new bill remains. So do the very real impacts of the previous bill and the ideology it enshrined, as well as the hostile landscape in which such an Act could be tabled in the first place. Following the introduction of the new bill, increased discrimination against LGBTI citizens was reported, including evictions, dismissal from employment, reduction of healthcare provision, increased arrests, and violent assaults, including at least one death.

Against such a background of intolerance, it is perhaps little wonder that fewer than 20 Ugandans are publicly 'out'. In fact, perhaps it is more of a wonder that anyone is publicly 'out' at all. To be out is to claim and not deny, to be proud and not ashamed. But to be out in this context is to be out to risk too. The risks of not being out, though, of complete invisibility, might be deemed to be even greater. Without visible and lived opposition, how can homophobia be challenged? Without visible and lived opposition how can human rights be granted to all humans? Without visible and lived opposition, how are alternative lives and loves imagined to be possible? Without visible and lived opposition, how can a different Uganda come to be? As Frank has stated, though Uganda is historically conservative, 'it never used to be a cruel environment for gay people.' To be out is to speak truth to power.

Dr Mugisha is one of the most prominent, persistent advocates for LGBTI rights in Uganda, vocally and defiantly committed to changing the lives of those who identify as LGBTI. It is because of people like Frank, acting out their courage, belief and hope across different geographies and histories, that people like me can be who we are, without shame, without fear, and sometimes, occasionally, without even thinking.

Dr Mugisha's unstinting fight for the rights of LGBTI people has been acknowledged by numerous international awards, including the Robert F Kennedy Award for Human Rights in 2011. In recognition of what he stands for, and what he stands up for, Frank was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

I like to think that 2014 was memorable to Frank for another reason too, though, because in 2014, at the invitation of the Scottish Government, Frank represented Sexual Minorities Uganda at the opening ceremony of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. He was also an invited keynote speaker at the LGBTI Human Rights in the Commonwealth conference, a collaboration between Glasgow Human Rights Network, based at the University of Glasgow, and the Equality Network, Kaleidoscope Trust, and Pride Glasgow. Our Principal, Professor Anton Muscatelli, attended that conference and fully adopted the statement that emerged from it, a statement that both recognised the historical responsibility of the British Empire in the criminalisation of same-sex sexual behaviour between consenting adults and which called for the repeal of these British colonial laws. So, with great pleasure, I welcome Frank back to Glasgow and to the University, and with awe and gratitude I embrace him today as a member of our University's proud family.

A day to remember

The current form of celebrations for Commemoration Day at the University of Glasgow has been followed for over a century but its roots go back to the annual May banquet which was first held in 1492; commemoration became an official event in the late 17th century and the first recorded honorary degrees were conferred on distinguished theologians in 1709.

Honorary Doctorates are awarded to individuals in recognition of work of great distinction. Recipients wear scarlet gowns faced with the silk of the colour of the hood-lining, which varies depending on the degree awarded; some colours are taken from the native flora of Scotland.

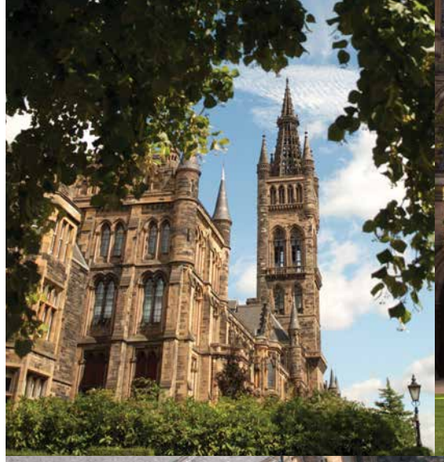
- For the Doctor of Laws degree, the hood is lined with Venetian red silk.
- For Doctor of Letters it is lined with purple silk (the colour of bell heather).
- The Doctor of Science hood lining is of gold-coloured silk (the colour of whin blossom).
- For the Doctor of the University degree, hoods are lined with black silk edged with gold ribbon.

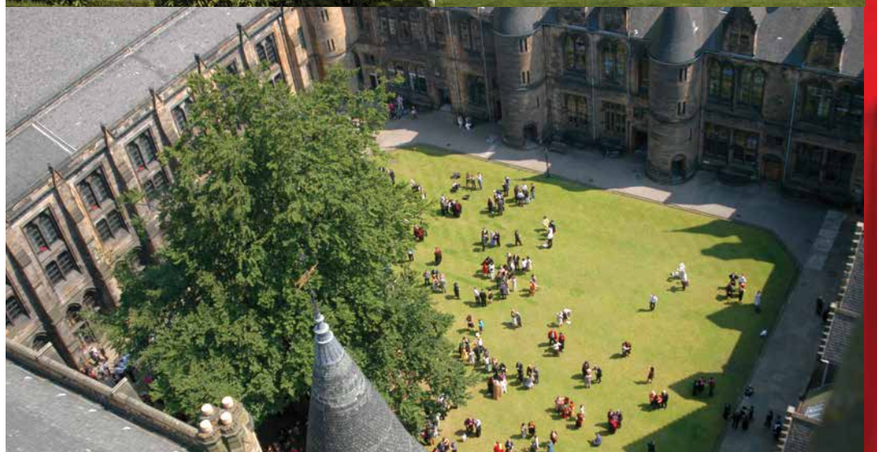
During the ceremony, the Honorary Graduand sits on the Blackstone Chair while their oration is delivered. The Blackstone – a slab of black dolerite – dates from the University's earliest days; in medieval times students were publicly examined while sitting on the stone and the practice continued until the introduction of written exams in 1858. The chair in which the stone is set was made in the late 18th century and features elaborate carvings and brass plates, complete with laurel leaves and an hourglass at the top to mark the duration of the examination.

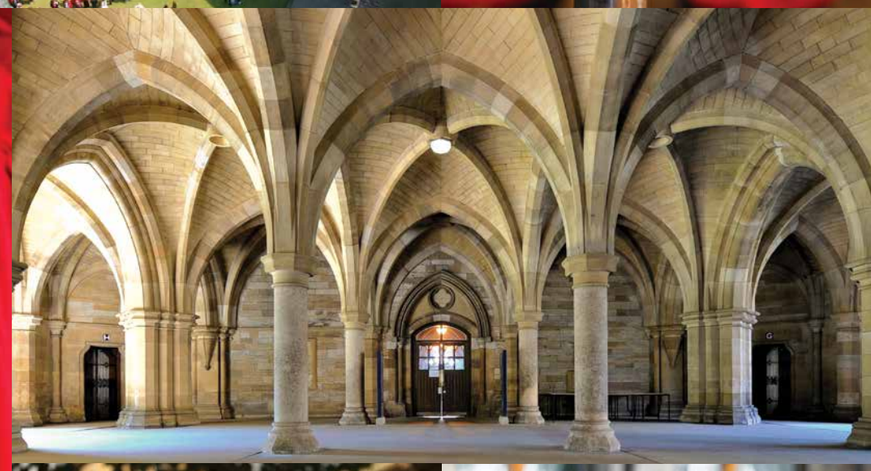
Honorary graduates have included the medical explorer and missionary David Livingstone in 1854; actor-manager Sir Henry Irving in 1899; physicist and Nobel laureate Albert Einstein in 1933; naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough in 1980; sculptor and author Sir Eduardo Paolozzi, also in 1980; poet, author and dramatist George Mackay Brown in 1985; philosopher and writer Baroness Warnock in 1988; novelist and philosopher Dame Iris Murdoch in 1990; author and semiotician Umberto Eco, also in 1990; playwright and poet Liz Lochhead in 1992; composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies in 1993; astrophysicist Jocelyn Bell Burnell in 1997; Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, also in 1997; and playwright and first president of the Czech Republic Václav Havel in 1998.

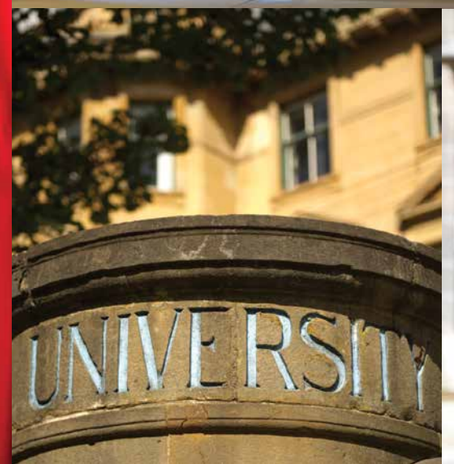
In 2001, the University conferred an extended selection of honorary degrees at a number of ceremonies to celebrate its 550th anniversary, following a tradition set during the 1901 and 1951 anniversaries. Among those honoured in 2001 were HRH Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, King of Asante, Ghana; HRH The Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay; Graça Machel, then President of the National Commission for UNESCO, Mozambique; composer Sally Beamish; Sir John (Jackie) Stewart, Grand Prix racing driver; Kirsty Wark, journalist and broadcaster; artist Dame Elizabeth Blackadder; and dramatist John Byrne.

More recently, honorary graduates have included
- Nobel laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus (2008)
- barrister Baroness Helena Kennedy QC (2009)
- comedy writer, producer and director Armando Iannucci (2011)
- author Julia Donaldson (2012)
- writer, actor and film director Terry Jones (2013)
- athlete Katherine Grainger (2013)
- author Christopher Brookmyre (2013)
- singer-songwriter Emeli Sandé (2013)
- television writer and producer Steven Moffat (2013).









Our inspiring people

Founded in 1451, our University has inspired great minds, from the father of modern economics, Adam Smith, to renowned 19th-century physicist and engineer Lord Kelvin, and from Joseph Lister, who promoted the use of antiseptic in surgery, to pioneering dietician Mary Andross.

We have fostered the talents of seven Nobel laureates – including chemist Frederick Soddy, who discovered isotopes in 1913 while working at the University; John Boyd Orr, physician, biologist and leading expert in the field of nutrition, who worked with the United Nations; and Professor Robert Edwards, pioneer of the in-vitro fertilisation treatment which led to the birth of the first 'test-tube baby' in 1978.

In 1840 Glasgow became the first university in the UK to appoint a Professor of Engineering; Scotland's first female medical graduates completed their degrees here in 1894; in 1914 television pioneer John Logie Baird started his studies at the University; the world's first ultrasound images of a foetus were published by Glasgow Professor Ian Donald in 1958; and the Glasgow Coma Scale, a globally recognised scale of consciousness in coma patients, was developed here in 1975 by Professors Graeme Teasdale and Bryan Jennett.

Our University has often inspired people who have gone on to shape other great educational institutions around the world. In the late 18th century, graduate John Witherspoon, based on his experience at Glasgow, made sweeping reforms as president to the College of New Jersey that became Princeton University; alumnus James McGill left a legacy to found McGill University in Canada in 1821; and, in 1963, Glasgow Professor Ian McIntyre's vision helped establish the veterinary school at the University of East Africa in Nairobi; within a year our Faculty of Medicine had also helped establish the Medical School at Makerere University College in Uganda.

Pictured below, clockwise from top centre: Professors Lee Cronin, Massimo Palmarini and Anna Dominiczak

Pictured above, clockwise from top left: Professors Miles Padgett, Pamela Robertson and Naveed Sattar

Today we continue our tradition of inspiring people to change the world, tackling global issues through creativity, innovation and partnership.

Professor Massimo Palmarini, Director of the Centre for Virus Research, is leading the exploration for new approaches to virus detection and developing new antiviral drugs and vaccines; Professor of Mackintosh Studies Pamela Robertson has led the first comprehensive study of Mackintosh's architecture; Regius Professor of Chemistry Lee Cronin has been celebrated as one of the ten most inspirational scientists in the UK; and Regius Professor of Medicine Anna Dominiczak has led the establishment of our new Stratified Medicine Scotland Innovation Centre, to produce world-leading innovations for the treatment of chronic diseases.

Our Boyd Orr Centre for Population & Ecosystem Health was recently awarded a prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher & Further Education, honouring the work of our researchers in addressing issues arising from the spread of infectious diseases. For example, in Tanzania, Dr Tiziana Lembo is working closely with local tribes and the government to help control foot-and-mouth disease in livestock, and training field teams to carry out sampling and field diagnostics.

In recognition of the importance of sharing expertise and using university knowledge for public benefit, in 2010 Glasgow became the first university in the UK to openly offer Intellectual Property (IP) to businesses for free through our Easy Access IP initiative; Glasgow physicist Professor Miles Padgett was the first academic to make his research available to an award-winning industry partner through the process.

In the Research Excellence Framework 2014, the power of our research placed us 12th overall in the UK and 2nd in Scotland. What's more, 81% our research was judged to be 'internationally excellent' and 31% 'world-leading'. With such impressive results, it may come as no surprise that the University has ten researchers, such as Professor of Metabolic Medicine Naveed Sattar, who have been ranked in the world's top 1% for citations by the Thomson Reuters Highly Cited Researchers list 2014.

As we continue our tradition of world-changing scholarship we look forward to ensuring our reputation for excellence is maintained for generations to come, investing in projects that truly benefit society.

www.glasgow.ac.uk

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