

# GRADUATION CEREMONIAL PROGRAMME

**CONGREGATIONS  
FOR THE  
CONFERMENT  
OF AWARDS**

Summer Graduation  
19-28 July 2023



# CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GRADUATION



I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you to the University of Southampton, alongside your family and friends. Congratulations on all your achievements while at Southampton.

Graduation at Southampton is a truly memorable occasion and a chance to receive well-deserved recognition for all your hard work and dedication in the achievement of your degree. Here at Southampton, we are very proud of you and you should be similarly proud of all you have achieved, individually and collectively. I am sure you will enjoy this very special day with your family and friends and everyone who has supported you along the way.

There are a number of milestone moments in life and graduating from university is one of them. The completion of your degree and celebration of your achievements are even more impressive in light of the uncertainty and challenges of the pandemic in recent years. Please take the time to reflect on your own journey and what this means for you personally. For many of you, this may represent the end of your journey as a student and the start of your wider contribution to society. With the expanded knowledge you have gained through your studies and the skills you have developed as a result, you are now well equipped for the future. You have shown that you have the motivation to learn new things, which will set you in good stead for the next steps in life.

Since 1952, more than 280,000 students have been awarded degrees from the University of Southampton. During that time, we have built our reputation as a leading national and international higher education institution with a global reputation for education, research, innovation and enterprise. The commitment and contribution of our academic staff, and the talent and hard work demonstrated by you, as our students, has made this success possible.

I am delighted to congratulate you personally on the award of your University of Southampton degree. We share in your pride and wish you every success. We welcome you as a lifelong member of your alumni community and I hope your experiences and memories from Southampton stay with you and form the foundation for a lasting relationship with the University.



**Professor Mark E. Smith CBE**  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
University of Southampton

## CONTENTS

You are part of our success story	4
Honorary graduates	8
Alumni Awards	12
Ceremonial officers	14
University of Southampton academic dress	18
Student success stories	20
Your Alumni Community	24



# YOU ARE PART OF OUR SUCCESS STORY

**As a Southampton graduate, you are part of our distinguished 150 years of history.**

**During your time here, through your studies and extra-curricular activities, you have contributed to the vibrant and successful institution the University of Southampton is today.**

Aerial image of Highfield Campus.

## Our history

You may already know that the University of Southampton received its Royal Charter on 29 April 1952, in the early weeks of the reign of HM Queen Elizabeth II. In fact, our roots go back much further than this – to 1862. This is when the Hartley Institution was established in the city centre, following a bequest by Henry Robinson Hartley, the son of a local wine merchant, to the Corporation of Southampton. Located in Below Bar, the Hartley Institution was opened by the then Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston.

In 1902 it was renamed Hartley College, before becoming Hartley University College and, later, University College, Southampton. The Hartley name is still remembered in the Hartley Library that we all know and love.

We were honoured to be the first university to be granted a Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth II, two months after her accession to the throne.

The Royal Charter enabled Southampton for the first time to award its own degrees as a fully independent university, after many years as a degree-awarding branch of the University of London.

## Today's university

We've come a long way since then; from a student cohort of around 850 undergraduate and postgraduate students, we now have over 24,800 studying across our campuses in Southampton, Winchester and Malaysia. We welcome and support bright and motivated students from over 135 countries to be the best they can be, pioneer flexible learning and encourage interdisciplinary practice across our academic community.

University Hospital Southampton, the home of the Faculty of Medicine.



Highfield Campus.





Outside the Library on Highfield Campus.



Highfield Campus.





The Mountbatten Building on Highfield Campus.



Avenue Campus.

We have also built a strong national and international reputation for our research and teaching excellence. We are a founding member of the Russell Group, consistently placed in the top 100 universities in the world and we have a strong demonstrated continuous commitment to the quality of our teaching.

Innovative thinking and pioneering research are at the heart of our culture; our people are finding solutions for some of the biggest challenges that our planet is facing, pursuing environmental sustainability, and making a difference to the world.

This is the place that is leading the development of trustworthy and secure artificial intelligence; where fibre-optic research is creating a faster, smarter internet; where the immune system is leading the fight against cancer; where expertise is tackling the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance; where resources are being secured for the world's growing populations, and through the humanities, we better understand the world.

We stand for exploration and curiosity, interdisciplinary thinking, inventive education and cutting-edge facilities to catalyse change. We inspire minds, bring people and ideas together and give them the space and support to grow, create, ignite, and realise their potential.







The National Oceanography Centre Southampton.

## The future

All of us in our University community, whatever our role, are custodians of an exceptional institution, one with a history we should all be proud of, and with a future that will prove even more remarkable.

As well as your degree and the lifelong friendships you have made, you are starting the next chapter of your life with a wealth of experiences that will help you shape your future into what you want it to be.

Many of you have participated in original research, undertaken work placements, been involved in enterprise activities, or spent time studying abroad at one of our partner institutions. You may also have taken on active roles in Students' Union clubs and societies or volunteering projects.

These experiences are what help make you unique. They add depth and context to your education and help you to stand out as you embark on the next step in your career. You are an important part of our story. Your achievements – both now and in the future – reflect on your university, while our successes enhance the value of your Southampton degree.



Boldrewood Innovation Campus, Southampton.



Lacrosse at Southampton.

**Watch our  
University of  
Southampton video  
and share in the  
combined success  
of our institution**



# HONORARY GRADUATES



## **Christine McGrath**

Fellow

Christine is the inaugural Managing Director of Wessex Health Partners, the Wessex region's partnership of leading academic institutions and NHS organisations accelerating better health and care through research, innovation and training.

A nursing graduate, Christine completed her Master's by Research with the University of Bristol before moving to University Hospital Southampton, where she has dedicated nearly 20 years to the University of Southampton Hospital partnership.

Working with University colleagues, Christine's inspirational leadership has led to Southampton's research being internationally recognised as world leading, securing significant prestigious multi-million pound awards and delivering world-leading advances in health, including the UK's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a highly respected senior leader, Christine's work includes advising government and industry bodies including the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England, the National Institute of Health Research, the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry and Royal Colleges.

In 2017, Christine was appointed to the Ministerial Industry Steering Group for Commercial Research and founded UKRD, a unique community of expertise and influence representing senior research leaders in the NHS.



## **Dr Ewan Kirk**

Doctor of Science

Ewan is a technology entrepreneur and Founder of Cantab Capital Partners. For over 30 years, he has led multiple ventures to commercialise, apply and leverage technology and mathematics research in both business and philanthropy.

In 2006, he founded Cantab Capital Partners, a science-driven investment management firm, which was one of the top-performing quantitative investment companies in the UK. The business grew to 60 people with over £4.5bn AUM, before the business was acquired by GAM Investments in 2016.

Prior to founding Cantab, Ewan was Partner and Head of Quantitative Strategies Group at Goldman Sachs for 13 years, leading the firm's 120-strong European team of mathematicians, scientists, and statisticians.

Ewan is also Chair of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences, a non-executive director of BAE Systems, Chairman of DeepTech Labs, a UK-based venture capital fund that invests in deep technology businesses, the Royal Society Entrepreneur in Residence at the Centre for Mathematical Sciences and Co-Chair of the Turner Kirk Trust.

He holds a PhD in General Relativity from the University of Southampton, a Master of Advanced Study (MASt) in Mathematics from Queen's College, Cambridge, and a BSc in Natural Philosophy and Astronomy from the University of Glasgow.





**Gill Rider CB**  
Doctor of Science

After leaving the University of Southampton with a PhD in botany, Gill has spent a varied career working in both the private and public sectors.

For most of her career, Gill held operational and executive management responsibilities in Accenture LLP. She worked in many countries and industry sectors. She was a global executive committee member of Accenture from 1999 to 2006, before spending five years as Director General in the Cabinet Office as Head of the Civil Service Capability Group.

She is a past President of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and was the Chair of Council and a Pro-Chancellor of the University of Southampton. She was awarded a CB in Queen Elizabeth II's 2011 Birthday Honours.

Today Gill continues to enjoy a portfolio career. She is the Chair of the Board of Directors of Pennon plc and a non-executive director of Intertek, where she chairs the remuneration committee. She is also the President of the Marine Biological Association.

Outside work, she lives on Dartmoor with husband David and enjoys walking the dogs, visits with friends, Formula 1, gardening, camper van trips and the occasional opera.



**Juliet Fraser**  
Doctor of Music

Soprano Juliet specialises in the gnarly edges of contemporary classical music.

A graduate of Selwyn College, University of Cambridge, she began her career singing with renowned British choirs such as Polyphony, Tenebrae, the BBC Singers and the Monteverdi Choir, and was a member of Collegium Vocale Gent, directed by Philippe Herreweghe.

While still at university she founded EXAUDI vocal ensemble with composer/conductor James Weeks and remains a core member of the group. Now recognised as one of the foremost interpreters of contemporary music, Juliet maintains a busy schedule performing at classical and experimental music festivals around the world.

She is an active commissioner of new repertoire and has worked particularly closely with composers Laurence Crane, Pascale Criton, Michael Finnissy, Cassandra Miller and Rebecca Saunders.

Juliet is Co-Director of all that dust, a little independent label for new music, and Founder and Artistic Director of the eavesdropping festival in East London. This year she launches VOICEBOX, a bespoke training programme for singers wanting to specialise in contemporary vocal performance.

She was the recipient of a Hartley Residency at Southampton in 2019, which kickstarted a passion for writing about the whole merry business of performing new music.



**Rt Hon Justine Greening**  
Doctor of Law

Justine was the first person in her family to go to university – the University of Southampton – where she studied Business Economics and Accounting.

After a career in industry, Justine became Member of Parliament for Putney. Between 2011 and 2018, Justine served as a UK Cabinet Minister, including as the first-ever comprehensive school-educated Education Secretary, from 2016–18.

Justine put social mobility at the heart of the Department for Education's strategy through the Social Mobility Action Plan, alongside introducing Opportunity Areas, and Gender Pay Gap reporting. She left Cabinet and Parliament to fully focus on her Social Mobility Pledge campaign mobilising the private and public sectors to work together to drive grassroots change, with the University of Southampton playing a key part of that work.

# HONORARY GRADUATES



## **Dr Margaret Leinen**

Doctor of Science

Margaret is the Director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Vice-Chancellor for Marine Science of University of California at San Diego.

She is an ocean biogeochemist and paleoceanographer whose research includes study of ocean carbon cycling and the role of the oceans in climate.

Margaret is currently co-chair for the Decade Advisory Board for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. During 2017 and 2018 she was a US Department of State Science Envoy. She served as Assistant Director for Geosciences, US National Science Foundation (NSF) from 2000–2007.

She has also served as the President of the American Geophysical Union, President of The Oceanography Society and Chair of the AAAS Section on Atmospheric and Hydrospheric Science. Margaret is a Fellow of all three societies and an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



## **Professor Rogier Sanders**

Doctor of Science

Rogier is currently Professor of Virology, specialising in experimental vaccinology, at the Academic Medical Center of the University of Amsterdam and holds an affiliate faculty position at Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York City, where he spends part of his time.

His research focuses on viral glycoprotein vaccines, in particular those based on native-like trimers. Several of Rogier's HIV-1 envelope trimers are now in phase I clinical trials as candidate vaccines and Rogier's proline stabilisation of HIV-1 envelope trimers has inspired COVID-19 vaccines currently in use worldwide.

Rogier studied Medical Biology at the University of Amsterdam and The Rockefeller University in New York. In 2004 he obtained his PhD from the University of Amsterdam.

He has received several prestigious grants such as the Veni, Vidi and Vici grants from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) and a Starting Investigator grant from the European Research Council (ERC).

He leads and/or participates in various research consortia funded by the EU, NIH/NIAID and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Rogier has (co-)authored more than 250 scientific articles, published in journals such as Nature, Science and Cell.

In 2011, he received the Dutch Prize for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. In a top-10 list of "Hottest authors" in HIV/AIDS research 2013–2015, compiled by Thomson Reuters, Rogier shared the top position.





### **Stephen Duckworth** Doctor of Science

Stephen originally studied as a medical student at Guy's Hospital, however, he had to pause his studies after breaking his neck in a rugby accident, aged 21. He subsequently qualified as a doctor and completed an MSc and PhD in rehabilitation and disability studies at the University of Southampton.

Having run his own business for 20 years, he moved to London to work for two large FTSE companies. From 1998–2006, he was a Council Member of the University of Southampton, and from 2006–2012, he was a Board Member of the Olympic Delivery Authority, which built the venues for London 2012.

Stephen has been a trustee of numerous charities including Motability, which provides vehicles for 680,000 disabled people, and Leonard Cheshire, which provides care homes for 3,000 disabled people.

He is currently a board member of Network Rail, The Palace of Westminster Restoration and Renewal Delivery Authority, and Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Stephen is the Vice-Chair of the Rugby Football Union Injured Players Foundation. He has an international reputation for his work in improving the life chances of disabled people. Stephen is married to Rose and they have four adult sons.



### **Will Champion** Doctor of Music

Will Champion is a musician, composer and actor. A multi-instrumentalist, Will is best known for playing drums and backing vocals with the multi-award-winning band, Coldplay.

As a founding member of Coldplay, Will has enjoyed almost unparalleled success. From the group's first album, Parachutes in 2000, to their latest release, Music of the Spheres (released in 2021), Will and the band have sold over 100 million albums; won over 250 awards, including eight Brit Awards and seven Grammy Awards; and toured extensively worldwide.

Will grew up in Southampton and was always immersed in music. He attended Portswood Primary and Cantell Secondary schools – both within a stone's throw of the University. He took lessons on violin, guitar and piano and then, while at Cantell, played drums in the jazz band. Both of Will's parents were archaeology academics at the University and his exposure to the Nuffield Theatre and Turner Sims concert hall influenced him heavily during his childhood.

Will completed a degree in Anthropology at University College London. It was during his time at university that he met Chris Martin, Jonny Buckland, and Guy Berryman and became the band's drummer.

As a musician and as a person, Will inspires many – both young and established – within the city of Southampton and, of course, here at the University, who know his story.

# ALUMNI AWARDS

**Our alumni are individually, and collectively, making a difference and we are incredibly proud to support them in their endeavours.**



## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

### Jane Wernick CBE

BSc Civil Engineering, 1976

Jane is a structural engineer who likes to work on projects that give delight. She has played a leading role in the design of many important projects both in the UK and abroad. These include the London Eye, the Kew Treetop Walkway and the Young Vic Theatre.

She started working with Arup, the multinational firm of built environment consultants before starting her course at Southampton. She worked there until 1998, being seconded to the permanent fabric contractor Birdair, in Buffalo from 1980 to 1981. She was Arup's first female structural engineer to be made an Associate and an Associate Director. She ran their Los Angeles office from 1986 to 1989.

In 1998 Jane founded Jane Wernick Associates, working on high-profile projects with architects including David Chipperfield and Zaha Hadid. She taught at many architecture and engineering schools and has served as a member of various design review panels, the EDGE think tank, and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Building Futures Steering Committee. Jane was also the Chair of the Diversity Task Force of the Construction Industry Council. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2009.

Jane has received many awards and honours for her work, including First Woman of the Built Environment Award in 2013 and the CBE for services to Structural and Civil Engineering in 2015.

**In recognition of the incredible achievements of our talented alumni, we are delighted to announce the winners of our Outstanding Alumni Awards. These awards recognise excellence across a broad range of sectors, specialisms and career stages and clearly illustrate the exceptional, supportive and international community that you step into today.**



## RISING STAR

### Tolúlope Ògúnremí

BSc Mathematics and Computer Science, 2019

Tolúlope is the Founder of Coders of Colour, a social enterprise helping young people between the ages of 11 and 25 to access training in machine learning, app development and to bridge the digital divide. She is also currently enrolled on a PhD in Computer Science at Stanford University, having secured two coveted fellowships.

In her first year at Southampton, she established Coders of Colour alongside her programme of academic study. Coders of Colour aims to empower and enable young people of colour to pursue a career in tech by providing them with a safe space for them to learn, explore and grow. It has delivered workshops with partners including Tate Britain and the Oxford AI Society.

Tolúlope's doctoral research focuses on Natural Language Processing or NLP for low-resource languages, particularly in sub-Saharan African languages including her first language, Yorùbá. She has built speech-recognition systems and trained natural language processing models for Yorùbá and other Sub-Saharan African languages as well as working on projects using Igbo, Nigerian Pidgin, and Nigerian accented English data.

In 2021 she was named in the Forbes 30 under 30 listings in the Social Impact category for her work with Coders of Colour, the youngest honouree in the category.



**From advocating for the vulnerable, delivering better healthcare outcomes, building strong networks for our graduates, and supporting enterprise and development at the University, our award winners are achieving remarkable things, and truly embody the University's mission to change the world for the better and to build a more inclusive world.**

## ALUMNI SERVICE

### Kaushal Shah

MSc Global Entrepreneurship, 2014

Kaushal is a successful entrepreneur, award-winning CEO and Founder of sustainable packaging company Envopap and a dedicated volunteer who has shown continued support for the University.

Kaushal was the first student to be endorsed by the University for the Graduate Entrepreneurship Visa for Envopap, a sustainable enterprise that he started during his time as a student at Southampton. Envopap produces environmentally friendly paper and packaging made from agricultural waste. Since graduating, Kaushal has gone on to win numerous awards for his work in business and sustainability.

Kaushal regularly gives his time and expertise to support the next generation of entrepreneurs through a wide range of activities including talks, serving on judging panels and competitions, as well as providing one-to-one guidance to students.

He also sits as a member of Southampton Business School's Advisory Board and actively participates on the University's Social Impact Lab Advisory Board, through which he has been instrumental in connecting students with relevant business mentors. He has also helped students to learn in the 'real world' by allowing them to engage with Envopap as a live brief.



## ALUMNI SERVICE

### Stephen Dulake

MSc Economics, 1990

Stephen is Global Head of Credit, Securitised Products and Public Finance Research at JP Morgan Chase & Co.

Stephen donated the first-ever Ignite Scholarship in 2017, funding one student's entire tuition fees and maintenance support. He wanted to provide a student with the same opportunities that he enjoyed at university, while not having to worry about their finances.

The Ignite Programme has since grown to become the University's flagship widening participation and social mobility (WPSM) programme. The programme has raised over £1m, supporting 90 students with financial support and access to the innovative programme of workshops, mentoring and internships.

Stephen's foundational support of the Ignite Programme has made a difference to the lives of many of Southampton's students already and will continue to do so into the future. Since Stephen made his original gift, hundreds of alumni and supporters have added their support to allow the Ignite Programme to develop and flourish. Stephen himself kindly donated a second scholarship in 2020.

Each of the bursaries and scholarships awarded are life-changing for the students. Stephen is actively engaged with the programme and always enjoys hearing how students are getting on but has often said that his main wish is that his support will simply help students to enjoy their time at University and make the most of all the opportunities here.

# CEREMONIAL OFFICERS

Our graduation ceremonies will be presided over by one of our senior officers below.



**Ruby Wax OBE**  
Chancellor

From the Royal Shakespeare Company to primetime TV; from a master's degree in mindfulness based cognitive therapy from Oxford University to best-selling author; from interviewing the President (who shall not be named) to delivering a groundbreaking TED Talk. Also from a mental health campaigner to being awarded an OBE for services to mental health, Ruby has brought the same mould-breaking, establishment questioning, and pioneering energy to everything she's done.

She also holds Honorary Doctorates from the School of Psychology at The University of East London, University of Staffordshire, and Bangor University. She has been awarded a City Lit Lifetime Fellowship and is Chancellor of the University of Southampton.

In the field of mental health, Ruby has brought support for mental health to a whole new audience discussing complex neurological theory in an accessible and often hilarious way, but always with a serious point that we need to reframe the conversation and remove the stigma that mental health illness still carries. Ruby helps us understand how we can take control of our overstressed and over critical minds.



**Philip Greenish CBE**  
Chair of Council

Philip was appointed Chair of Council on 1 August 2018, having served on the University's governing body since 2012.

He was Chief Executive of the Royal Academy of Engineering from June 2003 until December 2017. He served in the Royal Navy from 1969 until 2003, retiring as Rear Admiral having had responsibility in his final role for engineering, personnel and logistic support for the front line of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines.

Philip is currently a member of the Audit Risk and Assurance Committee of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and the of Audit Committee of the British Academy.

Philip was educated at Cheltenham College and Durham University where he read Engineering Science, graduating in 1972, and he is a graduate of the Royal College of Defence Studies. He is a Chartered Engineer, an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Engineers.

He was a board member of Engineering UK from 2008 to 2018 and has served as a Council member on two of the UK's Research Councils. He was a founder trustee of the Science Media Centre and a trustee of the Daphne Jackson Trust. He holds an Honorary Doctorate from Huddersfield University. He was awarded the CBE in 2003.





### **Colin Smith CBE**

Pro-Chancellor

Colin Smith retired as Group President Rolls-Royce in May 2017.

Colin was a member of the Board of Rolls-Royce as Director of Engineering and Technology from 2005 to 2016. Prior to this role, he was the Director of Research and Technology for the company, building on his previous experience as Director of Engineering and Technology for Civil Aerospace. He joined the company as an undergraduate apprentice before graduating from the University of Southampton.

Colin was Chairman of Sheffield Forgemasters for three years until January 2023 and a non-executive director of Bekaert.

In June 2012, Colin was awarded a CBE for services to UK engineering. He is a Fellow of The Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering, The Royal Aeronautical Society and The Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He was the recipient of a Royal Academy of Engineering Silver Medal in 2002.

Colin has been awarded honorary doctorates by the Universities of Derby, Loughborough, Nottingham, Oxford, Southampton and Strathclyde.

He has been Chairman of UK Industry Aerospace Growth Partnership, a former member of the UK Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology, President of ADS (the industry trade body for Aerospace, Defence and Security) and remains a Pro-Chancellor of the University.



### **Dame Veronica Sutherland**

Pro-Chancellor

Dame Veronica Sutherland studied German at the Universities of London and later Southampton, where she gained an MA in 1965. She then joined the Diplomatic Service, and served overseas in Copenhagen, New Delhi and Paris, where she was the British Delegate to UNESCO. In 1987 she was appointed Ambassador to the Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso and Niger, becoming the first married woman ambassador in the British Diplomatic Service. She retired in 1999 after four years as Ambassador in Dublin.

On leaving the Diplomatic Service she was appointed Deputy Secretary General (Economic and Social) in the Commonwealth Secretariat. From 2001–2008 she was President of Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge.

She and her husband live just outside Cambridge where she is involved in various charities and in her spare time enjoys painting.

# CEREMONIAL OFFICERS



**Professor Mark E. Smith  
CBE**

President and Vice-Chancellor

As President and Vice-Chancellor, Mark is the Chief Executive of the University and has overall responsibility for its operations. He took up this role on 1 October 2019.

Mark was Vice-Chancellor at Lancaster University from 2012 until September 2019. He was previously Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Warwick.

Throughout his academic career, he has published more than 380 papers about advanced magnetic resonance techniques, helping to understand a range of problems in the field of materials physics.

Mark holds several external appointments including Senior Independent Member of UKRI EPSRC's Council; and board member of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, chairing their Research Wales Committee.

He was awarded a CBE for Services to Research and Higher Education in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours.



**Professor Phillip Wright**  
Senior Vice-President  
(Academic)

Phillip has a vital role in promoting and maintaining the University's academic mission including having oversight of all academic planning across faculties and ensuring the alignment of resources with the University's strategic goals. He provides a key focus for ensuring a One Southampton approach to a range of strategic activities including championing the development of an Estates and Sustainability agenda.

Phillip is a Professor of Chemical Engineering. In his research, he uses synthetic biology and metabolic engineering approaches to improve energy generation and production of biopharmaceuticals.

He focuses on measurement (primarily using biological mass spectrometry) and integration of multi-level biological data (eg proteomic and mRNA data), mathematical tools and characterising omics-scale data.

Phillip has published over 200 peer-reviewed journal papers and has been an investigator on approximately £10m of external research funding. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers and a Chartered Engineer.



**Professor Deborah Gill**  
Vice-President  
(Education and Student Experience)

Deborah joined Southampton in April 2022 from University College London (UCL) where she was Interim Vice-Provost, Education and Student Experience.

Immediately preceding this, Deborah spent two years as UCL's first Pro-Vice Provost for Student Experience. She also led UCL Medical School for six years.

Qualifying in Medicine in 1990, she began her academic career in 1996 at Barts and the Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry. She joined the Royal Free Medical School as a Lecturer in the Department of Primary Care and Population Sciences in 1997 and moved to UCL to take up a Senior Lecturer post in the Academic Centre for Medical Education in 2002.

Deborah was awarded a Chair of Medical Education in 2015, and became Director of UCL Medical School in the same year. As a clinical academic, she has combined academic work with clinical practice as a GP for over 20 years, only recently stepping down to focus on her senior academic role.





### **Professor Jane Falkingham CBE**

Vice-President  
(Engagement and International)

Jane is Professor of Demography and International Social Policy at the University of Southampton. She is also the Director of the ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC). The Centre's remit is to improve understanding of the drivers and consequences of population change both nationally and globally. Jane is also the principal investigator of the new ESRC Connecting Generations research collaboration.

Jane pursues a multidisciplinary research agenda, located at the interface between population studies and social policy and spanning both developed and developing countries. She has published more than 200 books, journal articles and book chapters, and supervised 30 PhD students to successful completion.

Jane has a long history of service to the academic community both in the UK and internationally. From 2017 to March 2022, she was a Member of ESRC Council and chaired the ESRC Grant Delivery Group. She was also the Chair of the ESRC COVID-19 Rapid Response funding panel.

Jane was President of the British Society for Population Studies (2015–2017) and President of the European Association for Population Studies (2018–2020) and is currently Chair of the European Population Information Centre, Population Europe.

Jane was elected as a Fellow of the UK Academy of Social Sciences in 2011 and the Royal Society of Arts in 2016. In January 2023 she was named as a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the King's first New Year's Honours.



### **Professor Mark Spearing**

Vice-President  
(Research and Enterprise)

Mark has responsibility for the University's research and enterprise. He also works closely with the Vice-President (Education) and the Director of the Doctoral College to ensure the development of students undertaking doctoral degrees.

He maintains that his is one of the best jobs in the University, as every day he works with amazing people, doing amazing things, with the potential to change our world and our understanding of it (and the wider Universe).

He has been at Southampton for nearly 19 years in a variety of roles. Previously he spent 10 years as Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This followed periods working in industry and as a research fellow at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

He received a BA and PhD in Engineering from the University of Cambridge. His teaching and research are in the areas of engineering materials and structures. He is currently excited about using high-resolution computed tomography to understand failure processes in advanced composite materials; working with material developers and structural designers to produce stronger and more durable systems for aerospace, gas storage and wind turbines.

Mark is also a fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON ACADEMIC DRESS

Your graduation ceremony is all about you! It is your chance to celebrate your amazing achievements with your peers, University staff, friends and family.

It is the moment that your years of study and dedication to your subject have been leading up to; a moment that, we hope, you will cherish and look back on fondly for the rest of your life.



Traditional university costume  
has endured for centuries.

## Ceremony schedule

- The congregation is asked to stand as the procession enters the venue and to remain standing until the Presiding Officer and members of the procession have taken their seats.
- The Presiding Officer will declare graduation open and address the congregation.
- If there is an award for a higher doctorate, these will be presented first.
- The reader will read the degree classifications to be awarded. Graduands will process across the stage when their name is being read and receive a handshake (or a similar formal gesture) from the Presiding Officer.
- The Dean of Faculty or their nominated officer will address the congregation.
- The Presiding Officer will address the congregation and declare graduation closed.
- The congregation is requested to stand for the procession and remain in their seats until the entire procession has left the stage.

## Order of procession

The procession will enter the ceremonial hall in the following order:

- The Academic Marshal (carrying the Jubilee Mace)
- Members of University staff
- The University Marshal (carrying the University Wand)
- Representatives from the Student's Union
- Representatives from the Faith and Reflection Centre
- Directors of Professional Services
- Members of the University Executive Board
- Honorary Graduands (if attending)
- The Public Orator (if attending)
- The Dean and senior members of faculties
- The Vice-Presidents
- The Pro-Chancellors
- The Chancellor (if attending)
- The Graduand Presenter/Reader
- The Mayor/High Sheriff (if attending) The President and Vice-Chancellor (if not presiding)
- The Presiding Officer
- Esquire Bedell (carrying the Foundation Mace)







## Ceremony robes and silk colours

Traditional university costume has endured for centuries and is a symbol of the prestige and importance of the degree award you are receiving today. The academic dress worn by members of the procession differs depending on their role in the celebration. Some officers and university staff will also wear robes from the universities where they took their degrees.

Your academic robes and colour of silks will depend on the degree subject and classification that you are being awarded today. Our University colours are explained here.

## Athletic Union Colours

You may also be being recognised for your role in sports during your time at Southampton. Athletic Union Colours are among the highest accolades bestowed by the Students' Union to students for exceptional contribution to sport at the University.



Celebrations,  
Winchester Cathedral.

## Ceremonial venue: O2 Guildhall

To reflect the importance of this year's Graduation celebrations and our partnership with, and presence in, the city of Southampton, our prestigious venue is O2 Guildhall Southampton.

O2 Guildhall Southampton is the city's largest multi-functional venue. With seating for over 1,000 people, the atmospheric main auditorium's original 1930s art deco surroundings will make your Graduation truly unforgettable.

## Ceremonial venue: Winchester Cathedral

The graduation ceremony for our Winchester School of Art (WSA) graduands will take place in the iconic Winchester Cathedral.

Winchester Cathedral is one of Europe's largest cathedrals. During its 900-year history, it has hosted the weddings and coronations of kings and queens of England, as well as many modern cultural events. Its impressive architecture and iconic status within the city make the Cathedral a spectacular venue for your special day.

## University of Southampton colours and silks



*Medicine and Surgery*



*Science in Medicine, Health and Biological Sciences*



*Nursing and Midwifery*



*Philosophy*



*Arts and Letters*



*Science*



*Science in the Social Sciences*



*Engineering*



*Laws*

## Athletic Union Colours

*The criteria for Colours are as follows:*



**CLUB COLOURS:** Outstanding dedication to the organisation of a club, as well as representing Team Southampton and the University in their sport.



**HALF COLOURS:** Excellent sporting performance, achieving a high level of success for their club and competing up to national level.



**FULL COLOURS:** Elite level sporting performance, collecting national accolades and competing at an international level.

# STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

Graduation is an opportunity to celebrate your time at Southampton, your achievements and share in the successes of your peers.



## BUILDING A FUTURE IN MOTORSPORT ENGINEERING

The Southampton University Formula Student team (SUFST) experience the buzz of competing in annual global engineering competitions, while learning completely new skills outside of the lecture theatre.

The team placed first in the Formula Student static events in 2022, and now has its sights set on success – and sustainability.

Last year they built their first fully electric vehicle, marking their permanent step away from combustion-based vehicles and exemplifying the University community's focus on sustainability.

Marek Frodyma, Head of Low Voltage Systems and third-year MEng Aeronautics and Astronautics student, enjoys having the chance to learn more outside of his degree modules. "Being able to build a car and apply that knowledge into actual, real-world engineering scenarios before you go into the industry is a really valuable experience," he says.

"You don't just learn about the engineering side; you learn a lot about yourself. Joining the team was fantastic because I've gone and done a-million-and-one things that I never thought I would do."

Being a part of the team can be a significant asset — there are plenty of skills they can take with them into a range of industries.

Marek summarises: "Not many students can say they've left university and they've built a car already. It's something that is a really useful experience."



## CREATING HAVENS FOR HEDGEHOGS

Zoology graduate Holly McIndoe swapped the office for the great outdoors – and created havens for hedgehogs at the University of Southampton at the same time.

After more than a decade in office jobs, 34-year-old Holly decided to follow her dreams to study zoology as a mature student.

She said: "I worked in a whole range of office jobs, but sitting at a desk wasn't for me – I want to work outdoors. Coming to study as a mature student was daunting at first, but it's the best thing I ever did."

In her final year, Holly became President of the University's Hedgehog Friendly Campus Society and oversaw the society's successful bid for Gold Accreditation from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. This involved creating hedgehog-friendly habitats such as log piles, completing regular hedgehog surveys, and liaising with the grounds team to implement hedgehog-friendly landscaping. These efforts have resulted in a significant increase in hedgehog sightings across the University's Highfield campus.

Holly, from Redbridge, said: "I love hedgehogs, they are an iconic British species, but they have suffered in recent years and are in decline. It's really important we do what we can to help hedgehogs thrive again."

Holly would like to work as a ranger or in wildlife conservation, before returning to her studies to complete a master's degree and then a PhD.





## MAKING EDUCATION MORE ACCESSIBLE

During a University of Southampton internship, five students aptly named the Accessibility Allies, collaborated with lecturers across the University to improve the accessibility of online course materials.

The project resulted in an average increase of 36 per cent in the module accessibility score. With the Allies remediating content across 24 modules in just 12 weeks.

This Accessibility Allies project was part of the University's Virtual Learning Environment Enhancement Project, which saw students and staff collaborate to improve modules that were highlighted as a priority based on the data provided through our accessibility reporting service.

The project included introducing alternative file formats, accessibility scores for existing content, accessibility feedback, and guidance for content creators. The interns undertook accessibility training on how to spot and remedy digital accessibility problems from colour contrast issues to files not using heading styles or alternative text for images.

"I developed a lot of transferrable skills, like working in a team towards a common goal, and how to successfully present my progress in departmental meetings. I also developed a passion for helping other students, which led to me undertaking other responsibilities like Computer Science course representative," says third-year MEng Computer Science student, Sian Brookes.

"Embedding our student community into projects that will directly impact their experience is crucial. Throughout the project, we gained insight from their perspectives which otherwise could have been overlooked. Involving students in projects is a great way to integrate student consultation during our operations," says Luke Searle, Learning Designer, iSolutions.



## HEALING MUSCULOSKELETAL INJURIES

In his last three years of study, medical graduate Dr Charles Taylor co-founded an autonomous digital service that enables patients to diagnose, monitor, triage and treat a musculoskeletal injury without unnecessary in-person healthcare visits.

Charles explains that Sina Medical Technology ([www.sinatech.co.uk](http://www.sinatech.co.uk)) is one of the only services that enables patients across the NHS to manage any musculoskeletal injury directly from their mobile or desktop.

Sina aims to empower everyone to have access to world-class musculoskeletal healthcare. Since development, it has been awarded the 2021 Great British Entrepreneur Disruptor of the Year Award and been recipient to several rounds of grant funding.

"Following my work on Sina, I have been accepted into the competitive NHS Clinical Entrepreneur programme and the Specialised Academic Foundation Programme at St George's Hospital, London. I am excited to continue working on Sina during my academic foundation training" says Charles.

"I have also recently started AccessMedicine, an online tutoring platform that will connect aspiring medical students in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Hampshire to current Southampton medical students and graduates. We aim to offer personalised tutoring services that are tailored to each student's unique needs and learning style in the hope that medical school can be accessible achievable for everyone."



## STUDYING WITH PSYCHOSIS

PhD graduate Matt Staniforth overcame the challenges of living with psychosis to achieve his PhD in pure mathematics.

Matt, 28, hears voices every day, and has worked hard to learn to live with them while also teaching and researching for his PhD.

He said: "I hear two voices – one is a girl who doesn't speak but just screams for up to two minutes at a time, and the other is a man who never raises his voice but takes opportunities to interject and make me question things or will be critical of what I am doing. It can be incredibly distracting and incredibly draining."

Matt's psychosis began when he was 19. He has since had therapy and taken medication, and today manages the illness without medication.

"I was lucky because I was offered support as an undergraduate and, although I was terrified, I took that support," he said. "Throughout my studies, everyone has been extremely understanding and supportive when I have needed it – and I now know that mental health problems are much more common than we know and you are not alone."

Matt, who lives in Southampton, studied algebraic topology for his PhD. "My research was looking at the properties of shape and space," he said. "You can imagine 2D or 3D, but we cannot imagine higher dimensions, such as 6D or 7D. My PhD was looking into accessing and understanding higher dimensions of space."

He added: "I am very excited to be graduating and proud of myself for getting to the end of my PhD. I hope to continue my research, and would also like to continue teaching maths to undergraduates."



## BRINGING BACK THE BLACKOUT

Graduate Thomas Wells made it his mission to bring back the Blackout campaign in support of the University of Southampton's eco-friendly efforts.

Thomas, 21, spotted the opportunity during his final year placement with the University's Sustainability Team, after learning that the Blackout campaign had previously run from 2012 to 2015.

"The campaign is about raising awareness amongst staff and students about the importance of switching off equipment at the end of the day," said Thomas. "I thought it was time to revive it, to see how the University is doing now."

With a team of helpers, Thomas audited six of the University's main buildings for four consecutive weeks.

"We found that 30 per cent of computing equipment was left on after 6pm, and the heating was on in 34 per cent of empty rooms," he said. "We shared these figures with building managers, and sent messages to all university staff about the importance of switching off equipment and heating at the end of the day."

Thomas, who is graduating with a BSc in Environmental Management with Business has a summer internship lined up with hydrogen fuel cell consultancy HyEnergy.





## FIRST-GEN SUCCESS

A period of homelessness and a suspected autism diagnosis haven't stopped Jade Wadey from excelling during her time at the University of Southampton.

The 21-year-old has also taken on far more than the studies for her law degree during her three years at university. Charity volunteering, working with schools, and mentoring have filled her spare time.

Jade, who is graduating with an LLB Law degree, has a training contract lined up with commercial law firm Womble Bond Dickinson in Southampton.

But success hasn't come easily for Jade. She's the first person in her family to attend university, and has health issues that have presented challenges.

"I have been on the waiting list for assessment for suspected Autism Spectrum Disorder for nearly two years, so some aspects of my degree have been difficult because of that," she explained. "I have struggled at times to work at the same capacity as others around me, and find it hard to focus."

Jade grew up in West Sussex but, at the age of 14, found herself homeless with her disabled mum and sister. "We ended up living in a bed and breakfast for 10 months," she said. "It was a horrible time and I didn't know where my place in the world was, but that real low point led me to be very determined – and I really wanted to study law."

Winning a scholarship through the University's Ignite programme, which supports students from under-represented backgrounds, opened up huge opportunities for Jade. "It changed my life," she said. "It meant I could buy clothes for interviews, pursue a career in a more self-respecting way, and it's given me practical interview skills. It's been really empowering."

It has also inspired Jade to help others in similar positions. She volunteers at a charity called First-Gens that supports students who are the first generation in their family to go to university, and she works as a mentor for other students via a programme called Strive.



## EXPLORING DEMOCRACY VIA AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECT

Graduates Weihong Tang and Mitesh Shantilal combined their skills in motion and graphic design for a unique final-year project exploring democracy.

Their work explored the 150th anniversary of the Secret Ballot Act and looked at how voting has changed over time. They worked with the Parliamentary Archives, and with Winchester School of Art's design studio, Studio 3015.

Weihong, known as Clover, is graduating with a BA in Graphic Arts (Graphic Design pathway) and Mitesh with a BA in Graphic Arts (Motion Design pathway).

Clover, 21, said: "Mitesh and I worked together on a publication and a motion sequence about how technology will influence our behaviour when it comes to voting. The project was called Democratic Futures."

Mitesh, 22, added: "We wanted to show how voting has changed and advanced with time, so we created a show reel to demonstrate this. It juxtaposes old against new, and shows how technology is coming into play, for example in some countries fingerprinting is now used in voting."

Clover, from China, is on the University of Southampton's Dalian Programme – a collaboration with Dalian Polytechnic University in China. She studied the first two years of her Graphic Design degree in Dalian, and her final year in Winchester. Following graduation, she plans to return to China for a year's break, before applying to return to the UK to study for a master's degree.

Mitesh, who is originally from India but has lived in London for the past 10 years, intends to apply for an internship in motion design post-graduation.

# YOUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY

You did it! We are so glad to have this opportunity to celebrate your graduation: after all the long hours of studying, the ups and downs of the last few years, it comes down to this.

As a graduate of the University of Southampton, you are now part of a global community of more than 280,000 alumni spanning 185 countries and overseas territories. This network of talented people has one thing in common, a shared connection that can help open doors, build relationships, and shape your future as you go out into the world.



Graduating with friends.



Graduates celebrating.



Graduates attending a graduation ceremony.

This is not the end of your journey with us, but the beginning of a life-long relationship. As a graduate, you can take advantage of a whole range of services:

- benefit from careers advice, library services and a University email address
- gain access to our e-mentoring platform, where skilled alumni can provide advice, guidance and networking opportunities, as you build your career
- connect with your community on our LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter groups
- attend our events in person or online
- stay up-to-date with University news via Hartley News and Hartley News Online, our alumni magazine, and our regular e-newsletters (What's On)
- discounted Sport and Wellbeing membership

We know that many of you will be thinking about what comes next, and staying connected to the University and your alumni community is one of the best ways to make sure you have everything you need to achieve remarkable things, land your dream job and keep developing your skills.

You can apply for internships, career mentoring and enterprise opportunities for up to one year after you graduate and you can access one-to-one guidance appointments for five years after graduation.

To make sure you have full access to the benefits and support we can offer you, please update your contact details with us. Updating your contact details is quick and simple – just visit [www.southampton.ac.uk/update](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/update)

You can find more information about what it means to be a graduate of Southampton on our website, along with resources to help you take your next step. Alternatively, you can contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations by emailing [alumni@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@southampton.ac.uk)

Congratulations again on your amazing achievement – we are so proud of you! We hope you have a memorable day, a great summer, and we look forward to staying in touch.







**Find out more**

[www.southampton.ac.uk/graduation](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/graduation)

[graduation@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:graduation@southampton.ac.uk)