**COUNCIL: 31 MARCH 2025**

**REPORTED BUSINESS**

1. Chair of Council’s Action

On 24 February 2025, the Chair of Council took Chair’s action on behalf of Council to approve the appointment of Professor Jo Fox as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, effective from 1 June 2025.

1. Deaths

7 March 2025 Wendy Craig. Wendy joined the University in May 1997 as Clerical/Computer Assistant in the Department of Medicine. She was appointed IT Officer in the Institute of Cellular Medicine in December 2008, Information Security Officer (Medical Sciences) in March 2016, latterly based in the Executive and Governance Office, a post she held until her retirement in 2024. Wendy was widely respected for her expertise in information governance matters and will always be remembered for her professionalism and positive spirit.

2 March 2025 Professor Evelyne Sernagor. Professor Sernagor joined the University in December 1995 as Senior Lecturer in Neurophysiology; she received a Personal Readership in Developmental Neuroscience in 2011; and promoted to Personal Chair of Retinal Neuroscience in 2018.

22 February 2025 Emeritus Professor Roger Pain. Roger Pain died peacefully at home on 22 February 2025, aged 97. Roger was a renowned biochemist who wrote and edited several books on protein folding, including the key work Mechanisms of Protein Folding (Oxford University Press 1994, 2000), and was a regular contributor to the ‘News and Views’ section of the journal Nature. He served as Chair of the British Biophysical Society from 1977, and was elected an Honorary member in 1992. He was first appointed at Newcastle as a Lecturer in 1965, when he was tasked with setting up the new Biochemistry degree. He was a popular and enthusiastic teacher, noted for his demonstration of conformational entropy by throwing the contents of a box of Quality Street over the assembled students. He served as Head of Department in the 1980s and 1990s. Roger’s former students and postdocs remember him as a great mentor and supporter of young scientists. His PhD students went on to lead successful careers in both academia and the development of the biotechnology industry. After retiring from Newcastle in 1992, he moved to Ljubljana, Slovenia where he continued working at the Jožef Stefan Institute for over two decades, supporting a new generation of Slovene scientists.

19 February 2025 Emeritus Professor Max Hammerton. Emeritus Professor Max Hammerton passed away on Wednesday 19 February, aged 94 years. Max was appointed Head of Department of Psychology in 1973. He will be remembered for his passion for military history and for poetry, but also for his eccentric teaching style. He helped with undergraduate teaching until his late 80s. Max became Emeritus Professor on his retirement from Psychology in 1989.