

The University Of Sheffield. Office Of the The President & Vice-Chancellor.

## The Council, 9 July 2018

# **Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee**

Honorary degrees conferred by correspondence and Chair's action.

Approved by the Chair of Council Committee, in consultation with the Pro-Chancellors and the Treasurer.

# 1. The Committee has agreed that the following Honorary Degree should be conferred (this award was considered by the Committee via correspondence)

## Ms Ann Cairns DSc, Science)

Mathematics alumna Ann Cairns has forged a highly successful career in business and finance, with huge achievements on a global scale. She is Vice-Chairman of the \$182 billion Mastercard empire, having previously spent seven years as President, International Markets for MasterCard Worldwide, where she was responsible for the management of all markets and customer-related activities outside of the United States. Cairns has more than 25 years of experience working in senior management positions across Europe and the U.S., running global retail and investment banking operations, with companies including Citibank and Alvarez & Marsal. At the start of her career Ann spent time as an award-winning research engineer, culminating as the Head of Offshore Engineer-Planning for British Gas. Managing a team of 50 plus engineers, she was the first woman qualified to go offshore in Britain.

2. The Chair of the Honorary Degrees Committee also agreed that the following Honorary Degrees, proposed by the International Faculty should be conferred at the International Faculty's Degree Ceremonies in November 2018.

### Mr Yiannis Boutaris (Littd, International Faculty)

Yiannis Boutaris has served as the Mayor of Thessaloniki since 2011 and has made a significant impact on improving the city's reputation during this period. A wine-maker by profession, he was Managing Director of the family wine company Boutari and launched his own wine firm Kir-Yianni before becoming Thessaloniki's mayor. During this time Boutaris has worked passionately to expand Thessaloniki's reputation, rediscover its identity and open up and reconnect the city with the region and the world. In doing so he has promoted ethnic and religious inclusivity, for instance raising awareness of the Jewish Genocide that took place during the Nazi occupation in Thessaloniki, whilst promoting unity across borders to communities in neighbouring countries. Boutaris has received many national and international awards and distinctions including "Knight of the Legion of Honour" Medal, awarded by the Consul of France in Thessaloniki in 2016; "Proud People 2014" Award by the Lesbian & Gay Community of Greece for supporting the human rights of LGBTI communities in 2014 and "The Best Mayor of the World" by the City Mayors Foundation in UK in 2012.

#### Victoria Hislop (Littd, International Faculty)

Victoria Hislop is a highly successful British novelist who is particularly known for her books based on Greece, its history and culture. Her first novel, *The Island*, held the number one slot in the Sunday Times paperback charts for eight consecutive weeks and has sold over two million copies worldwide. Hislop acted as script consultant on the 26part adaptation of the book in Greece, which achieved record ratings for Greek television. She returned to Greece for her third novel, *The Thread*, taking as her backdrop the troubled history of the city of Thessaloniki in a story that spans almost a century, beginning with the Great Thessaloniki Fire of 1917. Her most recent book *Carte Postales from Greece* spent five weeks at number one in the UK paperback chart. A huge success worldwide her work has been translated into more than 30 languages. She has won many awards including Newcomer of the Year at the Galaxy British Book Awards 2007 and four Specsavers Bestsellers awards.

> Mrs Claire Rundström Development, Alumni Relations & Events