

Pro-Chancellor,

Sue Sutherland's desire to improve lives led to a career in the health sector, which was celebrated in 2006 when she was awarded an OBE for services to organ transplantation. Her career highlights include leading an NHS special health authority and two hospital trusts.

Sue knew that she wanted to be a nurse from an early age. Her plan to train with a prestigious London teaching hospital was put at risk when she achieved just one O-level from the grammar school she "disliked with a passion". Motivated to succeed, she enrolled at college and went on to achieve all her O-levels at grade 'A', as well as a pre-nursing qualification, in just one year.

Sue has fond memories of her first student nursing role at University College Hospital London, where she loved the rigour and routine of life on the wards. Realising that she could have a greater impact on more lives by progressing to more senior positions, she went on to become the youngest nursing officer in the UK. This achievement was followed by a series of senior roles in the health sector, including Head of HR for Marie Curie and Directorships of Nursing, HR and Operations at Royal Devon and Exeter Hospitals.

In 2000, Sue took up her first Chief Executive role with UK Transplant; a job she describes as the best of her career. Sue led a team which reversed a decade-long decline in organ donation and oversaw a record number of transplants. Inspired by the potential to transform patients' lives, Sue's team delivered an awareness campaign which included adding donor registration details to driving licences and advising on donor storylines in soap operas. Her work with UK Transplant led to her being awarded an OBE in 2006.

Sue became Chief Executive of Poole Hospital as it prepared to launch as an NHS Foundation Trust, and later took on an interim Chief Executive role at Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust before retiring in 2010.

In 2006, Sue transferred her passion for improving lives to the education sector, when she joined the Board at Bournemouth University. As Chair of the Board for six years, Sue worked closely with the University Executive Team to improve the quality of the student experience and continues to be a powerful advocate for the university's work.

Pro-Chancellor, I have the honour to present Sue Sutherland OBE, and I ask you to confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*.