

Pro-Chancellor,

Born on the last day of World War Two, Tim can claim to be one of the first, if not the first, baby boomer.

Brought up in West London, he attended and was head boy at Southall Grammar School, before embarking on a physics degree at Leeds University. Tim remembers finding the transition from school to university – and the resulting move from leafy London suburbs to the urban north – a difficult one. Nevertheless, as he approached graduation, he planned to extend his passion for education by becoming a teacher.

Put off by the prospect of returning to school immediately after finishing university, he determined to gain some industrial experience first. In 1966 he joined the embryonic computer industry, as a trainee with International Computers Ltd (ICL). Despite planning to stay for just two years, Tim retired 36 years later without ever having made the move back to the classroom.

Tim progressed through many roles at ICL, eventually becoming Director of Marketing. His career mirrored the developments of computer technology during a period of major change and innovation. This included taking to market some of the first mainframe computers, personal computers and early iterations of the internet. Tim remembers marketing computers of the 1960s which required their own rooms and cooling systems and yet were still less powerful than today's mobile phones. He is proud of helping to lead a shift in marketing approaches while at ICL, by putting customer needs at the heart of business decision making.

Throughout his life, Tim has maintained an interest in education, believing it to be a major driver of both economic development and social mobility. On retiring from corporate life, he relished the opportunity to join the board of Bournemouth University. His 12 years on the board, which included chairing committees and five years as Deputy Chair, make him the university's longest serving board member. During this time he supported the university in its business and community engagement and was heavily involved in its rebranding in 2006.

In joining the board Tim had two personal missions; to raise the profile of the university in the region and to ensure that the student experience was as highly valued as research activities. The ethos of putting students at the heart of everything we do could easily have been written for Tim.

Pro-Chancellor, I have the honour to present Timothy Lee, and I ask you to confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Business Administration, *honoris causa*.