SENATE: 18 NOVEMBER 2026

REPORTED BUSINESS

1. Chair of Senate's Action

On 16 October 2026, the Vice-Chancellor and President took Chair's action on behalf of Senate to grant the title of Emeritus Professor on Professor Andrew Lindridge (Business School).

2. Deaths

October 2026	Sandra Kerr. Sandra joined the University in September 2001 as a Lecturer in the Department of Music. She worked as a Lecturer within Arts and Cultures until retirement in September 2017, after which she held the position of Associate Lecturer. Sandra was a founding member of the Newcastle University Folk and Traditional Music degree, and she was an outstanding teacher and musician, who had a profound influence on colleagues and students alike. Colleagues were absolutely delighted to welcome Sandra back to campus last year and to be able honour her legacy by naming a lecture theatre after her. She always gave her time and wisdom so generously and played a significant role in shaping a whole generation of British folk musicians. Above all else, colleagues found it a pleasure and privilege to spend time with her, and to work alongside her. She will be greatly missed by her friends and colleagues here at Newcastle University.
September 2026	Emeritus Professor Robin Humphrey. Robin studied at Newcastle University for a BA in Sociology and Social Administration graduating in 1977. His Newcastle PhD was awarded in 1993. Robin returned to the University as Research Associate in 1983 and remained at the University until his retirement in 2019. He was based in what is now Sociology until 2005 when he became Director of the Faculty Postgraduate Research Training Programme. During this period, he was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship in 2011 and appointed to a Principal Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy in 2015. Robin's colleagues remember his warmth and humour and note how he fostered a collaborative approach, treating postgraduates as respected peers. James Henderson Stewart (Jim). Of Isis Court, Craig y Don. Jim was an Architect and Town Planner before working as a Senior Lecturer at Newcastle University for many years. He was also an artist, poet, author and organist, and someone who loved the great outdoors, whether that was walking in the Welsh hills, cycling or taking photos of the landscape. He will be deeply missed by all his family, friends, neighbours and everyone that knew him.

Senate records its deep regret and sympathy for the relatives concerned.