

Pro-Chancellor,

Sally Brown is a leading academic, who has made a significant impact in raising standards of teaching, learning and assessment in higher education worldwide. She is known for her energetic approach and for fusing evidence-based scholarship with down-to-earth pragmatism.

Sally's career has included directing membership services at the Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education - now called AdvanceHE - and serving for six years as Pro-Vice-Chancellor at Leeds Beckett University. She was instrumental in establishing the National Teaching Fellowship Scheme, which recognises those who have made an outstanding impact on student outcomes in higher education. Sally has since herself been recognised as a National Teaching Fellow and is also a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Sally acknowledges the influence of her parents in shaping who she is today. Her mother and father were both adamant that their daughters should attend university. Sally recalls that when friends questioned her parents' choice, her mother would joke that her daughters would at least meet a better class of husband, while her father said that to educate a woman was to educate a whole family.

Despite coming to academic writing late in her career, Sally has written and co-edited 35 books. These include four written with Phil Race, who went on to become her husband. She reflects that the process of writing together is a good test for compatibility in married life. The golden thread throughout Sally's writing and career is the importance of assessment and feedback for effective learning. Her 'fit-for-purpose' model of assessment is used extensively by academics around the world.

As well as forging her own career, Sally has always striven to redress disadvantage and increase opportunities for others. This has included teaching in further education, the home tuition service, schools and prisons; campaigning to widen participation in higher education, and regularly co-authoring and editing with those at the start of their academic journeys. Now semi-retired, Sally still devotes her time to supporting others; from reading with pupils at her grandchildren's primary school, to mentoring a dozen female academics.

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