

Philip Sugarman

Vice chancellor, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Graduates and Graduands, Families and Friends, today the University will award an honorary degree to Professor Philip Sugarman the recently retired CEO of St Andrew's Healthcare, a leading mental health charity with secure services in Birmingham, Essex, Northampton and Nottinghamshire, and employing over 3000 people. He was educated at Hymers college in Hull, before gaining his Bachelors degree in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Liverpool in 1984, including some time spent in Toronto, an MSc in Clinical Psychiatry at the University of Manchester in 1990, an MBA at the University of Leicester in 1995, and a PhD in Northampton Business School in 2009.

From 1994 to 2002 he was the Clinical Director and NHS Regional Advisor for Kent Forensic Psychiatry Service, where he developed a county - wide service for mentally disordered offenders - hospital, community and prison care. He then moved to St Andrew's Healthcare as Medical Director and General Manager, with responsibility for developing, specialist services, new facilities and healthcare quality governance. He became CEO in 2005 until his recent retirement. During that time he has grown the organisation to be the UK's largest specialist provider of secure care, with 4000 staff and 1000 specialist placements, with a £250m capital programme across four sites in England. St Andrew's has the leading reputation for quality in specialist and secure healthcare. It is the UK's largest Third Sector provider of NHS care. Its Northampton campus is the UK's largest mental health facility, with national specialist services in mental health, learning disability, autism and brain injury, and a research and teaching centre in partnership with the Institute of Psychiatry and King's College London. Prof Sugarman is an experienced psychiatrist and healthcare executive, with interests across management and secure care. He is President of the Psychiatric Council, Royal Society of Medicine, and a member of a huge range of committees and other bodies including the Ministerial Advisory Group on Mental Health and the NHS Commercial Advisory Board. He is an Honorary Senior Lecturer, Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London and Visiting Professor, School of Health, University of Northampton. He counts amongst his successes the development of the national standard secure outcome tool, boosting numbers of patients treated through the Charity, the formation of links between St Andrews Healthcare and with Royal College of Psychiatrists, and the King's College partnership. He has written numerous research, articles, lectures and presentations across mental health and healthcare management, a total over 140 publications including a book. Prof Sugarman is a past Royal Society of Medicine Prize winner.

The St Andrew's site at Stirchley, just a couple of miles from the University has 128 beds, treating men and women, low and medium secure patients, those with autism spectrum disorder, and physical mental health problems. Prof Sugarman has been a primary mover in getting the first forensic-clinical doctorate off the ground at the University of Birmingham. This has been accredited by the British Psychological Society, for dual recognition in Forensic and Clinical Psychology. The doctorate was developed by the University in collaboration with St Andrews, which has contracted to put five students through the four year course biennially and has thus made significant financial contributions to the programme.

In an interview with the Guardian in 2012, Prof Sugarman describes the challenge and enjoyment of working in the charitable sector, the stimulation of working with gifted colleagues at all levels in the organisation and he sets out his vision of how the charity,

which re-invests all monies into care, can help to square the circle of quality and cost, when the health seems beset by care failures, financial insecurity, and, quite often, organisational muddle, and might be part of a solutions to the issues the health service faces. He also reveals that out of the office, he grows and mills his own apple crop and that a cider shed is a good place to unwind. Very oddly, at least in the view of this Orator, he claims not to drink much of the product himself!

Vice chancellor, Pro-Vice Chancellor, for his contributions to the development of psychiatric practice, and for his personal dedication to helping some of the most in need of help in our society through the development of the St Andrews Hospital, I present to you and the University, Prof. Philip Sugarman for the degree of Doctor of Medicine honoris causa.