



Doctor of Commerce *honoris causa* David James Shearer MBE

Lincoln University recognises with this award the high distinction of alumnus David James Shearer in national and international affairs.

David is unique in Lincoln University's records in that no other alumnus has achieved together the specific roles of note he has filled.

Nationally, in New Zealand politics, David was Leader of the New Zealand Labour Party 2011-2013 and simultaneously, as a Member of Parliament, Leader of the Opposition for the same period.

Internationally, in humanitarian aid work, David's leadership appointments, in a career starting in 1989, have included Head of Mission, Deputy Head of Mission, Emergency Relief Operations Coordinator Worldwide, Senior Advisor, and the United Nations' Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Humanitarian Missions in a range of countries.

After resigning from Parliament in December 2016, David was appointed Head of the United Nations' Peace-Keeping Mission in South Sudan and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres.

United Nations members praised David's work in this capacity as 'outstanding and exemplary'.

For earlier work, in welfare services for children in Somalia, David was awarded an MBE in the UK Honours List of 1993, one of only a few Lincoln alumni who have received awards through the British List.

He is also probably unique among alumni in holding the Save the Children International Award for Gallantry, awarded for humanitarian service in conflict zones.

In 1992 David was named New Zealander of the Year, along with wife Anuschka Meyer.

David's association with Lincoln is strong. His Canterbury MSc degree had an important Lincoln component, taught through the campus-based Centre for Resource Management, directed by Dr John Hayward. David says his Lincoln studies laid a foundation for his later work in international aid and the influence extended into his service in Africa and elsewhere.

Lincoln University welcomes David James Shearer into its honorary doctorate ranks with pride.

Professor Grant Edwards
Vice-Chancellor

Bruce Gemmell
Chancellor