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University of Southampton academics receive Queen's Birthday Honours

Two leading academics from the University of Southampton have received awards in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

[Professor Peter Johnson](#), Cancer Research UK Chair of Medical Oncology, has received a CBE in recognition for his services to medicine and higher education. [Dr Alan Borthwick](#), Associate Professor in the Centre for Innovation and Leadership, has received an OBE for services to health and health research.

Professor Peter Johnson said: "I am delighted to have received this honour, although it is really down to working with outstanding colleagues in Southampton and at Cancer Research UK. I am fortunate to be working at an extraordinarily exciting time in cancer research, especially in my field of cancer immunology which has seen such ground-breaking advances recently."

Dr Alan Borthwick said: "For me it is a very great honour to be the recipient of an OBE, which I view as an acknowledgement of the work by my colleagues here in Southampton and of the College of Podiatry and which highlights the very significant contribution to healthcare made by podiatrists."

Professor Sir Christopher Snowden, University of Southampton President and Vice-Chancellor, said: "I am delighted that the exceptional contributions of Peter and Alan have been recognised. Peter's leadership in oncology and immunotherapy have been of fundamental importance both nationally and at the University of Southampton. Alan has been the driving force behind important developments in the healthcare profession and podiatry."

Professor Johnson leads the Southampton Cancer Research UK Centre and is Chief Clinician for Cancer Research UK. Professor Johnson is a medical oncologist specialising in the treatment of lymphoma. He has led lymphoma clinical trials from large international studies involving hundreds of patients from around the world, to first-in-man trials of new antibody treatments developed by laboratories in Southampton and elsewhere.

Professor Johnson's main research interest is in immunotherapy - using the immune system to fight cancer – and he has been instrumental in the [University's fundraising campaign to open a Centre for Cancer Immunology in 2017](#), the first of its kind in the UK.

Dr Borthwick, a podiatrist by background, represented the Allied Health Professions Federation on the Department of Health Project Board in securing independent prescribing rights for the professions of podiatry and physiotherapy, and also contributed to changes in legislation enabling additions to the statutory exemptions available to podiatrists. He has been a member of the medicines committee of the College of Podiatry for 15 years, and was its chairman for seven years.

Ends

Notes for editors:

Centre for Cancer Immunology

Building on its cancer immunology research expertise and recent successes in immunotherapy trials, the University of Southampton has launched a major fundraising campaign to raise £25m to open the UK's first dedicated Centre for Cancer Immunology at Southampton General Hospital in 2017. The Centre will be the first of its kind in the UK and will bring together world-leading specialists in a unique state-of-the-art centre. The aim of the new Centre is to accelerate research progress, conduct more clinical trials and save more lives from cancer. Find out more about it at www.southampton.ac.uk/youreit

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