

Professor Hugh P. McKenna CBE, PhD, B.Sc(Hons), RMN, RGN, RNT, DipN(Lond), AdvDipEd, FFN RCSI, FEANS, FRCN, FAAN, MEA, MEASA

Professor Hugh McKenna was, until recently, Dean of Medical School Development and Pro Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation at Ulster University, UK. He has over 250 publications, including 17 books; his latest on the achievement and assessment of Research Impact. His research has been cited 23,252 times. He was appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) and is a Fellow of four prestigious nursing organisations. In 2013, he received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the UK Royal College of Nursing and in 2014, a lifetime achievement Award at the Royal College of Psychiatrists. In a 2018 Government report he was named one of the most influential nurses in the 70-year history of the NHS. In 2023, Nursing Times named him as one of the most influential nurses in the 75 years of the NHS. Also in 2023, he was named as one of the top 100 nurses in the 100-year history of Sigma Theta Tau.

He has presented keynote papers and led workshops on research impact in many countries on five continents. In 2008, 2014 and 2021, he chaired the UK's Research Excellence Framework's (REF) expert panel assessing research on dentistry, pharmacy, biomedical science, allied health professions and nursing and midwifery. A core element of the assessment was the judgment of research impact.

He has chaired research quality panels for the Swedish Research Council and chaired numerous panels for the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation. In 2019 and 2020, he received two Honorary Doctorates and held 7 international visiting professorships. In 2019, he was appointed Member of the Academia Europaea and in 2020 a Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. His recent appointments include: in 2020 Trustee on the Alzheimer's Society UK, in 2022, Auditor for the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Council; in 2023, member of the Hong Kong Standing Review Board, in 2023, Visiting Professor at Brunel University, and in 2023, Editor in Chief of the Journal of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing. He is married to Tricia, a nurse, and they have a son and a daughter.