service and paying tribute to his 'generous, effective and intensely human contribution to saving lives at sea'. He has received the Irish Coast Guard Medal for Exemplary Service, and the Chief Coastguard's Commendation for Meritorious Service to UK Search and Rescue. He is a Younger Brother at Trinity House, a Liveryman of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners and the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, a Freeman of the City of London, and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Navigation and of the Nautical Institute.

BU is proud of its connections with the RNLI, where our School of Design, Engineering and Computing has collaborated in projects on the quality of lubricants used in lifeboats, and improvements to slipway performance. So today it is our special privilege and pleasure to honour Michael Vlasto and his many outstanding global contributions to life-saving at sea.

My Lord and Chancellor, I have the honour to present Michael Vlasto, and I ask you to confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Technology, *honoris* causa.