I arrived in Manchester in the seventies and embarked on an MA and Ph.D. What I experienced was life changing and Manchester, the University, and the city, enabled, encouraged and supported me in my development. Vibrant politically and with a diversity of students from Africa, Latin America and the Middle East Manchester was already establishing itself as an international University.

Being part of Manchester meant that a student became part of the world and was soon to realize that being a student was more than a recipient of ideas but also a political act. Before ‘students come first’ became the institutional KPI in higher education students in Manchester did in fact come first. Simply that was the ethos. I have, since leaving Manchester, used every opportunity as External examiner or guest speaker or most recently rally participant in continuing my unbreakable bond with Manchester.

I would be delighted to serve as a ‘mature’ alumna to help Manchester continue to develop in reputation and standing and to be an Alumna Ambassador to progress the interests of the wide community of Manchester graduates and current students, to raise Manchester’s profile and to be part of the endeavour to increase opportunities for its diverse students and assist in its projects and fund raising efforts.