

Press release

Date: Thursday, 19 January 2012

Title: Higher education body announces retirement of chief executive

The Higher Education Council for Wales (HEFCW) announced today that its chief executive, Professor Phil Gummatt, proposes to retire later this year, at a date to be determined, but likely to be between July and October 2012.

Professor Gummatt joined HEFCW on secondment from Manchester University in October 2000, at a point when HEFCW was becoming part of a larger joint structure with ELWa (Education and Learning Wales). HEFCW was separated from ELWa in 2003 and Professor Gummatt became HEFCW's chief executive in 2004.

Professor Gummatt said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed being with HEFCW. It's been a privilege to work with such excellent colleagues in HEFCW, and to engage with colleagues in the Welsh Government and the HE sector in addressing the many challenges facing HE in Wales at a time of profound change."

Roger Thomas, chair of HEFCW, said: "This is not the time for farewells. Suffice for now to say that Phil Gummatt has been an excellent and hugely committed and supportive chief executive, and we will continue to rely on his wise advice and leadership right up to his eventual departure, as we address the issues arising from the new fees arrangement, restructuring the HE sector, and many other matters."

Ends

Notes

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Notes

The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) is a Welsh Government Sponsored Body responsible for administering funds made available by the Welsh Government in support of:

- education in higher education (HE) institutions;
- research undertaken by HE institutions; and
- higher education courses at further education colleges.
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HEFCW is also responsible for accrediting providers of initial teaching training for school teachers and commissioning research to improve the standards of teachers and teacher training.

More: www.hefcw.ac.uk