



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Scotland's Colleges welcomes new Principals' Convenor

Scotland's Colleges is delighted to welcome Linda McTavish to her new role as the Convenor of Scotland's Colleges Principals' Convention. Mrs McTavish succeeds Sue Pinder, Principal of James Watt College, who previously held this post.

As part of her new role, Mrs McTavish, who is Principal of Anniesland College in Glasgow, will chair monthly meetings attended by Principals from every college in Scotland. It is at these meetings where sector policy on a range of educational topics is decided, ranging from how Scottish colleges can best respond to the economic downturn, to how colleges can play a full part in the new Curriculum for Excellence.

Prior to taking up her Principalship at Anniesland College in 1997, Mrs McTavish was Depute Principal at Anniesland, and has previously worked at Cardonald College and Langside College. She was awarded the Lord Provosts Medal for Education in 2000, awarded a CBE in 2003 for services to Further Education and became a Fellow of the SQA in 2005.

As well as her new position as Principals' Convenor for Scotland's Colleges, Mrs McTavish is also Chair of the Colleges Competition Group for Skills and a Governor of The Glasgow School of Art.

Mrs McTavish said: "It is a great privilege to be selected by my colleagues for the role of Convenor of Scotland's Colleges Principals' Convention. Sue Pinder has done a great job of driving forward college policy in Scotland and making sure our sector is at the forefront of Lifelong Learning in Scotland and further afield.

"This is a challenging time to be taking on the role, as the economic downturn deepens and the role of colleges in helping to retrain those who find themselves out of work has never been more important. My own college serves a large community in the west of Glasgow where unemployment has caused significant economic and social difficulties. My experience of how colleges can help economic recovery combined with the wealth of knowledge amongst Scotland's colleges will be used to ensure we remain a key partner for Government, business and communities in the current economic climate."

Chris Travis, Chief Executive of Scotland's Colleges, said: "We are delighted to welcome Linda to the role of Principals' Convenor. Her vast knowledge of Further and Higher Education and her wealth of experience in the sector will stand her good stead for her new role."

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