



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Scotland's Colleges welcomes new Deputy Convenor of Principals' Convention

Scotland's Colleges is delighted to welcome John Spencer as the Deputy Convenor of Scotland's Colleges Principals' Convention.

John, who is Principal of Inverness College UHI, will support the Convenor, Linda McTavish in the increasing workload of the Principals' Convention helping Scotland's colleges through the economic downturn.

Prior to taking up his Principalship at Inverness College UHI in 2007, John was Vice Principal at Sutton Coldfield College, a large college in the West Midlands. John started his career as a product designer, and his first role in further education was teaching art and design in Sheffield in 1979, where he progressed through several posts to become the Head of Department.

John has also spent time in Malaysia, where he directed the building and set-up of Asia Europe College, based just outside Kuala Lumpur. Supported by the Malaysian Government and backed by a large Malaysian company, the college opened in 2001, delivering UK further and higher education qualifications.

Prior to joining Sutton Coldfield College and after returning from Malaysia, John led strategic development, finance, and quality at Buckinghamshire Adult Learning where he was responsible for a major restructure of the county wide organisation.

John Spencer said: "It is a great privilege to be selected by my colleagues for the role of Deputy Convenor of Scotland's Colleges Principals' Convention. 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."

Ray Harris, Acting Chief Executive of Scotland's Colleges, said: "We are delighted to welcome John to the role of Deputy Convenor of the Principals' Convention. His vast knowledge of Further and Higher Education and his wealth of experience in the sector will stand him in good stead for this new role."

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