

Professor Sir David Watson

Personal details

Date of birth: 22 March 1949
Place of birth: Broxbourne, England
Nationality: British
Marital status: Married with two children (born 1980 and 1984)
Home page: http://www.ioe.ac.uk/staff/LCEN/LCEN_47.html

Contact details

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Home

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Current role

Institute of Education, University of London, since 2005:

- Professor of Higher Education Management
- Director of the MBA in Higher Education Studies.
- Co-Director, Centre for Higher Education Studies.

External roles

- President, Society for Research into Higher Education;
- Trustee, the Nuffield Foundation
- Advisory Board Member, Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI)
- Member, Council of the School of Pharmacy, University of London

Previous experience

- University of Brighton, 1990-2005, Vice-Chancellor
- Oxford Polytechnic, 1981-1990, Dean of the Modular Course, Deputy Director, Professor 1988
- Crewe and Alsager College of Higher Education, 1975-81, Senior Lecturer, Principal Lecturer in humanities

Education & Qualifications

- PhD (1975) History. University of Pennsylvania. Thouron Scholar.
- BA (Hons.) History (First Class in both parts of the History Tripos), Clare College, Cambridge (1971), MA (1973). Foundation and Open Scholar in History. Choral Exhibitioner.
- Cheshunt Grammar School, 1960-62; Eton College (Fleming scholarship), 1962-67

Honours and professional memberships

- FRSA since 1990
- ILTM (now FHEA) since 1999; elected Council Member 2000-02
- CCMI since 2000
- Honorary Doctorates from the Open University (2002), Oxford Brookes University (2003), the University of Southampton at University College, Winchester (2004), the University of Sussex (2005), the University of Bath (2005), Manchester Metropolitan University (2006) and the University of Brighton (2006).
- Honorary membership UACE (now UALL) (2000), Royal College of Music (2007)
- Knighted in 1998 for “services to higher education”
- National Teaching Fellowship (2008)
- *Times Higher Education* Lord Dearing Lifetime Achievement Award (2009)

Previous national and institutional roles

- Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), 1977-93
- Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council (PCFC), 1988-92
- Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), 1992-96 (Chair, Quality Assessment Committee)
- Open University Validation Board, 1993-2001
- Chair, Universities Association for Continuing Education (UACE), 1994-98
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation National Commission on Education, 1991-93
- National Committee of Inquiry into Higher Education (Dearing Committee), 1996-97
- Chair, Universities UK Longer Term Strategy Group, 1998-2005
- Member, Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), 1990-93
- Chair, Steering Committee for ESRC Teaching and Learning Research Programme (TLRP), 1998-2003
- Board Member, Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA), 2004-09
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, the Leadership Foundation for HE (LFHE), 2004-08
- Chair, South East England Cultural Consortium (SEEC), 1999-2001
- Trustee, Council for Industry and Higher Education (CIHE), 1999- 2005
- Review of Research Assessment (Roberts Review) 2002-03
- Chair, Brighton Festival, 2002-05
- Vice-chair and Trustee, Friends of the Brighton Pavilion, Museum and Gallery, 1998-2005
- Trustee, the Tom Paine Project (Lewes), 1999-2005
- Chair, Advisory Panel for National Teaching Fellowships, 2003-05
- Council Member, University of Sussex 1990-2005, Royal College of Music 1995-2005
- Chair of the Commission of Inquiry into the Future for Lifelong Learning (IFLL), 2007-09

Research

Current projects include:

- Historical methods applied to HE policy and practice. See <http://www.tlrp.org/capacity/rm/wt/watson>
- “The Engaged University.” Cross-national study of higher education and civic engagement
Includes analysis of responses to a survey of signatories of the Talloires Declaration. See <http://www.tufts.edu/talloiresnetwork/>

Key publications include:

- *The Question of Morale: managing happiness and unhappiness in university life* (in press: McGraw-Hill/Open University Press, 2009)
- (With Tom Schuller) *Learning Through Life: Inquiry into the Future for Lifelong Learning* (NIACE, 2009),
- (Edited with Michael Amoah) *The Dearing Report; ten years on* (Institute of Education 2007)
- *Managing Civic and Community Engagement* (McGraw-Hill/Open University Press, 2007)
- (With Elizabeth Maddison) *Managing Institutional Self-Study* (Open University Press, 2005)
- (Ed. With Maria Slowey) *Higher Education and the Lifecourse* (SRHE/Open University Press, 2003)
- (Ed. with Tom Bourner and Tim Katz) *New Directions in Professional Higher Education* (SRHE/Open University Press, 2000)
- *Managing Strategy* (Open University Press, 2000)
- (With Richard Taylor) *Lifelong Learning and the University: a post-Dearing agenda* (Falmer Press 1998)
- (With Jean Boccock) *Managing the University Curriculum: making common cause* (SRHE/Open University Press 1994)
- *Arendt* (HarperCollins: Fontana Modern Masters, 1992)
- (With Hazel Bines) *Developing Professional Education* (SRHE/Open University Press 1992)
- (With David Scurry, John Brooks, Roger Lindsay and Chris Coghill) *Managing the Modular Course: perspectives from Oxford Polytechnic* (SRHE/Open University Press 1989)
- *Margaret Fuller: an American romantic* (Berg 1988)

Plus approximately 400 other monographs and pamphlets, chapters in books, articles and reviews.

Regular keynote speaker at national and international conferences. International work has included workshops, seminars and conferences for university leaders in the United States, Canada, Colombia, Saudi Arabia, Japan, China, Ireland, Singapore, Australia (where he chaired the government’s Expert Panel for the Teaching and Learning Performance Fund, 2006-08) and New Zealand (where he was a member of the international reference group for the Tertiary Education Advisory Commission), as well as for the OECD in Paris and Ottawa. Convenor of international benchmarking seminars for the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), 2004, 2006 and 2008.

22.10.09