MEDIA RELEASE
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PROFESSOR JOHN MCDOWELL APPOINTED AS DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Leading theologian Professor John McDowell has been appointed as the new Director of Research at the University of Divinity.

In announcing the appointment, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sherlock, said

Professor McDowell is an outstanding, internationally recognised theologian who brings to the University proven capacity for theological scholarship and effective oversight of academic programs. We look forward to his leadership of the University's research and his engagement with academic staff and higher degree by research students.

Born in Northern Ireland, Professor McDowell studied theology at the University of Aberdeen and completed doctoral studies at Cambridge University in 1998 under the supervision of Nicholas Lash and David Ford.

From 2000 to 2008 he was the Meldrum Lecturer in Systematic Theology in the School of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh, and Director of Undergraduate Studies from 2006.

In 2008 he was the inaugural appointment to the Morpeth Chair in Theology and Religion at the University of Newcastle (Australia).

His publications include Hope in Barth’s Eschatology (Ashgate, 2000), The Gospel According to Star Wars (Westminster John Knox, 2007), (as editor) Philosophy and the Burden of Theological Honesty (Continuum T & T Clark, 2011), and The Politics of Big Fantasy (McFarlane, 2014).

Professor McDowell’s appointment commences in January 2015. He succeeds Professor Mark Lindsay, who will take up a new appointment in 2015 as Joan F W Munro Professor of Historical Theology at Trinity College Theological School, University of Divinity.

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