

PRESS INFORMATION

For immediate release on

14 May 2015

Canon James Woodward of Windsor Appointed Principal of Sarum College

The Trustees of Sarum College are delighted to announce the appointment of The Revd Canon Dr James Woodward as Principal of Sarum College. James is presently Canon of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, and will assume the Principal post on October 1st.*

"I have long admired the intellectual energy and spiritual depth of Sarum College as an ecumenical centre for Christian study and research," said James. "I am looking forward to leading this community of learning and to nurturing theological education in service of the church and the wider community."

In the wake of the College's recent merger with the former Southern Theological Training and Education Scheme (STETS), a priority for James, 54, will be to continue to develop innovative collaboration between the postgraduate, ministry and non-accredited programmes of both institutions.

The Very Revd Dr Alec Knight, Chair of the Sarum College Trustees, said: "I am very pleased that James has been appointed as Canon Keith Lamdin's successor. This is an exciting time for the College as we integrate our learning programmes, extend our partnerships and build further on the College's reputation for educational excellence and generous hospitality."

"James is good news for Sarum College and for the Diocese of Salisbury," said the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, the Bishop of Salisbury, who with the Rt Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells, is a Foundation Trustee of Sarum College. "Well known for his impressive skills as a pastor, educator and strategic leader, James also brings a theologically articulate voice to the public discussion of healthcare, ageing and dying."

Keith will step down from his role as Principal on July 31st but will continue to run courses and leadership consultancy on behalf of Sarum College.

Keith said: "I have known James for nearly 30 years and am sure he will bring to the College what it needs to flourish in its next phase of life – pastoral sensitivity, clarity of direction and a deep theological engagement with the world."

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*The appointment is subject to DBS clearance.

Photograph: Canon James Woodward, Principal of Sarum College as of October 1, 2015.

Editors' Notes

1. The Reverend Canon Dr James Woodward – brief biography

James is presently a Canon of Windsor where he is responsible for the fabric of St George's Chapel alongside 55 domestic buildings that sit within Windsor Castle. He is also in charge of fundraising and looking after the College's library and archives. As a Director of St George's House, he works with the team to convene diverse consultations on pastoral, ethical and theological issues drawing participants from a wide range of contexts. This includes work in the area of the education, nurture and support of clergy.

During his 30 years in ministry, he has worked in a number of contexts. As parish priest in two rural parishes in the Diocese of Birmingham, he developed a robust theological critique of health policy, serving as a lay member of the Royal College of Anaesthetists and non-Executive Director of Solihull Primary Care Trust.

As Master of the Foundation of Lady Katherine Leveson, James made fresh and significant contributions to the public discussion on theological issues of ageing and the spiritual care of older people. He has delivered public lectures, seminars and consultancy support to many English dioceses and academic institutions, including a recent visit to Princeton Theological Seminary.

James has written extensively in the areas of practical and pastoral theology, spirituality, health care and ethics, illness, old age and the end of life care. He has recently completed a series of four books (with Paula Gooder and Mark Pryce) on the Gospels.

For further information visit his webpage at www.jameswoodward.info

2. Sarum College

Founded in 1995, Sarum College is an ecumenical study, conference and research centre situated in historic grade 1-listed buildings in Salisbury's Cathedral Close.

Welcoming people of all faiths and none, Sarum's educational programme includes a variety of courses within our specialist areas of Christian Spirituality; Leadership, Consultancy; Liturgy and Worship; Theology, Imagination and Culture; Training for Christian Ministry and Mission; and, The Arts.

There are four postgraduate programmes validated by the University of Winchester. Ministry courses are validated by Durham University and students can choose full-time, part-time or practice-based study and training. These courses create opportunities for all to learn, to think, to speak and to act with greater theological confidence and can lead to a postgraduate certificate, postgraduate diploma or an MA degree.

Other events and courses held throughout the year including public lectures, Biblical Study breaks, conferences, art exhibitions and lunchtime concerts. Guest bedroom and meeting rooms also can be hired by the general public when not in use for courses and college events.

For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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