

The Honorary Graduate: Professor Iain Gray CBE

The Orator: Professor Steve West

Professor Iain Gray is to be awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Engineering.

Iain Gray is the Director of Aerospace at Cranfield University. Iain joined Cranfield University in March 2015 after seven years as the Chief Executive of InnovateUK (formerly known as the Technology Strategy Board). In this role he is responsible for all aspects of learning, executive education and research in Aerospace for the University and for developing the Aerospace Strategy across the University Group.

Prior to this, Iain was Managing Director and General Manager of Airbus UK, whose Bristol operation he joined when it was still part of British Aerospace.

Iain Gray completed his early education in Aberdeen, culminating in an Engineering Science honours degree at Aberdeen University. In addition, he gained a Masters of Philosophy at Southampton University in 1989. In 2014 was awarded a CBE for services to Innovation.

Iain is a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering; a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and in 2007 was awarded the Royal Aeronautical Society Gold Medal. He is a Fellow and Vice President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. He is a Council Member for City University of London, a Board Member of SEMTA, Chair of Aerospace Bristol Museum and is a non-executive Director of Versarien, an AIM listed company specialising in materials technology.

The Honorary Degree is awarded in recognition of Professor Iain Gray's contribution to the UK aerospace industry.