

The Honorary Graduand: Paul James Gough

The Orator: Professor Steven West

Paul Gough is to be awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University.

In February 2014 Professor Paul Gough, became Pro-Vice Chancellor and Vice-President of RMIT's College of Design and Social Context, based in Melbourne. As Vice-President and PVC he is part of the Senior Executive of the University, reporting directly to the Vice-Chancellor and President.

Described as 'Australia's premier leadership position in Design and Social Sciences', Paul Gough is the Executive Head of a college of 24,500 students of whom 640 are enrolled on research degrees, and has 980 staff. Made up of seven schools, the college has a number of national and internationally recognised research centres and is key to two University-wide Research Institutes, Global Cities and Design Research.

The College has a strong internationalisation strategy with campuses, programmes, and research in Asia and Europe; including programmes on the Vietnam Campus and the recently launched Barcelona campus.

Paul Gough was previously Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at UWE, Bristol. For over ten years he was Executive Dean of a large Faculty of Creative Arts, Design and Media, and the Royal West of England Academy Professor of Fine Arts. A painter, broadcaster and writer, he has exhibited widely in the UK and abroad, and is represented in several art collections, including the permanent collection of the Imperial War Museum, London, the Canadian War Museum, Ottawa, the National War Memorial, New Zealand. His most recent exhibitions have been in Melbourne, London, and New Zealand. Gallery pages are available on www.vortex.uwe.ac.uk

His research interests lie in the processes and iconography of commemoration, the cultural geographies of battlefields, and the representation of peace and conflict in the 20th/21st century. He has published widely in a number of interrelated academic fields; many of the papers are available on Vortex, and also on <https://rmit.academia.edu/PaulGough>

Paul was founding Director of the Bristol-based Research Centre PLaCe <http://www.uwe.ac.uk/sca/research/place/>

Amongst his recent publications is a monograph on the British artist Stanley Spencer, *Journey to Burghclere*, and *A Terrible Beauty*, an extensive study of British art of the Great War. An edited volume of correspondence between Stanley Spencer and Desmond Chute, *Your Loving Friend*, was published in 2011. Gough's edited book on the street artist Banksy was published in 2012.

His book – 'Brothers in Arms' – on the work of British war artists Paul and John Nash is published in July 2014. As part of a broad portfolio of activity linked to the centenary of the Great War, he is curating three exhibitions – in London and Bristol - and has been advising the Royal Mint in the UK on the design principles, iconography and potential artists for their commemorative coinage linked to the centenary of the war, 2014-2019.

During ten years work as television presenter, researcher and associate producer he worked for ITV, BBC and C4 on a range of creative arts programmes including the award-winning documentary Redundant Warrior, about the photographer Don McCullin. In addition to occasional work on BBC radio, he has a credit for 'design research' in the Aardman Animations feature film, Chicken Run.

In an extensive portfolio of academic roles in the UK he was a member of the Strategic Advisory Group of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and chair of its 'Landscape and Environment' commissioning panel, a five year, five million pounds programme of research. Having been a panel member for RAE 2001 and on the HEFCE Research Capability Fund panel, he became chair of sub-panel 63 in RAE 2008 with responsibility for Art and Design. He has since worked with governments and universities in New Zealand, Romania, and Australia as they prepare for research assessment exercises. He was invited to be a chair of the Research Assessment Panel for the RAE 2014 in Hong Kong.

The Honorary Degree is awarded in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the University of the West of England.