David Wheeler

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Plymouth Business School, UK

David Wheeler is the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Business at the University of Plymouth (UK). He takes up his new post in January 2010. Plymouth Business School comprises a School of Management, a School of Law and a School of Tourism. David Wheeler's former academic post was Dean of the Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University (Canada), Erivan K Haub Professor in Business and Sustainability at the Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto.

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Professionally, Dr Wheeler is an internationally experienced academic and business person with more than two decades of senior executive level involvement in change management and sustainable business practice, research and teaching. David is regularly requested to provide support to senior management teams in pursuing strategic change and he has particular expertise in service industries (e. g. education, retail, consumer goods and finance) and extractive industries (e. g. oil and gas and mining). David has published more than 70 articles and book chapters in a wide variety of academic journals, books, parliamentary inquiries and popular journals, and he has delivered speeches to numerous conferences and events. Top tier journals in which he has published include the British Medical Journal, the Lancet, the Journal of Applied Bacteriology, Water Research, the Journal of Portfolio Management, the Journal of Business Ethics, Long Range Planning, and the MIT Sloan Management Review. David was principal author of The Stakeholder Corporation- the first business text to be endorsed by former UK Prime Minister, Tony Blair. He was an advisor to the UK Government on governance aspects of the Company Law Review, a member of the UK Government Advisory Committee on Consumer Products and the Environment and the Reference Group for Canada's National Report to the World Summit Sustainable Development (Rio+10). He was co-founder of the UK business-led Committee of Inquiry - A New Vision for Business that reported directly to Prime Minister Tony Blair in November 1999. Prior to his recent academic appointments, David was a member of the Executive Management team of international cosmetics firm The Body Shop International. David spent 7 years overseeing a business operating in 50 countries with worldwide retail sales of \$1 billion and when he stepped down was the longest serving member of the senior team. As Executive Director (Senior VP) of Environmental and Social Policy David had strategic oversight of human resources and learning, sustainability issues and nonfinancial auditing and reporting. In his time with The Body Shop, David developed the company's groundbreaking Values Reports which were rated top in a worldwide ranking by SustainAbility for the United Nations on corporate environmental and social reporting. David started his career in the water industry where he specialized in water pollution control. Later as a Senior Research Fellow at the Robens Institute of the University of Surrey he became a leading researcher and commentator on standards of drinking water and recreational water in the UK, achieving World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre status for the Robens Institute. During his time at Surrey University David was a frequent consultant to United Nations and other development agencies working in water and sanitation programs in less developed countries.