

OUTGOING UNIVERSITY OF HULL VICE- CHANCELLOR HONOURED AT CELEBRATORY CIVIC DINNER

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Tributes were paid to the University of Hull's outgoing Vice-Chancellor, Professor Calie Pistorius, at a Civic Dinner at the Guildhall in Hull. Professor Pistorius leaves the University of Hull at the end of the month.



Prof Calie Pistorius

Over 80 senior figures from across all sectors of the Humber region came together to recognise Professor Pistorius' significant achievements and to wish him well in his future endeavours.

Professor Pistorius commented:

It was very touching that my work over the last 7 years, as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hull, has been recognised in this way. It has been a privilege to lead the University of Hull for the last seven years and I know that it will continue to be a hugely successful institution providing knowledge and education as well as economic and social benefits which impact regionally, nationally and internationally.

Baroness Virginia Bottomley, Chancellor at the University of Hull, paid tribute to Professor Pistorius in a speech. She said:

Professor Pistorius has exercised a most distinguished, courageous and tenacious leadership of our wonderful university. This man is hugely talented. He became Vice-Chancellor of the University of Pretoria in a time of great turmoil and change, in quite extraordinary and not easy times. He then came to the City of Hull and during that time all sorts has happened. He has built on the legacy of his predecessor.

Baroness Bottomley spoke about the £200-million investment in infrastructure, as well as the key role the University played in securing City of Culture status.

She said: "My warmest, warmest thanks for all he has done." High Steward of Hull, Lord Peter Mandelson also paid tribute to Professor Pistorius' leadership of the University.

In a message, he said:

From the beginning of my association with Hull I have enjoyed my contact with the University. Calie has been a model Vice-Chancellor – devoted to the success of the University, but equally to the well-being of its surrounding community. He has shown a tremendous commitment to the wider development of Hull, always showing initiative and leadership. His departure will be a great loss and I wish him well in what he does.

At the dinner, Professor Pistorius also announced his next venture, which will see him remain in the Humber region to establish a consultancy, named DeltaHedron, specialising in the management of technological innovation, with a focus on emerging technologies.

Professor Pistorius added:

I am very excited to be moving on to my next opportunity and am very pleased to be staying in the Humber region. Based at C4Di in Hull, I am establishing a globally networked consultancy which will explore the opportunities and risks attached to the management of technological innovation. I look forward to retaining an active role in the Humber's business community.

Professor Pistorius announced his intention to step down as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hull back in July 2016. His tenure will end at the end of January 2017, after more than seven years in the role.

During Professor Pistorius' tenure as Vice-Chancellor, the University has developed and implemented an ambitious strategy that has increased its regional, national and international profile, strengthened its links with business and industry, and firmly established it as an anchor institution.

Professor Pistorius has brought about significant organisational renewal for the University, initiating the largest investment programme in its history.

The process to find a new Vice-Chancellor at the University of Hull is well underway. In the interim, Professor Glenn Burgess, Deputy Vice-Chancellor will continue to assume the position of Acting Vice-Chancellor.