



Professor David Rhind CBE FRS FBA

Vice-Chancellor and Principal

The City University

Northampton Square

London EC1V 0HB

Tel: +44 20 7040 8002

Fax: +44 20 7040 8596

David Rhind is the Vice-Chancellor (President) of The City University in London. This is very focused on business and professional subjects such as management and leadership (the Cass Business School's EMBA is ranked in the top few in the world), computing, law, engineering, health and social sciences. It has very strong links with the City of London. He is also Chairman of the Statistics Commission, a body set up by UK government reporting to Parliament on the quality and integrity of all British official statistics. Professor Rhind is also a member of a national commission on risk and was the chair of yet another which reviewed all the social sciences in Britain.

Beginning his academic career as a physicist, he swiftly changed to the earth sciences and computing, being involved in computer-based mapping and GIS since the late 1960s. Amongst other leadership roles, he led the team building much of the first environmental information system for the European Union and many other GIS. His job prior to City University was as Director General and Chief Executive of Ordnance Survey, Britain's national mapping organisation and a government department: his tenure included the digitisation of all 230,000 current maps and 500,000 historical ones and the initial stages of their conversion into structured data, as well as many joint ventures with commercial bodies. With three colleagues, he is the author of the world's best selling GIS textbook 'Geographical Information Systems and Science' (Wiley, 2005). He was the first geographer elected to the British National Academy of Sciences (the Royal Society) for 50 years and is, almost uniquely, also a Fellow of the British Academy, the equivalent for the social sciences and humanities.