

## Professor Glynis Breakwell DL: Biography



Photo by Nicolas Delves-Broughton

Professor Breakwell took her PhD from the University of Bristol and DSc from the University of Oxford. In 2003, in recognition of the significance of her contribution to the social sciences, she was awarded an honorary doctorate of laws from the University of Bristol and in 2004 became an Honorary Professor at the University of Shandong in China.

She is a psychologist specialising in research on leadership, on identity processes, on risk communication and on military cultures. She has been a Fellow of the British Psychological Society since 1984 and is a chartered health psychologist. In 2002, she was elected an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences. In 2006, she became one of the Honorary Fellows of the British Psychological Society.

After her Prize Fellowship at Nuffield College, University of Oxford, Professor Breakwell moved to the University of Surrey where she became Head of the Department of Psychology in 1990 and subsequently Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise).

Professor Breakwell was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bath in 2001. As Vice-Chancellor, she is both the academic leader and chief executive of the university.

She is Chair of the Daphne Jackson Trust, a director of Universities UK, a member of the Science and Industry Council

South West and a member of the HEFCE Leadership Governance & Management Committee. She has been a director of the Theatre Royal, Bath, a director of the New Swindon Company and a trustee of the Holburne Museum. From 2006-2008 she was Chair of Higher Education in the South West. From 2006-2009 she was Chair of the Bath Festivals Trust and from 2007 to 2010 she was a Board member of the Higher Education Career Services Unit. Professor Breakwell has been a Director of Bath Technology Centre, Chair of the UUK Funding and Management Policy Committee and a member of the Confederation of British Industry's Task Force on Higher Education. In 2009, she became a governor of Cheltenham Ladies College and a director of Universities Superannuation Scheme. In November 2010 Professor Breakwell was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset.

Professor Breakwell has published more than twenty books and hundreds of journal articles. Her latest book, *The Psychology of Risk* was published by Cambridge University Press in December 2007 and the fourth edition of her book *Research Methods in Psychology* will be out this year. Her research has resulted in Professor Breakwell acting as an advisor to a number of government departments, including the Department of Health, the Department of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Defence, HSE and DEFRA, besides many multi-national corporations and not-for-profit organisations. Most recently, she has been a member of the Royal Society and Academy of Medical Sciences study on Pandemic Flu and Royal Society Committee on 'Scientific Century' commemorating its 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary.