

New WIT Chair is appointed



Education Minister Jan O'Sullivan.

On Wednesday last, Minister for Education and Skills, Jan O'Sullivan announced the appointment of Richard Langford as the new Chairperson of Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT), succeeding Dr Donie Ormonde in the role.

Commenting on the appointment, Minister O'Sullivan stated: "I am delighted that Richard Langford will be the new Chairperson of Waterford Institute of Technology. Richard has dedicated his professional life to education and his experience and skills will be of great benefit to WIT."

Born and reared in Waterford City, Mr Langford was educated at De La Salle College. He himself is no stranger to education nor the Institute itself having been Principal of Waterford RTC for four years following its establishment in 1970.

He is a qualified teacher and former principal, he has previously held the position of CEO at Waterford City VEC and went on to occupy the same brief for the VEC in Cork City for 27 years.

When the first Governing Body of the NIHE (later University of Limerick) was established in 1975, Mr Langford was appointed to that body. He has also served as Chairman of the NQAI, of the Education Finance Board and has been Chair of the State Examinations Commission since 2006.

Said Mr Langford commented: "I look forward to working with colleagues on the Governing Body and the President and staff in further advancing the wonderful work of the Institute over many years in providing high class opportunities for students together with an outstanding research record and in contributing to the economic growth of the south east."

WIT President Dr Ruaidhrí Neavyn also welcomed the appointment, stating: "We would very much like to welcome Dick back to the Institute after so many years.

"WIT, or Waterford RTC as it was in Dick's time, was a pioneer in higher education delivery and the Institute has continued that tradition in the intervening 45 years.

"With Dick's guidance, WIT will build on its reputation as a leader in higher education and work towards the provision of a university of international standing for the South East."