

Jeane Freeman named honorary professor

Queen Margaret University has named former Health Secretary, Jeane Freeman, OBE, as an honorary professor.

Professor Freeman stepped down at the 2021 election. During her career she worked as a senior civil servant before becoming an MSP I 2016. She established social enterprise Apex Scotland to work with employers and ex-offenders, chaired the Golden Jubilee Foundation and was a member of the Parole Board and the Judicial Appointments Board. She was awarded an OBE in 1996 for her work in the rehabilitation of offenders.

Professor Fiona Coutts, Dean of the School of Health Sciences at QMU, said: "The pandemic has brought the critical role of health practice into sharp focus locally, nationally and globally. QMU is already a leader and pioneer in this field of education, and the appointment of Jeane Freeman as honorary professor, an inspiring female leader with key public health experience, is going to bring huge benefits to our education, research and student community."

Sir Paul Grice, Vice Chancellor and Principal of QMU, was former clerk and chief executive of the Scottish Parliament [from 1999 to 2019](#). He said: "I am absolutely delighted that Jeane has been made an honorary professor by our School of Health Sciences. She brings a rare combination of knowledge, experience and leadership and I am looking forward very much to working with her at Queen Margaret University."

Professor Jeane Freeman said: “This appointment is a real honour. I share QMU’s vision for a fairer and healthier society, and these are values that have driven my own career. The University was founded by two women of real influence who campaigned for improved career opportunities for women who were at that point excluded from higher and technical education. QMU continues to promote female leadership to this day, and it will be my privilege to contribute to that work, particularly in the field of health.”

The School of Health Sciences at QMU offers the largest range of professional health pre-registration programmes of any university in Scotland and is ranked in the top 20 of UK universities for subjects allied to medicine in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2022. The School leads the way in ‘person-centred’ approaches to health that have been led by the Division of Nursing and The Centre for Person-centred Practice Research. Person-centred nursing at QMU is internationally recognised, and has achieved significant outcomes including 100% student satisfaction for the past three years.



Jeane Freeman, OBE