

PRESS RELEASE.....

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER APPOINTS NEW CHANCELLOR

Floella Benjamin OBE, Hon D.Litt (Exeter) is to be the University of Exeter's new Chancellor

Said Floella: "It's a great honour to be appointed Chancellor of the University of Exeter. I have always tried throughout my career to make a difference to the lives of young people. That is my mission and passion, so the chance to become closely involved with a major university is a wonderful opportunity to continue that work."

Floella Benjamin is only the fifth Chancellor to be appointed by the University of Exeter since it was created in 1955. She succeeds Lord Alexander of Weedon, a leading barrister, who sadly died in November last year. The Chancellor is the ceremonial head of the University, presides over degree ceremonies and acts as an adviser and mentor.

Exeter's Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Smith said: "We're delighted that Floella has accepted this role. She has a close association with Exeter. Her son was a student here and she is also an honorary graduate. We have all been deeply impressed by Floella's commitment to helping young people reach their full potential and in helping them to see life from others' perspective. That's what we're here for as well, so we are looking forward to a successful partnership."