

Press Release

Peter McCullough becomes Lay Canon (History) at St Paul's

London (21/09/10):

Peter McCullough, currently Tutorial Fellow in English at Lincoln College, Oxford, and Lecturer in the University's Faculty of English, is to be Lay Canon (History) of St Paul's Cathedral.

St Paul's is run by the Dean and Chapter which includes Residentiary and Lay Canons with various portfolios. They represent the whole working life of one of the world's best known cathedral churches. Lay Canons at St Paul's Cathedral play a full part in the life of the cathedral and contribute to its overall mission as a place of prayer, pilgrimage and debate.

As Lay Canon (History), Peter McCullough will have special responsibility for input on historical matters. This includes the Interpretation Project – a long term project concerned with bringing St Paul's to life for all its visitors.

Peter McCullough is a leading expert and widely published writer on the religious history of early modern England. He is also General Editor of *The Oxford Edition of the Sermons of John Donne*. This 16-volume edition, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, reassesses the greatest prose works of St Paul's Cathedral's most famous Dean. Dr McCullough is currently writing a new biography of Lancelot Andrewes for Oxford University Press. Dr McCullough has also published on religion and the early modern book trade that was centred in St Paul's Churchyard.

Dr McCullough is also Head Server at St Mary Magdalen, Oxford and has been an invited lay preacher at several Oxford and Cambridge colleges.

The Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, Rt. Revd Graeme Knowles said:

We are delighted to welcome Peter McCullough to the Chapter. He brings a wealth of experience from his professional vocation which will enrich our corporate life hugely."

Peter McCullough said:

"It is a tremendous honour to join the Chapter of St Paul's. Few institutions have such an unbroken history at the heart of both London and the nation. Although epitomised now by Wren's masterwork, St Paul's past and present has always been about more than any single building. It will be at once humbling and thrilling to help convey, for visitors and worshippers alike, the many aspects of the cathedral's life through the centuries."

Peter McCullough will be installed as Lay Canon (History) of St Paul's Cathedral in early November.

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For more information please contact Hannah Talbot, Press & Communications Officer on 0207 246 8321 or hannah@stpaulscathedral.org.uk

Note to editors:

- St Paul's is the cathedral church of the diocese of London, which it has served for over 1,400 years. The current building has become a potent symbol of the life of a nation and is one of the world's most beautiful buildings. Designed by Sir Christopher Wren in the late seventeenth century, its stones have absorbed the hopes, fears, sorrows and joys of generations and stand as an enduring symbol of our communion with those gone before and those still to come. Each year nearly two million people flock to the cathedral for services, concerts, debates, educational events, performing arts and sightseeing. All are most welcome.