

PRESS RELEASE

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Institute of Business Ethics appoints new trustees

“The legacy of the financial crisis, corporate scandals, rapid technological change and perceptions of a disconnect between the interests of business and society are creating a challenging environment for companies. IBE’s ability to spread best practice, to be an advocate for ethical business practice and to provide practical advice is needed more than ever,” says Edward Bickham, Chairman of the IBE.

Three new trustees have been appointed to join the Board of the Institute of Business Ethics.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the IBE abides by its charitable aims, works within the law and delivers its mission effectively. The Trustees are led by the Chair – Edward Bickham. They serve three-year terms which may be renewed up to two times. The IBE is managed by the Director who reports to the Chairman of the Trustees.

The appointments replace recent retirees as well as augmenting the skills and experience of the Trustee board.

- **Cristina Cortes - Canning House, Chief Operating Officer**
- **Chris Cowton - Huddersfield Business School, Professor of Financial Ethics**
- **Mike Tuffrey - Corporate Citizenship Company, founding Director**

Edward Bickham said: *“Our 30th Anniversary survey urged us to be more vocal, cutting-edge and pro-active. To that end, the IBE is embarked on an ambitious programme for the coming years.. The legacy of the financial crisis, corporate scandals, rapid technological change and perceptions of a disconnect between the interests of business and society are creating a challenging environment for companies. I look forward to working with the new and existing trustees in carrying forward our mission.”*

More information about the IBE board of trustees and governance can be found on our website <http://www.ibe.org.uk/trustees/84/54>

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EDITORS' NOTES

The **Institute of Business Ethics (IBE)**, whose purpose is to promote high standards of business behaviour based on ethical values, is an important partner to any business wanting to preserve its long-term reputation by doing business in the right way.

For over 30 years, the IBE has advised organisations on how to strengthen their ethical culture by sharing knowledge and good practice, resulting in relationships with employees and stakeholders that are based on trust.

The IBE is a registered charity funded by corporate and individual subscriptions.

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Biographies



Cristina Cortes

An Oxford and LSE graduate, Cristina initially joined the Department of Trade and Industry, where she ran a Minister's private office before migrating to the private sector - first working in banking and subsequently in oil and gas.

Her career as Commercial Director with BP included international business development, acquisitions and divestments, joint venture management, government relations, and commercial negotiations with a wide range of businesses and governments.

As Strategy Director for BP's ethics and compliance function, she was responsible for the development and implementation of the company's first Code of Conduct for 100,000 staff.

As Chief Operating Officer at Canning House - the UK's leading forum for promoting bilateral relations between the UK, Latin America and Iberia - she has full operational responsibility for strategy, corporate and diplomatic relations, events, financial management, and ethics & compliance.

Of Anglo-Brazilian descent, Cristina speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese and has lived and worked in Europe, the USA and extensively in Latin America.



Chris Cowton

Chris Cowton is Professor of Financial Ethics at University of Huddersfield, a role he assumed on stepping down as Dean at the end of September 2016. At that point, he was the longest-serving Dean of a UK business school, having taken on the role in February 2008, after 12 years as Professor of Accounting at the University. During the period of his leadership, the School doubled its turnover, significantly built its

research profile with a successful submission to REF2014, increased its international activities – winning a Queen’s Award for Enterprise (International Trade) - and strengthened its links with the business world, all aided by a £17m state-of-the-art building, opened in 2010.

Chris has published extensively and is frequently invited to speak to academic and practitioner communities on business ethics, governance and research methods. He is internationally recognised for his contributions to business ethics, especially his pioneering work on financial ethics. In 2013 he was awarded the University of Huddersfield’s first DLitt (Doctor of Letters, a higher doctorate) in recognition of his original and significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge in business and financial ethics.

From 1998 to 2001 he was Chair of EBEN-UK, the UK Association of the European Business Ethics Network, and he chaired the 13th Annual Conference of the European Business Ethics Network in Cambridge in 2000. He was selected to give the P.D. Leake Lecture at Chartered Accountants' Hall, London in May 2007, and for a decade he was Editor of the quarterly international journal *Business Ethics: A European Review*, published by Wiley-Blackwell. He has been a member of the Ethics Standards Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales since 2009.



Mike Tuffrey

A chartered accountant by profession, Mike’s career has covered all three sectors, private, public and voluntary.

In business, Mike is co-founder of Corporate Citizenship, an international management consultancy specialising in sustainability and corporate responsibility, where he advises clients on sustainable business strategies. He began his career as a trainee at KPMG, having graduated from Durham University with an economics degree.

In public service, Mike has been local councillor and council leader, and served for a decade on the London Assembly where he was appointed by Mayors Livingstone and Johnson to the London Sustainable Development Commission.

Currently he is treasurer of the New Economic Foundation and chair of The Restart Project, a social enterprise helping people take action to reduce electronic waste. Previously he worked as director of a national charity, Action Resource Centre, now part of Business in the Community. Mike blogs regularly at miketuffrey.com