

PRESS RELEASE



ELECTION OF NEW PRESIDENT

Sir Tom McKillop has been elected to be the new President of the Science Council and will take up the appointment in January 2007 following the retirement of founding President, Sir Gareth Roberts.

Sir Tom will lead the Science Council as it moves forward with its activities to support science professionals, influence science policy and promote science as a career. He will bring to the Science Council a wealth of experience in industry and strong links across a broad range of scientific disciplines.

Professor Sir Gareth Roberts welcomed the appointment: *"I am truly delighted to be passing the baton to someone whose leadership in UK science is so impressive. Sir Tom will bring to the Science Council strong links with industry and government and a broad perspective of priorities in UK science."*

Tom McKillop said he was looking forward to taking forward Gareth Roberts' vision of achieving added value for science by providing a mechanism for the different disciplines and professions within science to work together.

Quote from Sir Tom: "The scientific community owe a great deal of gratitude to Gareth Roberts for his leadership in establishing the Science Council. I am excited at the prospect of furthering the role of scientists in society, promoting high standards of professionalism as well as encouraging more young people to pursue a science career. Investment in science is high on the Government agenda and by bringing together such a wide range of science organisations the Science Council can play a pivotal role."

NOTE TO EDITORS

The Science Council

The Science Council brings together 30 organisations across the breadth of science and its applications. Having received its Royal Charter in 2003, the Council is now moving forward with a range of projects and initiatives that will develop its role in science policy, benchmark standards for the profession, and promote science and its applications. Key areas of work for the next three years will be to influence science policy, the development and promotion of the Chartered Scientist and Chartered Science Teacher designations, strengthening and supporting science education and science skills in the UK and furthering the contribution of science and technology in sustainable development.

Sir Tom McKillop

Sir Tom McKillop PhD FRS FRSE chairs the Treasury Science Forum and is chairman of the Board at Royal Bank of Scotland and Pro-Chancellor of the University of Leicester. He was formerly chief executive of AstraZeneca PLC, president of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations, and chairman of the British Pharma Group.

For further information contact:

Diana Gamham, Chief Executive

Science Council, 210 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE www.sciencecouncil.org

Tel: 020 7611 8754 Mob: 07768 055853