

New Coventry University chancellor is black female trailblazer Margaret Casely-Hayford



Margaret Caseley-Hayford

Correspondent

17th Jul, 2017

Updated: 17th Jul, 2017

MARGARET Casely-Hayford has been named the first female chancellor of Coventry University.

The university is emphasising she was also the UK's 'first black woman to be made a partner at a city law firm'.

She is chair of international development charity Action Aid UK, a Co-op board member and co-manages rap artist Kelvyn Colt.

She takes over the ambassadorial role at Coventry University from Sir John Egan, former BAA and Jaguar Land Rover CEO, following his 10 years in the post.

Ms Casely-Hayford studied Law at Somerville College, Oxford University, and was called to the Bar in 1983.

She joined Denton Hall Law Firm (now SNR Denton) four years later to specialise in planning law, and in 1998 was made partner – a first for a black woman.

Ms Casely-Hayford said: “Coventry is an energetic university which dares to be different and where social mobility and inclusion complement a truly entrepreneurial spirit.

“It shares my commitment to equality of opportunity and I will be shouting out Coventry’s message that a university can be world-class while admitting talented students from a range of backgrounds.

“Helping people reach their potential and seize opportunities is more important than ever before as today’s graduates emerge into a highly competitive global marketplace.

“I am Chair of Action Aid UK, a charity which aims to get some of the poorest people in the world out of poverty and which considers feminism as having the power to help make that happen.

“Feminism is really about creating this equality of opportunity for everyone, including young men who are underrepresented at all levels of education.

“The role that Coventry plays in raising ambition and skill levels in our communities is one step to achieving that level playing field and it is wonderful to see how staff here empower students and give them the confidence they need to succeed.

“I am thrilled to be part of such a dynamic team at a time when we are bursting onto the world stage.”

Professor John Latham, vice-chancellor of Coventry, said: “Margaret’s passion for the responsibilities of universities in their communities as well as her business experience will make her an inspiration for current and future students here at Coventry.

“She will be a champion for social mobility in education and in the global workplace at the same time as she advocates Coventry’s own social and economic impact and we are very proud to have her with us.”

She was director of legal services at John Lewis Partnership from 2006 to 2014, and was a non-executive director of NHS England.

A Freeman of the City of London she serves on the Metropolitan Police Oversight Panel to investigate corruption and spent eight years as a government appointed trustee of Great Ormond St Children’s Hospital Charity.

In 2008 The Black Power List named the Casely-Hayfords the most influential black family in the UK and in 2014 she was named Black British Business Person of the Year.

Support community journalism by making a contribution

The Coventry Observer's team of journalists provide a trusted source of news, sport, entertainment and events going on in your area and issues which matter to you - both via our free weekly print edition and daily updates on our website.

Every contribution, however big or small, you can make will help us continue to do that now and in the future.

Support Us

Are you on Facebook?

Like or follow our Facebook page - [f facebook.com/CovObserver](https://facebook.com/CovObserver) to get daily news updates straight to your news feed.

Coventry University

Margaret Caseley-Hayford

ADVERTISEMENT

3,150 likes



Like Page

Contact Us

02476 011 777 • www.coventryobserver.co.uk

Submit Your

NEWS

Stories, Photos & Videos

ADVERTISEMENT

Popular News



1 week ago

Police appeal as woman is sexually assaulted in Nuneaton in the early hours of this morning



1 week ago

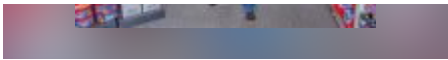
Two injured as car overturns after crash in Nuneaton



7 days ago

Check out the Coventry shop which now has the first ever 'Smart Soda' machine in Europe

Privacy



2 weeks ago

PICTURE SPECIAL – 27,000-strong Coventry crowd wowed by World Record-breaking dramatic drone show



5 days ago

World Naked Bike Ride to return to Coventry after last year's successful inaugural outing

ADVERTISEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weddings, Birthdays, Bereavements, Thank you notices, Marriages and more.

PRINTING

We can provide all of your printing needs at competitive rates.

BUY PHOTOS

Buy photos online from the Coventry Observer newspaper.

RECRUITMENT

Find a career you'll love with our free career finder website.



The Coventry Observer is one of a group of local weekly newspapers spanning Worcestershire, Warwickshire and the West Midlands published by Bullivant Media - each newspaper providing all the latest local news, sport and advertising, in print and 24/7 on line.

