

The Körber European Science Prize

Search Committee Physical Sciences

Prof. Dr. Sir John O'Reilly (Chairman)

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Photo: private

Professor Sir John O'Reilly graduated from Brunel University with first class honours in Electrical Engineering, subsequently obtaining his PhD from the University of Essex. He was awarded the 'higher doctorate' degree of DSc by Brunel in 1991. Sir John O'Reilly, a Chartered Engineer (CEng) and a Chartered Scientist (CSci), has held academic posts at the University of Essex, the University of Wales, Bangor, and University College London. Widely published, with over 350 research papers and three books, he was awarded the J J Thomson Medal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) for 'distinguished contributions to electronic engineering' in 2003. A former President of the IEE, he is a Fellow of the IEE/IET, the Institute of Physics and the Royal Aeronautical Society. In industry he has held research positions with the Royal Radar Establishment, Ultra Electronics Ltd and the Post Office Research Centre/BT Research Laboratories, is a Former Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of IDB Ltd and non-executive Chairman on CAST Ltd and is currently Chairman of NICC (Standards) Ltd and a Director of the ERA Foundation Ltd. Prior to joining Cranfield University as Vice Chancellor in 2006 he served for 5 years as the Chief Executive of the UK's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

A Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and of the Learned Society of Wales, International Fellow of the Académie Hassan II des Sciences et Techniques and also of the Academia das Ciências de Lisbon, he holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Essex, is a Fellow of the University of Wales, Bangor, an honorary Fellow of UCL and an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers. He was awarded a knighthood for contributions to science in the 2007 New Year Honours list.