

TED^x Eindhoven

x = independently organized TED event



LIVE!

Nov 08, 2017 10:07 GMT

Northumbria Professor leads design debate

Northumbria University's Pro Vice-Chancellor (Business and Enterprise) [Professor Steven Kyffin](#) has been invited to give the opening talk at [TEDx Eindhoven](#), a prestigious technology and design conference in The Netherlands.

The event will focus on ideas which have changed the course of history, through the theme of Lightbulb Moments, with a variety of speakers including artists, academics and industry experts.

Professor Kyffin will open the event on Friday with a talk focusing on the power of design and industry to transform society and instigate change, specifically through the context of the future of higher education.

Joining Northumbria University in 2010, Professor Kyffin has strong links with Eindhoven, having worked for Royal Philips Electronics from 1998. The company was founded in the city in 1891 and during his time there, Professor Kyffin led the company's world-wide design research programme as Senior Director of Design Research and Innovation.

He also previously held the role of Director of the Industrial Design Department at the Royal College of Art in London, and joined Northumbria as Dean of Northumbria's School of Design, before becoming Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences in 2012 and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Business and Enterprise) in 2016.

He said: "To be invited to speak at a TEDx event is a huge privilege, especially one that takes place in my 'home' city. During my career I've worked in private consultancy, industry and academia and hope to share what I've learnt in that time and how I believe innovation and design needs to adapt in the future in order to lead in responding to the changing needs of society."

During his talk, Professor Kyffin will also discuss the role of universities as places to test new ideas in relation to design – a view he developed and continues to drive since his time at the Royal College of Art.

He added: "Universities play a key role in providing new research, data, and approaches, which will enable those working within the design profession to respond to the opportunities offered by new technologies and ideas.

"It is vital that Universities re-establish their place as a testing ground to trial new perspectives and approaches, something we are doing here at Northumbria in a variety of ways."

TEDx events are based on the well-known TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) talks, but planned and held independently in locations all over the world. They feature a variety of speakers and videos, with the aim of sparking discussion and connection.

TEDxEindhoven 2017 will be streamed live, allowing thousands of people from across the world to hear the speakers and join in with the debate.

Professor Kyffin continues to maintain links with Eindhoven and chairs the Industrial design Faculty's International Advisory Board at Eindhoven University of Technology. Earlier this year he was awarded the prestigious 'Support Inspire, Achieve' Award by the Institution of Engineering Designers (IED) in recognition of his work encompassing academic learning, research and industrial practice; in particular, his decision to commit to contributing to the leadership of the design discipline from within the academic context.

Northumbria's design programmes, ranked 9th in the UK in the 2018 Guardian University League Table, are delivered internationally, with partnerships including the BINUS-Northumbria School of Design in Indonesia and the Academy of Design in Sri Lanka. Partners include household names such as Unilever, Procter and Gamble, Abercrombie & Fitch, Microsoft, Mars, Dunhill, Mulberry, Samsung, Phillips, Nike and Intel.

Find out more about the [Northumbria School of Design here](#) or come along to a [Northumbria University open day](#).

Northumbria is a research-rich, business-focused, professional university with a global reputation for academic excellence. To find out more about our courses go to www.northumbria.ac.uk

If you have a media enquiry please contact our Media and Communications team at media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk or call 0191 227 4604.

Contacts



Rik Kendall

Press Contact

PR and Media Manager

Business and Law / Arts, Design & Social Sciences

rik.kendall@northumbria.ac.uk

07923 382339



Andrea Slowey

Press Contact

PR and Media Manager

Engineering and Environment / Health and Life Sciences

andrea.slowey@northumbria.ac.uk

07708 509436



Rachael Barwick

Press Contact

PR and Media Manager

rachael.barwick@northumbria.ac.uk

07377422415



James Fox

Press Contact

Student Communications Manager

james2.fox@northumbria.ac.uk



Kelly Elliott

Press Contact

PR and Media Officer

kelly2.elliott@northumbria.ac.uk



Gemma Brown

Press Contact

PR and Media Officer

gemma6.brown@northumbria.ac.uk