

A thank you to an excellent Chair

At the last meeting of the CIEA Trustees in July, Simon Sharp's tenure as Chair of the CIEA came to an end. Simon held the position for six years during which time he provided leadership and direction for the CIEA in his wise and understated manner.

Simon has a wealth of experience across many forms of educational assessment having held senior positions at the Oxford, Cambridge and RSA (OCR) awarding body, the National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ) and the Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency (QCDA). In fact, it could be claimed that Simon holds quite a unique portfolio of expertise and experience.

But these experiences alone do not define Simon. I have had the honour and privilege to work with Simon over more years than he would care to remember, and what has always struck me is his highly professional and collegiate approach to work. Don't get me wrong, Simon has no fear whatsoever of offering or taking on challenge, but he is also a tremendous source of solutions. He has an acute grasp of responsibility and a total commitment to the highest standards of ethics and governance. His manner is open and highly supportive and in short, he is a great person to work with: it is my absolute privilege to count Simon not only as a colleague but also as a friend.

Simon has made a tremendous contribution to the CIEA going back even longer than his term of office giving his time and expertise so freely. He has left the CIEA in a better place than when he first took up the position of Chair which is the best anyone can expect, and I know he is highly regarded by the Board of Trustees. Fortunately, Simon is a Fellow of the CIEA, and he will continue to support the organisation going forward, albeit from a different position.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to offer our sincere thanks to Simon for all he has done, and we very much look forward to his continued relationship with the CIEA.