

Universities UK chief is new Royal Society of Biology president

11 May 2017 | News

Goodfellow was the first woman both to head a UK research council - as chief executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) - and to assume the presidency of Universities UK.



Universities UK head Dame Julia Goodfellow has been appointed the new president of the Royal Society of Biology. The third of the RSB's all-female heads, Goodfellow was the first woman both to head a UK research council - as chief executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) - and to assume the presidency of Universities UK.

After completing her PhD in biophysics at the Open University research unit, Professor Goodfellow became professor of biomolecular science at Birkbeck College and later Vice-Master and head of the School of Crystallography.

She also chaired the British Science Association from 2009 until 2014, and was appointed to the Science and Technology Facilities Council and the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Technology in 2011. Additionally, she is the present vice chancellor of Kent University.

The new president paid tribute to her predecessor whose time in office saw the award of a Royal title for the society and a period of major membership growth.