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Media release

New Chair for CMS

Professor Sir Adrian Smith FRS, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London is to be the new Chair of the Council for the Mathematical Sciences (CMS). It is anticipated that he will take up the post in September 2013, succeeding Professor Frank Kelly CBE FRS (University of Cambridge).

Professor Sir Adrian Smith said, 'The CMS plays an important role in representing the views of the UK mathematics community on issues of national importance. I am delighted to have the opportunity to contribute to this work.'

In approaching Sir Adrian, the five CMS societies recognised the contribution that he had made to science, in particular the mathematical sciences, during his time in the university sector and Westminster, and that his appointment would be of huge benefit to the mathematical sciences community. Over the past three years, under the leadership of Professor Frank Kelly, the CMS has become the body recognised by government as representing mathematical sciences and with which national policymakers now regularly engage. CMS speaks with one clear voice on issues affecting the current and future health of the discipline and with Sir Adrian at its head will continue to build on recent success to meet the challenges of the future. The five CMS societies are delighted that he has accepted the role.

Sir Adrian has a wealth of experience both in higher education and government. He was Chair of Statistics and Head of the Department of Mathematics at Imperial College London, and also Professor of Statistics and Head of the Department of Mathematics at Nottingham University. He was Principal of Queen Mary, University of London for 10 years – during this time he was also Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of London. Sir Adrian joined the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (later to become the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills) in 2008 as Director General, Science and Research, becoming Director General, Knowledge and Innovation in 2010. He became Vice-Chancellor of the University of London in September 2012.

Sir Adrian is also a past President of the Royal Statistical Society; he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2001 and received his knighthood in 2011.

Professor Frank Kelly CBE, FRS and Chair of CMS said, 'Sir Adrian Smith's work on Bayesian methods has influenced developments across a wide range of the mathematical sciences, and he has deep experience of the workings of government. I and the five Societies are very pleased indeed to welcome Sir Adrian as the next Chair of CMS'.

Notes for editors

1. The **Council for the Mathematical Sciences** (CMS) provides an authoritative and objective body that exists to develop, influence and respond to UK policy issues that affect the mathematical sciences in higher education and research, and therefore the UK economy and society in general. The CMS was established in 2001 by the Institute of Mathematics and its applications (IMA), the London Mathematical Society (LMS) and the Royal Statistical Society (RSS). In 2008 the Edinburgh Mathematical Society (EMS) and the Operational Research Society (ORS) became members of the CMS, providing the CMS with a broader view across mathematical sciences and throughout the UK.

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