

Sustainable Innovation 2021

Accelerating Sustainability in Fashion, Clothing, Sportswear & Accessories

23rd International Conference

Online Conference: 15th-16th March 2021

University for the Creative Arts

Epsom, Surrey, UK

www.cfsd.org.uk



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Dr Wheeler is Co-Founder and Principal at Sustainable Transitions, an educational and sustainability advisory service firm based in Costa Rica. He is an internationally experienced academic and business person with more than three decades of senior executive level involvement in change management and sustainable business practice, research and teaching. As the longest serving member of the Executive Management group at The Body Shop International he oversaw all of that organisation's pioneering sustainability and organisational development practices throughout the 1990s. In the last ten years, David has focused much of his advisory work in the fields of higher education policy and energy policy, and was responsible for the establishment of two independent provincial energy efficiency agencies in Canada. David is on the Environmental and Social Advisory Council of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Sustainability Advisory Council for Export Development Canada.

David Wheeler's most recent academic posts were President and Vice-Chancellor Cape Breton University, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Sustainability) and Executive Dean of Business at the University of Plymouth, UK, Dean of Management, Dalhousie University, Canada and Director and Erivan K Haub Professor in Business and Sustainability at the Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada. During David's tenure, York University was regularly ranked in the top few schools worldwide for its integration of sustainability issues into the business curriculum. In 2010 Dalhousie University Business School was judged by CEO Europe the most innovative in Canada for changes made under David's leadership. Between 2010 and 2013 the University of Plymouth consistently ranked as one of the top Green Universities in the UK. In 2012 the Plymouth Business School was shortlisted for Business School of the Year by Times Higher Education. In 2016 Cape Breton University became the world's first 'carbon neutral' university.

David is currently a Visiting Professor at the University for the Creative Arts (UK), Universidad para la Paz (Costa Rica), the University of Alberta (Canada) and York University (Canada).