



Speaker Biographies

Kevin Butler

South West Regional Director, Bank of England

Kevin has worked for the Bank of England since leaving Oxford University in 1977. During this long "stretch", he has done a variety of jobs – including economic reporting, bank supervision and working as a management trainer. The majority of his career has been spent in Threadneedle Street, including his last role as head of the Bank's Audit and Risk team. He was also seconded to Barclays in the mid 90s.

For two extended spells he has worked outside London: First, as the Bank's Agent in the Midlands, between 1990 and 1995; second, as the Agent in the South West from 2003 to date.

Kevin's small team in the South West, like the 11 other Bank Agencies across the UK, has a continuous dialogue with the business community and reports monthly on current business conditions to the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee. The Committee uses this information to help reach the monthly decision on UK interest rates in order to keep consumer price inflation to the 2% target set by the Chancellor. Kevin also speaks regularly to business and other audiences about the work of the MPC and the Bank's projections for the economy and inflation.

Juliet Williams

Chair of the South West Regional Development Agency

Juliet Williams is chairman of the South West RDA, the South West Regional Skills Partnership and the national forum of RSPs. She is a member of the Boards of VisitBritain and of the Academy for Sustainable Communities and DBERR's Industrial Development Advisory Board.

Juliet is a graduate of London and Cambridge universities, a qualified teacher and spent her early career in publishing. She became editor of The Geographical Magazine before spending seventeen years as chief executive of high growth companies in the creative industries where she grew 'one of the 100 best companies to work for in the UK'. She is a specialist in the management of change in organisational behaviour and the matching of business culture to customer expectation. Juliet teaches Workplace Marketing™ to MBA students at universities in the UK and US, is visiting professor at Northwestern University USA and holds an honorary doctorate from Oxford Brookes University.

Juliet takes the lead role in relations with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on behalf of all of England's RDAs and has been instrumental in gaining national, regional and local authority commitment to the achievement of economies of scale in the management and marketing of tourism in England.

Colin Molton

South West Regional Director, Homes and Communities Agency

Colin Molton joined the Homes and Communities Agency as Regional Director for the South West on 1 December, 2008. He leads a team of around 50 professional staff responsible for overseeing the delivery of the Agency's substantial programme of investment in Housing and Regeneration within the region, including the National affordable Housing Programme; First Time Buyer Initiative; Decent Homes; reuse of Surplus Public Sector Land and a major programme of investment linked to regeneration and place-making. The South West Regional team also lead the Agency's work on rural housing issues.

Colin Molton was previously Deputy Chief Executive for the South West Regional Development Agency, where he was responsible for the delivery of the Agency's substantial programme of urban and rural regeneration throughout the region, as well as advising on regional planning and transportation issues. He was also a Board member for both the Plymouth City Development Company and Camborne, Pool Redruth Urban Regeneration Company.

A Chartered Surveyor by profession, Colin has spent his career in economic development and regeneration, at Hampshire County Council, Bradford City Council and Leeds Development Corporation. In 1995, Colin joined English Partnerships - Midlands region, and whilst Head of Regeneration for the West Midlands, helped establish the RDA for the West Midlands, Advantage West Midlands, before moving to the South West in 1999.

Steve Smith

Vice-Chancellor, University of Exeter

Steve Smith is Vice-Chancellor at the University of Exeter, a post he took up on October 2002. From August 2006 he has been Chair of the 1994 Group of research-intensive universities in the UK, and from August 2007 he has been Chair of the England and Northern Ireland Council, and Vice-President of Universities UK. He is on the Board of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), is Chair of the Higher Education Funding Council for England's (HEFCE) review of TRAC, and a member of the UUK Post Qualifications Admissions Delivery Partnership. He is a member of the Science and Industry Council of the South-West, and Chair of the Steering Group of Combined Universities in Cornwall. From 2004-2006 he was Chair of the Higher Education Regional Development Association for the South West. He serves on the Board of Governors of the S.Rajaratman School of International Studies in Singapore. In July 2007 he was appointed to the government's National Council for Educational Excellence (NCEE), and asked by the Prime Minister to advise on how best to involve universities in the process of school improvement. He presented a final report for government consideration in July 2008, and will chair the group overseeing its implementation over the coming year.

He obtained his BSc, MSc and PhD degrees from the University of Southampton (1973, 1974 and 1978). From 1992-2002 he was at the University of Wales Aberystwyth as Professor of International Politics, serving between 1995-1999 as Head of Department, and from 1999-2002 as Senior Pro Vice Chancellor. He was previously Professor of International Relations at the University of East Anglia, and has also taught at the State University of New York (Albany), and Huddersfield Polytechnic. He was President of the International Studies Association for 2003-2004, only the second British scholar to be so honoured. From 1995-2000 he was a member of the New York-based SSRC/MacArthur Committee on International Peace and Security. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the British International Studies Association from 1980 to 2005. He was elected to be an Academician of the Social Sciences (ACSS) in 2000, and awarded an Honorary DSc by the University of Southampton in 2005, and made an Honorary Professor by Jilin University in China in 2007. He is the author/editor of 15 books, most recently (edited with John Baylis and Patricia Owens) *The Globalization of World Politics* (4th edition, Oxford University Press, 2008), (edited with Tim Dunne and Amelia Hadfield) *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases* (Oxford University Press, 2008) and (edited with Tim Dunne and Milja Kurki) *International Relations Theories* (Oxford University Press, 2007). He has written over 100 academic papers and chapters in major international journals and edited collections, and for twenty years was founding editor of the leading book series in his discipline for Cambridge University Press. His main academic interests have been foreign policy analysis, the theory of international politics, international security, and the impact of globalization on political and economic life.