

Professor Heather Loveday is the newly appointed President of the Infection Prevention Society

Professor Heather Loveday became President of the Infection Prevention Society (IPS) on 1 October 2014, taking over from Julie Storr who completed her two-year term of office.

Heather said *"I am looking forward to leading the Society into new areas building on the valuable work done by my predecessors. I will ensure that the IPS continues to lead and influence an agenda that works towards the IPS vision that no person is harmed by a preventable infection."*

Heather has been a member of the Society since 1998 and prior to being elected Vice-President in 2012 she held a number of positions on the IPS Board to including Editor of the Journal of Infection Prevention, Research and Development Coordinator and Higher Education advisor to the Education Committee. As member of the IPS board and a trustee of the charity she has been a part of the team that has lead and shaped the Society since its transition from the ICNA in 2007.

Heather's leadership skills have been developed throughout her impressive career. She is currently Director of Research and Professor of Evidence Based Healthcare at the College of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare at the University of West London. She is a registered nurse and nurse teacher with a passion for influencing and developing practice in infection prevention and control through research, innovation and improvement science and building research capability and capacity within the Society and clinical practice. Heather has been at the forefront of translational research for the past 15 years as a Principal Investigator for the development and implementation of the Epic National Evidence based Guidelines for the Prevention of Healthcare associated Infections and a number of nationally funded primary research projects.

During her leadership of the IPS Board over the next two years Heather intends to work with colleagues to continue the development of the Society as the foremost infection prevention organisation in the UK and Ireland. One of her aims is to champion an increased focus on the generation and synthesis of research as an essential competency for professionals who work in the field of infection prevention and promote a culture of dissemination that raises the profile of IPC research, implementation and practice innovation with colleagues and the wider healthcare community. The current Ebola crisis also strengthens her resolve to explore how the IPS is can help colleagues, who work in less favourable financial and clinical environments, to access IPS resources and improve patient care internationally.

More information about the Society can be found on the IPS website www.ips.uk.net or email ips@fitwise.co.uk. To view current projects view the IPS Video: <http://bit.ly/OneIPVideo>

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For more information about the Infection Prevention Society visit: www.ips.uk.net