

Paul Rolph

Profile

Paul Rolph spent 10 years as a science teacher in deprived areas of London until he went into higher education where he spent 30 years as a full-time academic in initial and in-service teacher education. He began as a senior lecturer in science education; moved on to a principal lecturership in curriculum studies, then to head of continuous professional development and deputy dean of education. These roles gave him responsibility for a range of postgraduate degrees for serving teachers, ministers of religion, social workers and other professionals. Paul has had long experience as an external examiner in higher education. Paul retired from full time employment (after 40 years) in 1998 and then took up a part-time post as a county ecumenical officer. He was also employed, until recently, by the University of Bangor to supervise ministers of religion and pastors reading for a postgraduate degree. Paul's first degree is in botany, zoology and chemistry (University of London). He also has a masters degree and a doctorate in education (University of Bath).

Paul is married to Jenny, a social psychologist, with many years of teaching experience in higher education. They have one married son and three married daughters and twelve grandchildren.

Research interests

Paul's research interests centre on furthering an understanding of schools and churches using quantitative and qualitative research methods. Paul has a particular interest in drawing on his scientific background to develop empirical methods in the study of educational and church institutions. Paul is actively engaged in the following areas:

- Christian values and their contribution to teaching, teacher education and the distinctiveness of church schools.
- Well-being and work-related psychological health
- Issues facing churches and church schools in rural settings
- Mission as interpreted in today's church
- Local, national and global ecumenism
- Education and disadvantage.

Publications

Rolph, P and Rolph, J, (2008), Perceptions of stress on those in rural ministry: listening to church leaders, *Rural Theology* 6(1), 55-63. **(Abstract available)**

Rolph, P. (2009), *Dialogues between Evangelical and Orthodox Christians between 2000 and 2007 at the World Council of Churches*, Geneva, World Council of Churches.

In press

Charlton, R., Rolph, J., Francis, L.J., Rolph, P. and Robbins, M. Clergy work-related psychological health: listening to the ministers of word and sacrament within the United Reformed Church in England, *Pastoral Psychology*, ISSN 0031 2789.

Francis, L.J., Robbins, M., Rolph, J. Turton, D. and Rolph, P. The relationship between recalled self-esteem as a child and current levels of professional burnout among Anglican clergy in England, *Pastoral Psychology*.

Rolph, J., Francis, L.J., Charlton, R., Robbins, M. and Rolph, P. Women ministers of word and sacrament within the United Reformed Church: health check.

Rolph, P., Rolph, J., and Cole, J. Living the pressures of rural ministry: two case studies. *Rural Theology*.