

**Name:** Duncan Priestley

**Position:** General Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Office of the Provost

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**Dr. Duncan Priestley** joined Nazarbayev University in October 2013 as Head of Academic Quality Enhancement in the Office of the Provost. He currently holds responsibility for innovative learning, quality assurance and enhancement, institutional research, and institutional evaluation/accreditation. He also currently acts as Vice-Dean Teaching and Learning in the School of Mining and Geosciences, previously he performed duties of Vice-Dean Teaching and Learning in the School of Engineering.

His academic qualifications include a BSc (Hons) in Geology from the University of Liverpool, a Postgraduate Degree in Education and a PhD in Acoustical Oceanography from the University of Hull. After twenty years' experience in UK universities and naval academies, he spent three years in Abu Dhabi as Associate Dean of the UAE Naval Academy.

He was a founding member of the Centre for Oceanographic Research and Education at the University of Plymouth, and his scientific research focuses on the applications of acoustics in the shallow ocean. Recent studies have examined the impact of atmospheric and oceanographic variability on both sonar and radar propagation in the Arabian Gulf and Gulf of Oman. His research interests also include teaching, learning and academic quality in the international higher education context.