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*Dr. Donal McAnaney*

## **Appointment of Dr. Donal McAnaney Interim Chief Academic Officer**

PCU-WHS is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Donal Ferris McAnaney as its interim Chief Academic Officer (CAO). Dr. McAnaney brings a most distinguished background, which combines many years of academic and research history with in-depth knowledge of the broader disability environment and the often challenging Return to Work / Disability Management issues more specifically.

Dr. McAnaney gained extensive international experience as a lecturer in rehabilitation studies, educational psychology and special education across many European countries, and was responsible for the development of the first Post Graduate Qualification in Social and Vocational Rehabilitation in Europe.

As a globally recognized Rehabilitation / Disability expert and researcher, he played a key role in the development of the global Best Practice guidelines in Return to Work which were officially released by the International Social Security Association during its Doha, Qatar, World Congress in 2013.

Donal obtained his PhD in Educational Psychology from McGill University in 1991 and was also instrumental in the development and approval process for PCU-WHS's Bachelor of Disability Management.

A founding Research Chair for the International Disability Management Standards Council, responsible for oversight of professional and program standards in RTW/DM, he has led a range of diverse evidenced-based research efforts, which document and verify the significant socio-economic benefits for employers, workers and society through properly designed and collaboratively implemented Return to Work programs.

Advancing towards our next development phase where we plan to not only review and evaluate our existing programming but strategically assess potential new opportunities, we are very pleased that Donal has agreed, in conjunction with our many stakeholders generally, but specifically our Academic Council, adjunct faculty, instructors and students, to play a leading role in our ongoing efforts to build a leading edge academic and research institution driving to offer excellence in Workplace Health.

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