

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate use

February 2nd, 2015

CHRISTIAN BOOK PUBLISHER IVP (UK) ANNOUNCES CEO SET TO LEAVE

Inter-Varsity Press (UK) announced today that Brian Wilson, their current CEO, will be moving on from the company at the end of this month. The Nottingham-based book publisher expressed their sincere gratitude for Brian's dedicated service to the organisation, and confirmed they would take time to consider the ongoing strategy over the coming months.

Brian, who has served with IVP (UK) for 20 years, began work with the company as Commercial Director until 2002 at which point he was appointed Chief Executive Officer. During his tenure Brian has overseen the process of IVP (UK) becoming independent from the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF) in 2005, and laid the foundation of the distribution and events business.

David Vardy, Chair of the IVP (UK) Board says, "Brian has served the company faithfully for over 20 years and the impact of his service to this ministry will always be a significant part of the history of IVP. He has been loyal, dedicated and established a fantastic team which has produced some of the most widely read Christian books in the UK in the twentieth century. Our key aim now is to continue to build on the strong foundations he has established and to ensure the ministry of IVP continues to make a worldwide impact for the Gospel."

Brian's legacy has included overseeing the continued development of a strong publishing list, which includes *The Bible Speaks Today* series, *Tyndale Commentaries* and celebrated authors such as John Stott, Wayne Grudem, Vaughan Roberts, D.A. Carson, Amy Orr-Ewing, Tim Chester and Mark Greene.

Tricia Marnham, Vice-Chair of the IVP (UK) Board, who has been involved with the publisher for many years, says, "Christian publishing has gone through seismic turmoil over the past ten years, with reading habits changing, the emergence of ebooks, the closure of many Christian bookshops, and the inexorable rise of online retailing. These have been very challenging days in which to be in this industry. We want to thank Brian for all he has done and wish him every blessing in this next season."

Brian Wilson says – “I would like to thank IVP’s outstanding authors for allowing me to share with you in this exciting literature ministry serving God’s mission through His worldwide church. I have valued enormously partnering together with so many influential international publishers in helping to extend your ministry in the UK and around the world. It has also been such a wonderful encouragement to team up with so many committed and innovative customers sharing together in this still vital mission.

I do thank my magnificent, dedicated and enthusiastic staff colleagues at IVP; it has been one of the greatest delights of my life to serve alongside you. It is because of you I can leave behind a ministry that is now trading profitably and ahead of budget even after the massive upheaval and changes that we and this industry have experienced together over recent years.”

-Ends-

For more information, photos, interviews or comment please contact Press & Media Officer, Gareth Russell. Email: gareth@jerseyroad.co.uk. Telephone: 07967 468008.

For more information about IVP (UK) please visit: www.ivpbooks.com or follow them on @ivpbookcentre.

Notes to Editors:

Inter-Varsity Press publishes Christian books that are true to the Bible and that communicate the gospel, develop discipleship and strengthen the church for its mission in the world.

It has been publishing Christian books for over 75 years, and today supports the publishing or distribution of well over one million books each year to over 150 countries, including the translation of titles into over 90 different languages.

IVP has won numerous awards during Brian’s time as Chief Executive including Book of the Year and (five times) Publisher of the Year. IVP continues to meet the national Investors in People standard and was recently re-assessed and upgraded to the prestigious Bronze standard.

IVP continues to play a vital role in resourcing and equipping the global church for its mission so that it can address the opportunities and challenges it faces more effectively and make a greater impact in today’s world and in the lives of individuals.

IVP is closely linked with the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF), a student movement connecting Christian Unions in universities and colleges throughout Great Britain, and a member movement of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES). IVP is based in Nottingham in the United Kingdom.