

Inaugural time

Published: January 17, 2026, 6:50 am

I am giving my inaugural lecture at Sheffield University Management School this evening.

Waiting a couple of years to do so is by no means unusual. I never got around to doing one at City, and some people never bother.

Such lectures are rarely groundbreaking. Nor are they deeply technical as they are given to an audience drawn from beyond your own speciality.

In my case I am highlighting the unusual nature of my appointment, how I became an academic a little bit by chance, and why universities should engage more people with real world experience in such roles if they want to increase the impact of their work in wider society, which is the primary reason for my being at Sheffield.

The lecture will be recorded, but I doubt it will be of much interest here. I will see how it goes.

Meanwhile, this will be taking up time today so moderation may not be consistently available. Apologies.