



Don Harwin
Minister for Resources
Minister for Energy and Utilities
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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Newly appointed State Librarian & Chief Executive

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin today announced Dr John Vallance as the new State Librarian and Chief Executive.

A Cambridge scholar, Dr Vallance recently ended a seventeen year tenure as headmaster of Sydney Grammar School.

Minister Harwin said the appointment would help the State Library in its vision to be a global cultural destination for all and a world leading library that is relevant, collaborative, and accessible.

“Dr Vallance brings a wealth of knowledge and experience as a highly-regarded educator and academic to the State Library. His roles with world renowned organisations such as the National Arts School and Sydney Symphony Orchestra will build on the State Library’s proud history of success,” Mr Harwin said.

“Dr Vallance’s appointment will be an incredible asset to the State Library team and its commitment to excellence.”

Library Council President, The Honourable George Souris said “Dr Vallance brings scholastic achievement and a wealth of experience in major building programs, and in cultural growth. I expect the State Library to flourish with the benefit of this expertise.

“His leadership, independent thinking and advocacy for high-quality, internationally competitive education has been influential.”

Dr Vallance has championed Asian and Indigenous cultural knowledge in education, seeking to broaden the world view not just of students and teachers, but of a wide circle of influence. He has served as a member of the Library Council of NSW, as a Trustee of the State Library Foundation and is a Director of both the National Art School and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Dr Vallance will take up his post on 28 August 2017, replacing current Acting State Librarian Lucy Milne who will continue in the role of Deputy Chief Executive.

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