

VOICE FILE NAME: Professor Brown-video

A warm welcome to the School of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh. I am Stuart Brown. I am Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Head of the School of Divinity. You'll have noticed it's not a Scottish accent. I in fact come from Chicago. I'd like to think that I represent the international character of our staff and student body. I hope you'll seriously consider postgraduate study at the University of Edinburgh which is one of the finest research Universities in the world. You'll have an opportunity here to gain an excellent education. It will enable you to play a leading role in the world. The School of Divinity is an historic school. Divinity has been part of the University of Edinburgh since its formation in 1583. The buildings that we currently occupy were built between 1846 and 1850. They stand on the Mound in Edinburgh very near to the Edinburgh Castle. Everywhere in these buildings you are surrounded by history, portraits and busts of celebrated church leaders and theologians of the past. In the Assembly Hall here at New College, was held the famous world, Edinburgh world mission conference of 1910 which marked a major episode in the ecumenical movement. In the [unclear words 0:01:38] Reinhold Niebuhr gave his celebrated series of Gifford lectures on the nature and destiny of man just on the eve of the second world war. And in the court yard under the statue of John Knox, Pope John Paul II shook the hands of the moderator of the General Assembly in 1982, marking a major milestone in ecumenical relations. Our current School of Divinity consists of some forty full and part time members of staff organised into four main subject areas, religious studies, theology and ethics, ecclesiastical history and biblical studies. We have three main research centres. The Study of Christian Origins, The Study of World Christianity, The Study of Theology and Public Issues. Our academic staff consist of scholars of international reputations for excellence. And we attract visiting scholars from throughout the world. We're also located within the great city of Edinburgh, a major cosmopolitan centre, one of the most beautiful cities in the world with concert halls, art galleries, museums, theatres and pubs and all of the cultural advantages of the city which will help to enable you to have a very complete and full education.