From: Evan Dawson
Subject: RPS - introducing myself
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Dear RPS Trustees, staff and volunteers

I'm writing to introduce myself, on my first day as your new CEO, from a wet and windswept RPS House in Bristol. I'm delighted and honoured to be here.

I'm sitting in the open-plan office with Mike Taylor, with whom I am overlapping for one week, getting to know the building, systems, finances and structure of the organisation. There is a lot to take on board, but it's already very clear to me that creativity and generosity are abundant, and inspirational things are happening every day, even during these difficult times of lockdown. The RPS is a leader in the world of photography, and its status within the wider arts world is growing steadily and strongly too. So, I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all; and hearing more about what you are doing, and your own accounts of RPS's achievements and opportunities.

I'm very grateful to the RPS Trustees for being so welcoming to me already (Alan Hodgson's message today is on the website here).

Since his time is limited, I'll be prioritising time with Mike this week - but I hope to have individual meetings (mostly online I expect) with the rest of the staff team during the following week or two. Before I consider future strategy, I'll need to make sure I'm on top of the day to day operations - but I hope to do this fairly quickly.

I'll be regularly letting you know how I'm getting on and, in due course, I hope you'll feel happy to contact me directly if there's anything you'd like to discuss.

More soon!

Evan

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