

Dr Martin Thomas

Colleagues will be sorry to learn of the death, on the 18 January 2022, of Dr Martin Thomas, Deputy Head of the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies (LCS).

Martin was appointed as Lecturer in the Centre for Translation Studies in October 2009, becoming its Director in 2012. He held many leadership roles within the School – he was Director of Taught Postgraduates, 2014-17, and Director of Student Education, 2017-20. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2020 and was appointed as Deputy Head of the School in September 2021.

Many across the University will remember Martin as a committed, passionate and caring colleague. He first arrived at Leeds as an undergraduate in Spanish and Chinese, staying on to complete an MA in International Studies and then a PhD, again in LCS, which was a comparative study of the linguistic and graphic aspects of pack design in Taiwan and the UK. Among other curiosities, he curated an incomparable collection of toothpaste packets from around the world in his office. He made the city his home, often to be found at the theatre, opera or cinema, the latest art installation, or simply cycling the roads between Harehills and the Michael Sadler Building on his Brompton. He will be sorely missed.

Once the funeral arrangements are known, arrangements will be made to fly the flag on the Parkinson Building at half-mast in his memory.