Gary Hawley is the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Design and the holder of the Medlock Chair of Engineering. Gary joined the academic staff of the Department of Mechanical Engineering in 1995 after engineering careers with both the National Coal Board and the Royal Navy. During services as a commissioned officer he was appointed on exchange with the United States Navy and also served as the Queens Colour Guard Commander.

He joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering in 1995 and continued to build on the automotive powertrain research being undertaken and to extend the portfolio of work undertaken with the Ford Motor Company. He has published over 140 papers on various aspects of diesel engineering, thermal management of heat engines and computational approaches to predicting engine performance.

In 2004 he was awarded the IMechE Automobile Division Crompton-Lanchester Medal for the best paper on automobile engineering and has secured funding in excess of £14m to support his research.

In 2005 he was promoted to a Personal Chair, in 2007 was awarded the prestigious Medlock Chair of Engineering and in 2008 became the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Design.