



CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU
THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES



LSW Annual Review 2023-24

The Power of Knowledge

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Overview

President's Welcome

I am proud to introduce this year's Annual Review. It offers a snapshot of the huge amount of work that has taken place over the last Society year.

The breadth of that work is united by an overarching theme: the centrality of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) to all we're trying to do.

Our new Head of Equity and Engagement, for example, has a specific EDI remit. This has resulted in the expanded scope of our EDI working group, which comprises Fellows with expertise in the field and has established the steps we will take to drive further improvements. One impact is already evident in the fact that a third of our new Fellows this year are from ethnic minority backgrounds, the highest proportion we have ever had.

EDI influenced many of our activities this year. Our ECR Colloquium on 'A Connected Wales', our innovation roundtables with their strong focus on civic engagement and inclusive innovation, our continuing commitment to the Welsh language, and our grant scheme, which was built around Wales' well-being goals, all demonstrate this focus.

None of this work would be possible without the financial support we receive from our partners: Wales' universities and Medr (formerly HEFCW), our sponsors, including Taran Therapeutics, and, of course, our Fellows. We are confident that this Annual Review's record of achievement will show that the money we receive is productively spent.

For that, I must thank the staff team and our Chief Executive Olivia Harrison. Their hard work is appreciated by all who have the pleasure of dealing with them.



| Professor Hywel Thomas

Overview

Chief Executive's Introduction

This Annual Review celebrates a successful Society year, as we strive to create an environment in which researchers, Fellows and the organisation itself can thrive.

Our researcher development work is a vital part of this. We are proud of the impact our Early Career Researchers (ECR) Network has on making Wales a great place to be a researcher. A programme of ECR events culminated in our second annual Colloquium. It is already a milestone event at which ECRs from across Wales can make interdisciplinary connections and broaden their perspectives, boosting the impact their research will have.

Welsh researchers also receive public acclamation each year at our medals' ceremony which, together with our research grants, means the Society not only makes the case for Welsh research but is active in supporting its growth.

So much of this is possible because of the growing engagement of our Fellows. The value of their combined expertise and experience is incalculable. I am delighted that so many Fellows feel we have

created an environment that welcomes their involvement, from driving our innovation policy roundtables to delivering ECR Network seminars to sitting on our equity, diversity and inclusion working group.

Finally, we have made huge strides in creating an environment that makes the Society an efficient and effective organisation. The work of Fellows on our Council and committees ensures we make the best use of our valuable resources and has allowed us to make some important staff appointments. This helps us to deliver our strategic ambitions to be inclusive and collaborative, to grow talent, and to make an impact for Wales.

I would like to finish by thanking the staff team. The Learned Society of Wales is a happy and thriving organisation thanks, in large part, to their commitment and diverse talents.



| Olivia Harrison

We would like to thank Medr (formerly HEFCW) and the nine universities in Wales. Together with the subscriptions from our Fellows, their financial support comprises our core annual income.

Prifysgol Wrecsam
Wrexham University



In addition, we are grateful to all our partners for their in-kind contributions throughout the year, including the University of Wales Trinity Saint David for their generous contribution of the Society's offices.

A Year of Impacts

BSL evidence in the Senedd

LSW funding supported a network of researchers and the deaf community, which provided evidence and expert input on British Sign Language for a new Senedd bill.

Research benefits Wales

Our new report found that 70% of the 280 impact case studies that Welsh universities submitted to the REF2021 research assessment exercise created lasting benefits for Wales.

Celtic collaborations

LSW presented Wales as an outward looking nation with strong global links at an international research collaboration event, co-organised with the national academies of Ireland and Scotland and attended by academics and government from all three nations.

Inclusive innovation for Wales

Experts from LSW's Fellowship identified how the Basque approach to innovation has important lessons for Wales and other small nations.

Women in STEMM: Celebrating excellence

Professor Siwan Davies FLSW received the 2023 Frances Hoggan Medal for her research into how chemical analysis of microscopic volcanic ash particles can tell us more about climate change.

Towards a diverse Fellowship

43 new experts joined our Fellowship, with a third from ethnic minority backgrounds.

Supporting researchers at risk

A flash-talk at our ECR Colloquium, on shared Welsh and Ukrainian experiences of repression and resilience, was given by a Ukrainian academic supported to settle in the UK.

'A Connected Wales'

Our bilingual colloquium welcomed over 100 early career researchers to Bangor from across Wales to share their research and learn about grant writing.

Nobel Prize winner elected

Welsh-American Nobel Prize winner, Professor William D Phillips, elected as an Honorary Fellow: "Learned societies play an increasingly important role in our modern culture because... they provide reliable information that governments and citizens can use."

Skills for the next generation of researchers

LSW Fellows delivered workshops for early career researchers on publishing, community engagement, working with the media, and more.



LSW Report Shows Welsh Research Is Changing the World for the Better

Our analysis of impact case studies submitted by Welsh universities to the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise showed that Welsh universities create positive change, both in Wales and internationally.

REF is the UK's system for assessing the excellence of research from the UK's higher education providers. The REF outcomes are used to inform the allocation of public funding for university research.

LSW's report focused on the research case studies selected for submission by Wales' nine universities. These case studies demonstrate the benefits created outside the research sector. Research in Wales, it found, is changing the world for the better, from combating the contamination of drinking water caused by wildfires to inventing adapted seats that let children with neurodevelopmental conditions take part in play and family activities.

Key findings



'Wales'

is the most common topic of research submitted, with no parallel elsewhere in the UK.



2500 new jobs

The case studies reported 2500 new jobs created as a result of research.



70%

of case studies reported a local impact in Wales.



94%

of case studies collaborated with non-university partners.



60%

reported impacts internationally.



Explore the key findings in further detail: The Impacts of Research from Welsh Universities.

Who benefits from Welsh research?



People at different life stages

Including children, the elderly and parents.



Professionals

Including carers, public sector, musicians, artists and clinicians.



Marginalised communities

Including refugees, women, gender-based groups and disabled people.

Areas of impact

- Public health and health services
- Clinical medicine
- Energy, environment and engineering
- Information, applied technology and analytics
- Training, education and skills
- Food, environment and ecology
- Criminal justice and human rights
- Policy, ethics and security
- Business, planning and economics
- Devolved nations
- Culture and society
- History, heritage and creative arts

Welsh universities created impacts across all impact areas identified through the UK-wide analysis, demonstrating the breadth of Wales' research strengths.

Unexpected pathways



Psychology

History and cultural heritage



Physics

Music



Politics

Drug discovery and clinical trials



Art and Design

Dementia



History

Engineering



When searching for a solution to a problem, it is not always found in the most obvious place; this is why it is important to include cross-disciplinary expertise when consulting with researchers. These unexpected pathways also underscore the importance of "quality-related" funding for research, which is not tied to specific disciplines or outcomes, allowing researchers to explore new ideas with unknowable results.

In Wales, the Future of Innovation is Inclusive

A series of roundtables brought our expert fellows together with policymakers to chart an inclusive future for innovation in Wales.

Inclusive innovation redefines the innovation landscape by emphasising diversity, equity, and accessibility. It ensures that society as a whole feels the benefits that come from technological and entrepreneurial advances. The inclusive approach also applies to the variety of types and scales of innovation, as well as the creation of value, be it cultural and social value or commercial and economic success.

LSW's Inclusive Innovation series explored key issues for those operating in the Welsh innovation ecosystem and drew lessons from other small nations. Roundtable discussions, led by Professor Rick Delbridge FLSW, brought LSW Fellows into conversation with national and regional civic actors, as well as international speakers.

We produced a briefing from each roundtable, with recommendations for policymakers and anyone involved in Wales' innovation scene. The final report, 'Inclusive Innovation for Wales', rounds up the programme, and serves as a blueprint for the future of innovation in Wales.

"We see the LSW innovation roundtable as significantly informing what we do."

Professor David Sweeney,
Deputy Chair, Medr

Key findings



What works in Wales?

Devolved powers for city regions create localised, responsive policies that address specific place-based needs.

Wales is recognised as a UK leader in integrating further education institutions into the innovation ecosystem.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act promotes long-term thinking in Wales.

Universities in Wales have a growing commitment to civic mission: strong local partnerships spark and spread innovation inclusively.



What works elsewhere?

The Basque Country benefits from decades-long policy continuity, and strong intermediary actors that support its innovation economy.

Scotland's innovation funding mechanisms are diverse and joined-up; Interface and Scottish Enterprise serve as useful hubs.

UKRI's responsible research and innovation frameworks requires that ethics and societal needs guide advances in innovation and technology.



Obstacles

The public sector remains reluctant to take risks: outdated regulatory and evaluation systems are at odds with the ambitious legislature.

Inflexible funding schemes and application procedures restrict participation and stifle innovation.

There is a persistent misconception that big tech is the sole driver of growth, and a reluctance to embrace smaller-scale innovation for everyday life.

Resource limitations prompt organisations to retreat to business as usual. Incentives for innovation are therefore most needed at times of scarcity.



Read our report: Inclusive Innovation for Wales.

Our Funded Research: Generating Momentum

Our research workshop grants brought together researchers at universities across Wales with experts from outside academia. This collaboration combines energy with expertise to develop research that deals with urgent matters for Wales.

We award grants to:

- Early-Career Researchers, providing valuable leadership experience for new researchers;
- Wales Studies, showing the value and global interest in studying Wales;
- Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences which are persistently underfunded across the UK.

Recipients of our grants also benefit from being part of our research network. This helps many of them apply collectively for larger grants, bringing in funding from outside Wales and gaining the credibility to approach significant international partners. Research networks also share knowledge and minimise duplication across institutions.

This year, LSW awardees have created collaborations with important civic organisations, including:



British Sign Language (BSL) legislation in Wales

Led by Dr Julia Terry, Swansea University

This grant strengthened the **British Sign Language and Deaf Research Network in Wales**. It brought researchers together with the d/Deaf community in Wales to explore issues that included BSL for S4C, and the experiences of d/Deaf nurses and sports people. The group provided evidence and expert input to support the development of the ongoing British Sign Language (BSL) Wales Bill.



Fostering sanctuary and anti-racism in Wales

Led by Sharmin Julie, University of South Wales

This network brings together Welsh universities with community organisations to galvanise research on anti-racism, with reference to the Welsh Government's Anti-racist Wales Action Plan.

Addressing trauma with North Wales Police

Led by Dr Tegan Brierley-Sollis, Wrexham University

A series of workshops with North Wales Police developed sensitive models for studying trauma and secondary traumatic stress. Adverse Childhood Experiences Hub Wales awarded £15,000 to develop the work further, building on the LSW grant.

Sparking international interest in Welsh history

Led by Stephanie Ward, Cardiff University

The grant supported a conference that brought together postgraduate students of Welsh History from institutions in Wales, England, Scotland and France. The international scope of the conference demonstrated the global reach of Wales Studies.

“The MA students now have a clearer understanding of what a PhD entails and have spoken of applying for funding next year.”

Keeping Welsh culture alive

Led by Mared Roberts, Llenyddiaeth Cymru | Literature Wales

Cerdd Tafod Arall | Music of Another Tongue introduced the Canu Caeth tradition to poets from around the world, with Professor Mererid Hopwood FLSW and Hanan Issa, National Poet of Wales.

The project resulted in eight commissioned poems inspired by Canu Caeth; these poems are by poets new to the tradition, and many learned about Wales for the first time in the workshops. The project has gained the attention of BBC Radio 4.

“The project has also had a positive impact on my career as an early career researcher, as it has allowed me to be a principal investigator alongside a research team.”

Tackling social exclusion with research

Led by Dr Deborah Morgan, Swansea University

A network of researchers and practitioners from across Wales has formed to examine social exclusion, addressing the Welsh government's loneliness and social isolation strategy.



Joined-up Working: Collaboration and Partnership

We used our connections to work with others in developing Wales' research culture.

Building networks, supporting our partners

A 'Pathways to Peace' seminar built on our links with Wales' Peace Academy, **Academi Heddwch**. Nine members of our Early Career Researchers Network, from a diverse range of backgrounds and disciplines, examined contemporary sources of conflict within Wales and beyond, and explored new ways of mitigating or resolving it. Meanwhile, **Academia Europaea Cardiff's** Knowledge Hub joined us to run a session on boosting research impact and policy engagement. It featured speakers from the Wales Centre for Public Policy, the European Scientific Advice Mechanism, and UCL Public Policy.

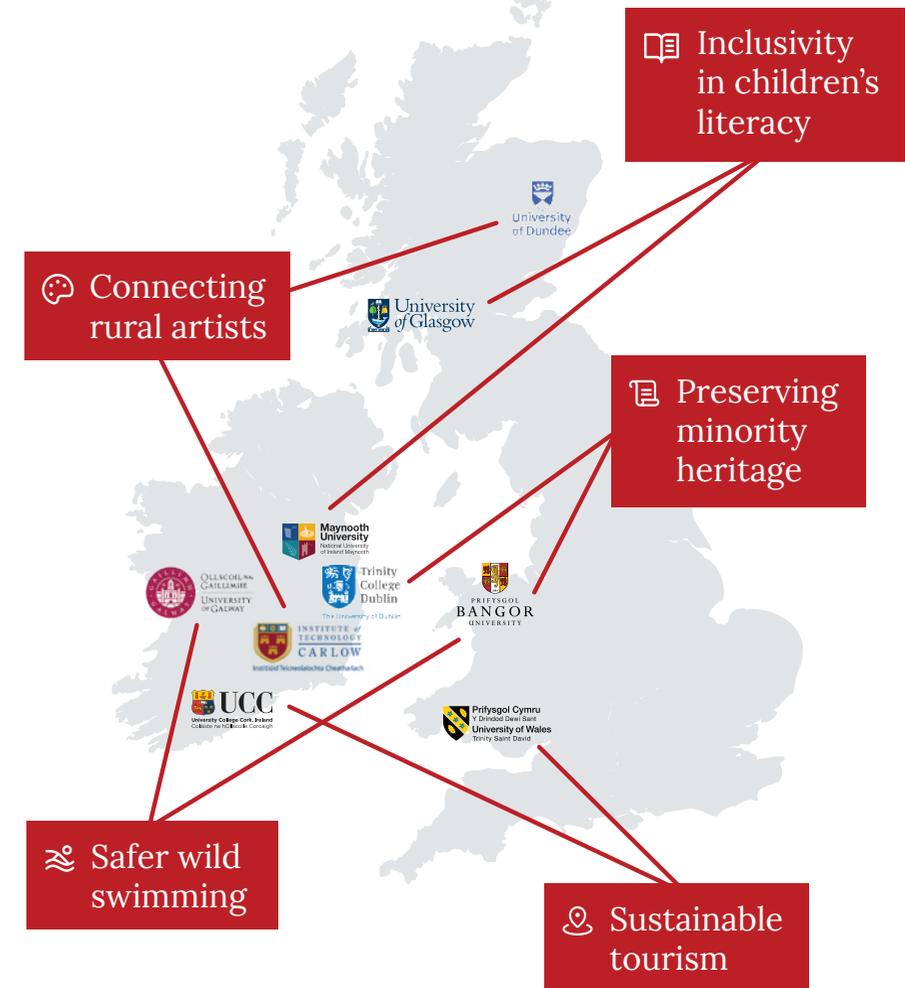
We also continued our cooperation with the **UK Young Academy**, which is increasing efforts to bring in new members from Wales, as well as the **British Academy**, some of whose members have joined our webinars.

We once again provided grants to support a number of events. The **Edward Lhuyd Lecture**, which explored how to invest for a sustainable future, was given by Carol Bell FLSW. She also delivered the **Society's 2023 Eisteddfod lecture**, which charted her career from the world of finance to confronting the challenges of the climate crisis. Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd FLSW delivered the **Hamlyn Trust lecture** on the laws needed for transnational commerce, while Lord Darzi of Denham gave Swansea University's **Zienkiewicz lecture** on how science and technology can transform health care. Finally, we were delighted to support the **Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science (AESIS) annual international conference**, which featured a number of our Fellows.

What kind of university, for what kind of future?

Professor Wendy Lerner FLSW, LSW Fellow and Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff University, delivered a lecture in a joint event between us and CaSE, the Campaign for Science and Engineering. Professor Lerner presented her vision for Cardiff University, how the university sits within the industrial and geographical context of Wales, and the challenges facing the university sector as a whole.

CaSE is the UK's leading independent advocate for science and engineering, with a mission to put research at the heart of the UK's future. We are working with CaSE to increase consideration and understanding of the distinct research and innovation landscape in Wales and the other devolved nations.



Boosting Celtic research collaborations

A Celtic Academies Alliance showcase, held in Dublin, featured researchers from across Wales, Ireland and Scotland. New connections were made, and attendees discovered enduring resonances between the three nations: similarities in size and geography; strong cultures of scholarship; connected coastlines; and a shared desire to look beyond traditional Anglo-centric research.

Testimonies at the event showed that sharing resources and expertise across the Irish Sea has led to more impactful and more efficient research. The discussion illustrated a gap for trilateral funding between Wales, Ireland and Scotland, and that there is significant appetite across all disciplines for such a scheme.

Our Medals

Our showpiece annual event, held this year at the Senedd and hosted by Jeremy Miles MS, once again celebrated high-class research from both established and emerging experts.

Sponsored by:



Menelaus Medal: celebrating excellence in engineering and technology

Professor Aimee Morgans FLSW, Imperial College London

Mechanical engineer who works on improving the safety and environmental impact of gas turbine engines.

Sponsored by:



Frances Hoggan Medal: celebrating outstanding research by women in STEM

Professor Siwan Davies FLSW, Swansea University

Explores volcanic ash particles to reconstruct past climate change, giving insights into future events.

Sponsored by:



Hugh Owen Medal: celebrating outstanding educational research in Wales

Professor Tom Crick FLSW, Swansea University

Applies computer science to impact public policy, curriculum reform and sustainability tools.

Sponsored by:



Dillwyn Medals: celebrating outstanding early career researchers in Wales

Dr Iestyn Woolway, Bangor University

Environmental scientist mapping climate change in water using advanced modelling techniques.

Dr Rebecca Thomas, Cardiff University

Political and cultural historian of medieval Wales, as well as published novelist.

Dr Leighton Evans, Swansea University

Virtual reality expert exploring how digital media has become embedded in everyday life.



“It’s truly a wonderful experience and a real honour to be receiving this medal. I’m incredibly grateful to the Learned Society for this recognition. Having that recognition at the start of one’s career is really very special.”

Dr Rebecca Thomas,
Dillwyn medallist 2023

“I’m really proud and honoured to receive the medal. It’s a great validation for the work I do, for the people that I support and for the people who supported me over the past decade.”

Dr Leighton Evans,
Dillwyn medallist 2023

Researcher Development



Early career researchers (ECR) engaged with our activities to increase the visibility of their work, develop new skills, and expand their networks.

The Early Career Researcher Network

LSW's ECR Network is open to researchers from any sector, discipline or institution in Wales that self-identify as being at an early stage in their research career. The network brings together hundreds of researchers from across STEM, humanities, arts, and social sciences, with representation from every university in Wales, as well as industry, charities, and the public sector.



Webinars to develop skills and insights

A regular calendar of webinars aimed specifically at early career researchers allowed ECRs to learn from business and civic leaders, as well as academics, and engage in interdisciplinary discussions with peers from other organisations, including industry, the health service and charities.

A number of distinct themes governed these events. The first of these was a series of webinars that provided insights into the general research environment. A deep-dive into the next Research Evaluation Framework, in 2029, dovetailed with sessions on how to create impact in one's research and the importance of establishing connections with communities outside academia.

A more skills-based agenda saw sessions on acting as a mentor, working with the media, and understanding the publishing environment, be that academic journals, publishing houses or even social media.

Finally, our commitment to nurture the next generation of researchers was evident in a session on developing a research career while maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

These webinars would not have been possible without the support of guest speakers and Fellows who took part.

Our Fellows: a vital source of expertise and help

Our researcher development work is about helping create an environment that supports Wales' current and future experts.

One of the Society's unique strengths is the diverse expertise of our Fellowship. We're grateful to the many Fellows willing to support the next generation of researchers by promoting collaboration between researchers at all career stages and in all sectors. The ability for ECRs to connect with experts from within, but also from outside, their field is invaluable.

Over the past year, we have seen Fellows support us in a number of ways:

- delivering sessions at our webinars and colloquium;
- sitting on our Advisory Group for Researcher Development;
- attending 'meet and greet' events across the country that allow ECRs to meet and form important connections;
- assessing applications to our research workshop grant scheme.

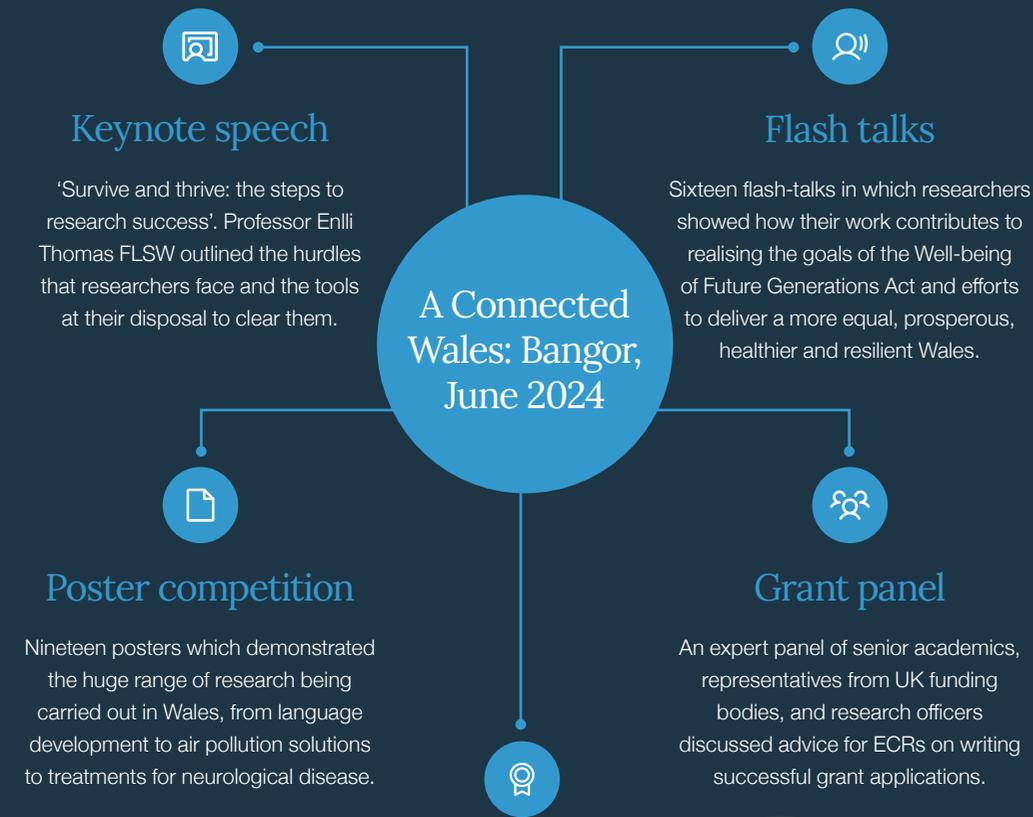


ECR Colloquium: 'A Connected Wales'



Our colloquium established the Society's role as an advocate for early career research.

The second of our colloquiums for early career researchers (ECR) brought over 100 researchers, guest speakers and Fellows to Bangor for a day of talks, workshops and networking. 'A Connected Wales' was shaped by ECRs themselves through their involvement in our advisory group. The bilingual event showed our commitment to collaboration, which is central to making Wales a great place to do research.



Poster competition winner: language and memory

A visual presentation of how we use memory when learning a foreign language. Dr Giulia Bovolenta's poster captured the key questions, methods, hypotheses and results of her research in a logical and clear way.

We're grateful to the British Academy Early Career Researchers Network for sponsoring the poster competition.



"I feel more confident in continuing." | "I feel more confident overall." | "It has increased my confidence."

"Solidarity with the research community supported by the LSW."

"Wonderful to have such a strong presence of the Welsh language."

"Fantastic opportunities to develop collaborative projects."

"Very valuable for career development."

"I have a lot more knowledge on grant and funding applications."

Our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Journey

We are committed to supporting and developing the diverse richness of research and innovation that benefits Wales. Diversity improves knowledge. That's why we believe in the positive impact this work has: not only for equity, but for the sciences, arts and humanities themselves.



An Equitable Society: Good for the LSW, Good for Wales



A group of LSW Fellows is bringing life experiences and important perspectives to the LSW's equity, diversity and inclusion work.

The journey from Iraq to a decades-long career in the NHS was not without its obstacles. For Dr Layla Jader FLSW, the experience of clearing those hurdles motivated her then and motivates her now, in an important role with the Learned Society of Wales.

Dr Jader, a graduate of Baghdad Medical School, came to the UK as a postgraduate in 1978, before spending 37 years working for NHS Wales and in academia, specialising in medical genetics and cystic fibrosis.

Her experience as an immigrant and as a woman, she says, provided her with the drive to overcome the challenges that she and others face. Now she hopes that work by the LSW's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Working Group will bring more people to the Fellowship with similar experience.

"It's important that (the LSW) reflects the society we live in: people from ethnic minority backgrounds, women, people who have suffered disadvantage", she says.

"They bring lateral thinking that the mainstream wouldn't think about. They are inventive people, by definition, because they want to succeed, they have a drive, they do everything they can to overcome their obstacles."

This is why Dr Jader believes in the importance of the Working Group, of which she is a member.

The group's new EDI plan is explicit about challenging systemic inequity and all forms of discrimination and marginalisation.

It includes a series of short, medium and long term targets. These cover everything from promoting the plan and its aims, to understanding the barriers to entry to the Society's Fellowship, to ensuring that all events the Society runs or supports meet inclusivity standards.

"The group's new EDI plan is explicit about challenging systemic inequity and all forms of discrimination and marginalisation."

The benefits will be felt not only within the LSW but beyond it too, as the Society looks to develop its impact on Wales more broadly.

Dr Cameron Durrant FLSW, the Newport-raised and US-based founder, director and CEO of several pharmaceutical companies, points out that businesses that have diverse directors on their boards outperform those that don't.

The work of the EDI group, he says, has "a ripple effect well beyond the LSW... This puts a growth focus on Wales as a good place to come, to work, to be involved, in moving the ball. I see it as socially progressive and a real necessity to be explicit about."

The plan is overseen by Helen Willson, Strategic Engagement Manager at the LSW, who was appointed to drive EDI improvements.

"In the last few years, the Society has really moved forward in its EDI journey," she says. "Setting up the Working Group and creating my role gave it the momentum it needed and we now eagerly look to the future."



Fellowship

Honorary Fellows

We have been electing Honorary Fellows since 2016, academics, politicians and leading figures from the arts, all of whom have made a truly outstanding contribution to the world of learning, and established a world-class reputation and status in their field.

This year, we welcomed three tremendous new Honorary Fellows. **Sir Ian Diamond** is the UK's National Statistician and has held numerous senior roles in government and higher education. **Professor Ann Dowling** is a mechanical engineer, the first woman professor in engineering at the University of Cambridge and the first woman to become President of the Royal Academy of Engineering. **Professor William D. Phillips** is an American physicist with Welsh heritage who, together with colleagues, won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1997. His work on using lasers to cool and trap atoms has driven advances in atomic clocks and quantum computing.



"I'm incredibly pleased and honoured to have been elected as an Honorary Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. Learned societies play an increasingly important role in our modern culture because of the fact that they provide reliable information that governments and citizens can use."

Professor William D. Phillips HonFLSW

Fellowship

Fellows Elected in 2024

Professor Alka Ahuja

MBE FRCPsych FLSW Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist & National Clinical Lead, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Dr Seema Arif

MBE FRCR FLSW Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Velindre University NHS Trust

Dr Lloyd Bowen

FRHistS FLSW Reader, Early Modern History, Cardiff University

Professor Edmund Burke

FREng FIMA FORS FBCS FLSW Vice-Chancellor, Bangor University

Professor Erminia Calabrese

FLSW Professor & Deputy Director of Research, Cardiff Hub for Astrophysics Research and Technology Cardiff University

Professor Anthony Cohn

FREng FAAAAI FEurAI FAISB FAAIA FIET FBCS FLSW Professor of Automated Reasoning, University of Leeds

Professor Stephan Collishaw

FACSS FLSW Professor, School of Medicine, Cardiff University

Professor Angharad Davies

FRCPPath FRCP PFHEA FLSW Clinical Professor & Honorary Consultant Medical Microbiologist, Swansea University

Professor Indu Deglurkar

FRCS FRCS(CTh) FLSW Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, & Honorary Visiting Professor, Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences University (SVIMS) Tirupati, India

Professor Stephen Eales

FRAS FLSW Professor of Astrophysics & Co-Director of Cardiff Hub for Astrophysics Research and Technology, Cardiff University

Dr Haydn Edwards

FRSC FLSW Independent consultant; formerly Principal and Chief Executive, Coleg Menai

Dr Aled Eirug

FLSW Chair, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol

Professor Sandra Esteves

FLSW Professor in Bioprocess Technology for Resource Recovery: Energy and Materials & Director of the Wales Centre of Excellence for Anaerobic Digestion, University of South Wales

Professor Brian Ford-Lloyd

FLSW Emeritus Professor, University of Birmingham

Professor Graeme Garrard

FRHistS FLSW Professor of Politics, Cardiff University

Professor Antonio Gil

SFHEA FLSW Head of the School of Aerospace, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Swansea University

Mr Sumit Goyal

MBE FRCS (Edinburgh) FRCS (Glasgow) FLSW Consultant Oncoplastic Surgeon, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Professor Peter Groves

FRCP FLSW Consultant Cardiologist, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board & Honorary Professor, Cardiff University and Queen Mary University London

Dr Amira Guirguis

FRPharmS SFHEA FLSW Associate Professor (Pharmacy), MPharm Programme Director & Head of Pharmacy Practice, Swansea University

Professor Sir Deian Hopkin

FRHistS FRSA FCGI FLSW President,
Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion

Professor William Housley

DSc Econ FAcSS FLSW Chair in Sociology,
Cardiff University

Professor Michael Hughes

DSc FLSW Professor of Biomedical Engineering,
Khalifa University

Dr Savyasaachi Jain

FHEA FLSW Reader, Journalism and Documentary,
Cardiff University

Professor Wendy Lerner

FACSS FRSNZ PFHEA FNZGS FLSW President
and Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff University

Professor Yueng-Djern Lenn

FLSW Professor in Physical Oceanography,
Bangor University

Professor Andrew Lewis

SFHEA MISM FLSW Professor of Composition,
Bangor University

Professor Yvonne McDermott Rees

FHEA FLSW Professor of Law, Swansea University

Professor Paul Mealor

CStJ CLJ FRSA FRSE FLSW Composer and
Professor of Composition, University of Aberdeen

Professor Radhika Mohanram

FLSW Professor of Postcolonial Studies,
Cardiff University

Professor Aimee Morgans

FREng FLSW Professor of Thermofluids,
Imperial College London

Professor Thomas O'Loughlin

MRIA FSA FRHistS FSA Scot FLSW
Professor Emeritus of Historical Theology,
University of Nottingham

Professor Chris Pearce

FICE FLSW Vice Principal (Research &
Knowledge Exchange), University of Glasgow

Professor Clair Rowden

FHEA FLSW Professor of Music, Deputy
Head of School of Music, Cardiff University

Professor Roiyah Saltus

FLSW Professor of Sociology,
University of South Wales

Professor Iram Siraj

OBE FAcSS FRSA DLetts FLSW Professor of Child
Development and Education, University of Oxford

Professor Mark Taubert

FRCP FRCGP FFMLM FLSW Clinical Director
for Palliative Medicine & Honorary Professor,
Cardiff University, Velindre University NHS Trust

Professor Andrew Thomas

DEng FIMechE FHEA FLSW Professor and
Head of Aberystwyth Business School,
Aberystwyth University

Professor Agustin Valera-Medina

FHEA FLSW Director, Net Zero Innovation Institute,
Cardiff University

Professor Andrew Westwell

FLSW Professor of Medicinal Chemistry &
Independent Board Member, Velindre University
NHS Trust, Cardiff University

Dr Eurwyn Wiliam

FSA FLSW Emeritus Keeper, National Museum Wales

Professor John G Williams

CBE FRCP FLSW Professor Emeritus,
Swansea University

Llŷr Williams

FLSW Concert Pianist

Professor Rattan Yadav

FLSW Professor of Plant Genetics,
Aberystwyth University



“What’s really important about having a visible community like the Learned Society of Wales is a collection of people who are willing to stand in front of others and say, ‘Yes, it’s important that we improve the intellectual life of Wales, and also that we give back to enhance education within Wales more generally.’”

Professor Yueng-Djern Lenn FLSW, Bangor University



“As a Society which is based in Wales and serves Wales, its appreciation of the Welsh language and its efforts to function fully bilingually, is one of its most notable attributes. The experience of being able to communicate in Welsh, from receiving every message in Welsh, being able to send messages in Welsh, to responding to every communication in Welsh, has enriched the experience of being one of the Society’s Fellows and demonstrates its sincere commitment to practicing the statutory requirements of the language standards.”

Professor Enlli Thomas FLSW, Bangor University



“The LSW’s work to establish Wales’s place in the national and international innovation space is a critical task at a critical time. Having exposure to some of the best thought leaders and opinion formers in Wales and beyond has made for a rich and rewarding experience as a new LSW fellow.”

Kellie Beirne FLSW, Director, Cardiff Capital Region City Deal

Officers and Council

The Society was incorporated as a Royal Charter Charity in 2015 (Registered Charity Number: 1168622). Our current governing documents are the Royal Charter and Byelaws. These, along with the Society's Regulations, constitute our governing instruments.

Officers

President

- Professor Hywel Thomas

Vice-Presidents

- Professor Michael Charlton (*VP for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine*)
- Professor Helen Fulton (*VP for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences*)

Treasurer

- Professor Terry Threadgold

General Secretary

- Professor Faron Moller

Council Members

In addition to the Officers, the following Fellows formed the Society's Council (board of trustees):

- Professor Kirsti Bohata
- Dr Sarah Jane Clyburn
- Professor Claire Gorrara
- Professor Alma Harris
- Professor Ieuan Hughes
- Professor Ambreena Manji
- Professor Iwan Morus
- Professor Qiang Shen
- Professor Alan Shore
- Professor John V Tucker
- Professor Carol Tully
- Professor Meena Upadhyaya
- Dr Lynn Williams

The work of Council in governing the Society and providing strategic oversight is supported by the many Fellows who also sit on our various committees, working groups and task and finish groups.

Financial Review

Financial figures for 2023-24 will be published by 30 April 2025 in the Society's Annual Report for the Charity Commission. This will be available on our website.

For more information contact lsw@wales.ac.uk