



THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES
CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY – CELEBRATING SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVING THE NATION
YR ACADEMI GENEOLAETHOL – YN DATLU YSGOLHEICTOD A GWASANAETHU'R GENEDL

Annual Review 2019-20



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THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES
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President's Welcome

I am pleased to present our Annual Review for 2019-20 – a year of great achievement for the Society, alongside immense change and challenges for us all.

In May 2020, I was delighted to take up my role as the Society's new President. I am proud to lead a Fellowship of more than 550 outstanding individuals, all with a strong connection to Wales, who represent excellence in numerous areas.

With Wales and the world altered fundamentally by coronavirus, we need their expertise more than ever. The challenges that the pandemic poses to higher education and research, as well as to wider society, should not be understated. But there are nonetheless opportunities to regroup, reimagine, and use Wales's collective talents to 'build back better'. This spirit of collaboration is fundamental to the Society.

I am delighted that a further 43 Fellows and 2 Honorary Fellows have joined us during the past year, representing 18 universities as well as research institutes and the private sector. We have also continued to reward excellence through the Society's medals – recognising excellence by early career researchers, women in STEMM, engineers and education scholars.

I am grateful to my predecessor, Sir Emyr Jones Parry, for his achievements during six years as President. During this time, the Society has grown into a strong national institution with a respected independent voice of expertise. I would also like to acknowledge the great achievements of our founding President, Sir John Cadogan, who sadly passed away in February.

Many thanks to all those who have contributed to our work over the past year, including our generous university partners and our hard-working staff team. I look forward to continuing our good work during 2020-21.



Professor Hywel Thomas
President



Sir John Cadogan
CBE FIC FRS FRSE FRSC FLSW
Inaugural President of the Society
1930-2020

"John Cadogan was the most able, active and effective scientist, chemist, administrator, lecturer, organiser – and all wrapped into one person."

Sir John Meurig Thomas

Overview of the Year

At the Learned Society of Wales, we pride ourselves on delivering high-quality activities through our Fellowship. The year covered by this report was no exception. During the first half of 2019-20, we organised high-profile events on Wales and the World, and launched our brochure celebrating highlights in Wales Studies. We also convened an expert group on One Health, recognising the connections between human, animal and environmental health.

Following the national lockdown, we refocused our efforts online – delivering a Lockdown Learner Challenge for school pupils, and working with our Fellows on expert webinars. We have found ways to embrace the new reality imposed by the pandemic, and opportunities to innovate without the usual geographical constraints.

None of these activities would be possible without the fantastic support of our Fellows, or the dedication of our talented staff team. Together, we will continue to flourish as Wales's national academy.

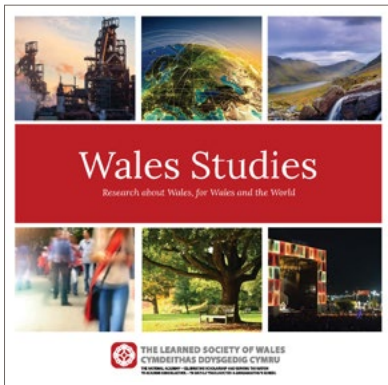


Martin Pollard
Chief Executive

Championing Research

Wales Studies

In January, we launched the Wales Studies Network and a 'research snapshot' brochure – promoting the broad range of projects which strengthen the understanding of what makes Wales distinct.



Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas, Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism, addressed the launch at the Norwegian Church, Cardiff Bay.

The snapshot is inspired by the approach of the Well-being of Future Generations Act and reflects upon the areas needed to develop Wales as a sustainable and dynamic nation.

It profiles forty areas of Wales Studies research emerging from institutions, organisations and universities across Wales, including:

- The cross-university FLEXIS (Flexible Integrated Energy Systems) programme
- The CHERISH project, which explores the impacts of climate change on the cultural heritage of the Irish Sea basin
- Work on 'Welsh Plains', a coarse fabric produced to clothe enslaved Caribbean plantation workers
- Research into how artists can be trained to work in healthcare settings
- The impact of the Cardiff Model for Violence Reduction
- Efforts being made to revitalise regional and minority languages
- Research on the two literary traditions of Wales

Supporting the research community

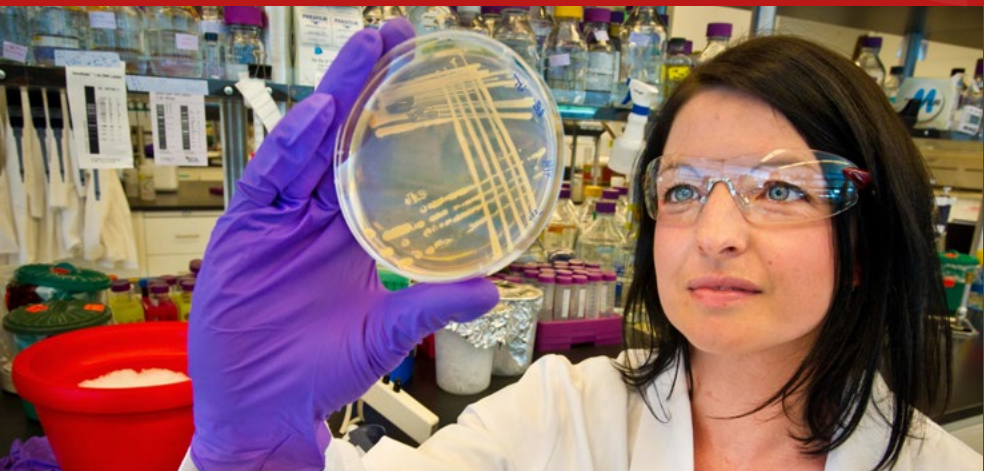
During 2019-20, we continued to highlight the challenges facing the higher education, research and innovation (R&I) community. Amongst other activities, we organised an online roundtable with the **Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE)**, covering the future of R&I in Wales. Participants from academia, industry and both the Welsh and UK Governments considered the role of R&I in supporting prosperous communities. Further events are planned in relation to the role of Welsh public bodies and our position within the UK policy agenda.

In April 2020, we worked with the British Academy, Royal Society of Edinburgh and Royal Irish Academy to produce a joint report on **European Structural and Investment Funds**. We highlighted

the vital role these funds have played in supporting R&I throughout the UK. The contribution towards R&I in Wales is €125 per capita, five times the UK average.

The report examined how that funding is currently allocated and administered, and made recommendations about their proposed replacement, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Throughout the year, we consulted with our university partners about how we could support **early career researchers** across Wales. We established the need for a national network, openly accessible and covering all academic disciplines. This would enable researchers to network across different institutions, to collaborate on research projects, and to develop their professional knowledge and skills. Although the national lockdown prevented us from running physical pilot events, we established an email network over summer 2020, and will launch a series of online seminars in the autumn.



The Society's 2020 Medals

Frances Hoggan Medal: For outstanding female researchers in STEMM



Winner: Professor Haley Gomez, Cardiff University

Professor Gomez researches the origins of space dust, which forms rocky planets like Earth. She has also received an MBE for inspiring the next generation of physicists and astronomers.

"As a scientist and now as a parent of boy-girl twins, it's important for me that society in general can engage with positive scientific role models and dispel our underlying biases of what a scientist should 'look like'."

Menelaus Medal: For excellence in engineering and technology



Winner: Professor Nidal Hilal, Swansea University

Professor Hilal is founder and director of the Centre for Water Advanced Treatment and Environmental Research (CWATER). His work has placed Swansea University on the global map for improving the supply of clean drinking water and the treatment of contaminated water.

"I am honoured to be awarded the Menelaus Medal. My research in innovative desalination and water treatment technologies has been crucial in feeding a thirsty world."

Hugh Owen Medal: For contributions to educational research



Winner: Professor Sally Power, WISERD

Professor Power is Director of Education at the Welsh Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data (WISERD). She leads an innovative study gathering young people's experiences and perceptions of living in Wales.

"I would like to thank the Learned Society of Wales for providing a platform to showcase education research. Developing a sustainable and vibrant research community is so very important for the future of Wales."

Recognising excellence in research

Dillwyn Medals - For outstanding early-career researchers

Social Sciences, Economics and Business category



Winner: Dr Rebecca Dimond, Cardiff University

Dr Dimond's work in medical sociology explores the implications of genetic disease for patients, families and professionals. She is a qualitative researcher whose work involves talking to patients about their experiences of rare diseases.

"I'm totally delighted to have won this award. It will give me the confidence to carry on and hopefully make an impact on patients and their experiences of health care."

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine category



Winner: Dr Jennifer Edwards, Cardiff University

Dr Edwards has built an international reputation in the field of catalysis and material science. Her work has a range of applications, from water sanitisation to cleaning up large-scale industrial processes.

"We are now focussing on applying our materials... to see if the advances we have made [can be] useful in medical and engineering fields. I would like to thank my colleagues, mentors, collaborators and, of course, students, whose hard work has made this possible."

Humanities & Creative Arts category



Winner: Dr Gwennan Higham, Swansea University

Dr Higham's research covers minority languages, multiculturalism and citizenship. She examines the relationship between ethnic and civic identities and the need to define Welsh multi-ethnic citizenship.

"Teaching Welsh to immigrants and the implications on citizenship and multiculturalism in Wales is an ongoing project which I hope will see further developments...I am truly grateful to the Department of Welsh and Swansea University for supporting my research journey to date."

Contributing Expertise

Promoting wellbeing and planetary health

Spearheaded by Professor John Wyn Owen, we worked with the Bevan Commission to establish a steering group for **One Health in Wales**. This approach recognises that the health of humans, animals and ecosystems are interconnected, and seeks to improve our health and wellbeing by working across these areas.

In November 2019, Cardiff Metropolitan University hosted our first High Level Expert Group meeting on One Health. Attendees included the Future Generations Commissioner and Chief Veterinary Officer, as well as representatives of Welsh Government, InterAction Council, Wellcome Trust, Public Health Wales, Natural Resources Wales, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, Arup, and several universities.

Sadly, Professor Owen passed away in early 2020. He left a unique legacy for health interventions in Wales and the world. We are proud to continue his work, with plans to showcase One Health initiatives in Wales and support research across relevant areas.



Professor John Wyn Owen

Education Committee

In the summer of 2019, the Society's Education Committee submitted a response on the draft new curriculum for Wales. This work was followed by a submission to the Qualifications Wales Qualified for the Future consultation on GCSEs in February 2020. The group continues to monitor policy developments in education, higher education and research and innovation.



Policy work in Wales and beyond

During the year, we developed an alliance with our fellow **Celtic Academies**, the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Royal Irish Academy. The alliance will launch officially in autumn 2020, with the aim of promoting cooperation and collaboration on our shared policy interests. Our early work has included joint statements on UK Government engagement with the devolved nations, and on its proposals for student number controls in the aftermath of the coronavirus lockdown.

Our other policy work included:

- Contributing to the Welsh Government's consultation on its draft **International Strategy** – highlighting the need for a more confident, focused and distinctive Welsh voice on the world stage
- Submitting evidence to Senedd committees on the **Welsh Government budget for 2020-21**, stressing the importance of strengthening quality-related (QR) funding for higher education, and of allocating sufficient funds to research and development
- Taking part in the **European Economic and Social Committee's** fact-finding mission on Brexit and the Single Market
- Giving evidence to an inquiry into the proposed **Shared Prosperity Fund** by the House of Commons' Welsh Affairs Committee
- Participating in the **Senedd cross-party group** on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Promoting Learning and Debate

Wales and the world

Wales's international profile was at the forefront of public policy in 2019. While Brexit preparations continued, the Welsh Government developed its new International Strategy. We contributed to the surrounding debates by organising a series of Wales and the World events.



The opening event, **Soft Power Strategies**, considered how Wales should project itself on the world stage. Eluned Morgan AM (Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language) gave a keynote address. The nation's heritage and culture, bilingualism, values and ideals, and culture of research and innovation were identified as

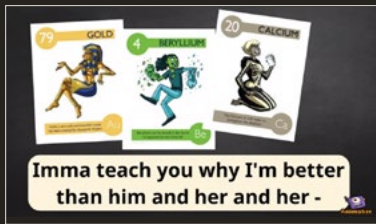
some of our key 'soft power assets'. The event raised the central question of what aims we should use those assets for.

Next, we focused on **The Role of Arts, Culture and the Welsh Language** in developing international profile. David Anderson (Director General, National Museum Wales) discussed Wales's distinctive cultural assets and methods, and considered the space they occupied alongside UK narratives. Other speakers highlighted the importance of cultivating strong national institutions, the Welsh language as an international asset, and the contributions made by literature and television.

The third event looked at **Universities as Global Communities**. It explored the global contributions made by higher education and research sector in Wales – including student recruitment, research collaboration, and the benefits of global connections to our local communities. Participants discussed several ways to improve the sector's attractiveness internationally, including stronger collaboration and making a virtue of Wales's size and unique qualities.

We are grateful to Cardiff Metropolitan University, National Museum Wales and Bangor University for hosting these events. We will publish a report following the final event in autumn 2020.

Lockdown Learning



A rap about nitrogen and an introduction to quantum theory won a competition for Welsh school students that took place over summer 2020.

Our Lockdown Learner Challenge asked students in Years 11 and 13 to create an explainer on a topic they will be studying in sixth form or university, filling in the gap left by the cancellation of summer exams.

The range of subjects was broad, covering everything from the smallest particles to the immensity of outer space.

Grazia Obuzor, from Hawthorn High School, Pontypridd, won the Year 11 prize

“ I would like to congratulate and thank the Learned Society of Wales for the work done to help throughout the coronavirus crisis: from assisting with our *Stay Safe. Stay Learning* guidance to holding masterclass webinars, the work is much appreciated. ”

Kirsty Williams MS,
Minister for Education

with a rap about nitrogen, which drew upon the song 'My Shot' from the *Hamilton* musical. **Steffan Rhys Thomas**, of Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf was runner-up with a presentation on the expanding universe.

The winner of the Year 13 competition was **Daniel Hunt**, also from Rhondda Cynon Taf. The Bryn Celynnog Comprehensive School student explained, in plain language, the intricacies of quantum theory. **Holly Beacham**, of St Albans RC High School (Pontypool) and **Peredur Morgan** of Ysgol Penweddig (Aberystwyth) were runners-up, for their work on virology and the economic impact of Covid-19.

Other Events

During the year, we organised or supported a variety of other events.

Beyond the NHS: Is Health Really 'Global'? (Aberystwyth University)

Professor Colin McInnes discussed the need for global solutions to our health challenges, and to think more broadly about 'planetary health'.

Foreign Affairs and Domestic Courts: A Sea Change (University of South Wales)

Lord Lloyd-Jones, Justice of the Supreme Court, considered how disputes can be resolved between national and international laws.

Supercriticality: From Blue Fluid to Green Chemistry (Swansea University)

Professor Sir Martyn Poliakoff delivered this year's Zienkewicz Lecture, examining the phenomenon of supercritical fluids.

Exploring Medieval Wales: Power, Language(s) and Literature (St Fagans National Museum of History)

A tour and talk tied to Llys Llywelyn, the 13th century royal court reconstructed at St Fagans.

Berlin Wall Falls 30 Years On: History, Politics and Identity (Cardiff University)

Reflections by historians and film-makers on the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Yr Hen Dwrneid Llengar (Swansea University)

A lecture on 19th century judges and lawyers who advocated use of the Welsh language in courts and public life.

Cardiff Science Festival

This featured a wide range of events, across several venues, to inspire public engagement with science and technology.

A Curriculum for a Successful Future? (Swansea University)

A discussion on the new school curriculum with Kirsty Williams (Minister for Education), Professor Graham Donaldson and Professor Tom Crick.

The Many Faces of Type 2 Diabetes (University Hospital of Wales)

A lecture by Professor F. Susan Wong, consultant physician and expert in diabetes.

Morgan Llwyd o Wynedd 1619-1659 (National Library of Wales)

Marking the 400th anniversary of the poet's birth with a series of expert presentations.

New Research on Early Medieval Wales (Haverfordwest)

The biennial conference of the Early Medieval Wales Archaeology Research Group.

New Light on Gildas (National Library of Wales)

Dr Iestyn Daniel explored questions surrounding the sixth-century Latin document known as De Excidion Britanniae.

Ar Ymyl y Gofod / Y Gyfraith yn ein Llên (National Eisteddfod, Llanrwst)

Two lectures at the Eisteddfod, from Professor Eleri Pryse and Professor Gwynedd Parry.

We are grateful to our event organisers and partners, including Technocamps, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, Ethnic Minority Women in Welsh Healthcare and the University of Wales Press.

Developing the Fellowship

New Honorary Fellows

Becoming a Fellow of the Society is a mark of excellence, recognising an outstanding contribution to the world of learning. We encourage nominations from all academic disciplines, public services and the private sector. During 2019-20, our Fellowship Committee made several improvements to the election process to make it clearer, more accessible and transparent.

After thorough consideration by our Scrutiny Committees, the 43 individuals named in the following pages were elected as Fellows. We also announced two new Honorary Fellows, and were delighted to welcome them at our 2020 AGM. This took place via videoconference and was a successful meeting of more than 120 members.



Professor Margaret MacMillan CC CH HonFLSW

Professor MacMillan is a globally renowned historian, an expert on the British Empire and 20th century international relations (including the First World War). She has won the Duff Cooper Prize, the Hessel-Tiltman Prize for History, the Governor General's Literary Award in Canada, and the Samuel Johnson Prize for non-fiction.

She delivered the 2018 Reith Lectures, and is a well-known public intellectual who contributes regularly to debates in the media.



Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell DBE FRS FRSE FRAS FInstP HonFLSW

Dame Jocelyn discovered pulsars as a research student in radio astronomy. This was a huge scientific achievement, but one for which she did not receive full credit at the time.

She went on to be President of the Royal Astronomical Society, the Institute of Physics, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh. In 2018, she won the \$3 million Breakthrough Prize, which she donated to create research positions for students from under-represented groups.

Fellows Elected in 2020



• **Professor Nathan Abrams FRHistS FHEA FLSW**

Professor of Film Studies,
Bangor University

• **Mr Jonathan Adams AADip RIBA FLSW**
Jonathan Adams + Partners Architects Ltd



• **Professor Catherine Barnard FLSW**
Professor of European Union and Labour
Law, University of Cambridge

• **Professor Menna Clatworthy FLSW**
Professor of Translational Immunology;
Honorary Consultant Nephrologist;
Director of Clinical Studies, Pembroke
College, University of Cambridge



• **Professor Lisa Collins FRSB FRSS FLSW**
Head of School, School of Biology;
Professor of Animal Science; N8 Agri-food
Chair in Agricultural Systems; Academic
Director of Smart Agri-Systems; Professor
of Animal Science, University of Leeds

• **Professor Matthew Cragoe
FRHistS FLSW**
Visiting Professor, University of Lincoln

• **Professor Thomas Crick MBE FIET
FBCS FLSW**
Professor of Digital Education & Policy,
Swansea University

• **Professor Alun Davies FRCS
FEBVS FLSW**
Professor of Vascular Surgery
& Consultant Surgeon, Imperial College,
London

• **Professor Richard Dinsdale FLSW**
Professor of Sustainable Environmental
Systems, University of South Wales

• **Professor Norman Doe FLSW**
Professor of Law, Cardiff University

• **Professor Gareth Evans FRCP FLSW**
Professor of Medical Genetics and Cancer
Epidemiology, University of Manchester

• **Professor Sir Malcolm Evans KCMG
OBE FLSW**
Professor of Public International
Law, University of Bristol



• **Professor Peter Excell FIET FBCS FLSW**
Professor Emeritus, Wrexham Glyndŵr
University

• **Emeritus Professor Peter Field FLSW**
Emeritus Professor, Bangor University

• **Dr Dylan Foster Evans FLSW**
Head of School of Welsh,
Cardiff University

• **Professor Caroline Franklin FEA FLSW**
Professor of English Literature & Creative
Writing, Swansea University

• **Professor Christopher Hann FLSW**

Director, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

• **Professor Glyn Hewinson FLSW**

Sêr Cymru II STAR Chair & Director of the Centre of Excellence for Bovine Tuberculosis, Aberystwyth University

• **Dr E John Hughes CBE FRSA FLSW**

Formerly HM Ambassador Argentina and Paraguay; Visiting Professor in Practice, LSE IDEAS

• **Professor Ifan Hughes FLSW**

Professor of Physics, University of Durham

• **Dr Rhiannon Ifans FLSW**

Formerly Anthony Dyson Fellow, Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, University of Wales Trinity Saint David

• **Professor Emyr Lewis FLSW**

Professor of Law and Head of the Department of Law and Criminology, Aberystwyth University

• **Professor Geraint Lewis FLSW**

Professor of Astrophysics, University of Sydney

• **Professor Ambreena Manji FLSW**

Professor of Land Law and Development, Cardiff School of Law and Politics, and President of the African Studies Association



• **Professor Donna Mead OBE CStJ FLSW**

Chair, Velindre University NHS Trust

• **Professor Jonathan Morris FLSW**

Professor in Organisational Analysis, Cardiff University

• **Dr Sue Niebrzydowski FLSW**

Reader in Medieval Literature, Bangor University



• **Ms Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW**

Chair of the Board of Governors, Wrexham Glyndŵr University

• **Professor Ceri Phillips FLSW**

Head of College of Human & Health Sciences & Professor of Health Economics, Swansea University

• **Professor John Pickett CBE FRS FLSW**

Professor of Biological Chemistry, Cardiff University

• **Professor Ryszard Piotrowicz FLSW**

Professor of Law, Aberystwyth University; Adjunct Professor of Law, University of South Australia; First Vice-President of GRETA, the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings



- **Professor David Ian Rabey FLSW**
Professor of Theatre and Theatre Practice, Aberystwyth University
- **Professor Dominic Reeve FICE FIMA FRMetS FLSW**
Professor of Coastal Engineering and Head of the Zienkiewicz Centre for Computational Engineering, Swansea University
- **Professor Geoff Richards FBSE FIOR FLSW**
Director, AO Research Institute, Davos
- **Professor David Ritchie FInstP CPhys FLSW**
Professor of Semiconductor Science and Technology, Swansea University; Professor of Experimental Physics, University of Cambridge
- **Professor Julian Sampson FRCP FMedSci FLSW**
Professor of Medical Genetics, Cardiff University Medical School
- **Professor Karl Schmidt FLSW**
Professor, School of Mathematics, Cardiff University
Professor, School of Mathematics, Cardiff University

- **Professor Keshav Singhal MBE FRCS FLSW**
Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, CTM Health Board; Visiting Professor, University of South Wales, All India Institute of Medical Science and Anna Medical School, Mauritius

- **Professor Irena Spasić FLSW**
Professor of Computer Science; Director of the Cardiff University Data Innovation Research Institute



- **Professor Martyn Tranter FLSW**
Professor of Polar Biogeochemistry and Director of the Bristol Glaciology Centre, University of Bristol

- **Professor Elaine Treharne MAAd FSA FRHistS FEA FLSW**
Roberta Bowman Denning Professor of Humanities, Professor of English, and, by courtesy, Professor of German Studies at Stanford University, USA

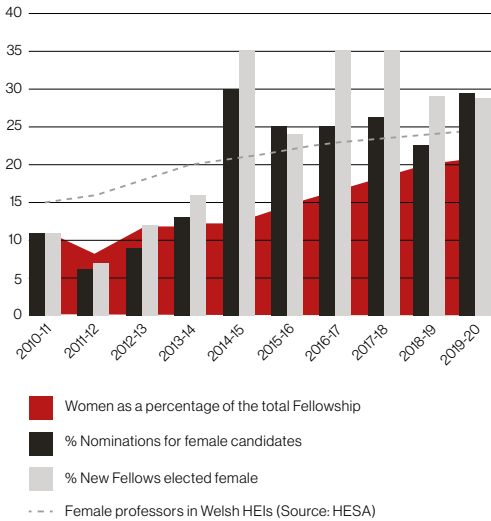
- **Professor Kathryn Woodward FLSW**
Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, Open University

- **Professor Reyer Zwiggelaar FLSW**
Head of the Graduate School, Faculty Associate Dean of Research and Professor of the Department of Computer Science, Aberystwyth University

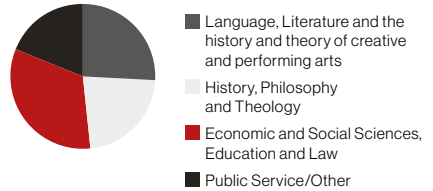


The Fellowship as a Whole

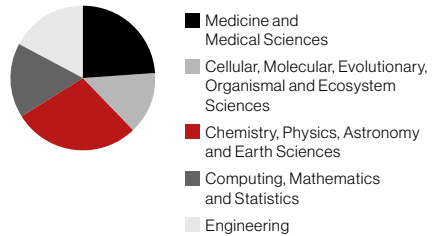
Proportion of Women in the Fellowship



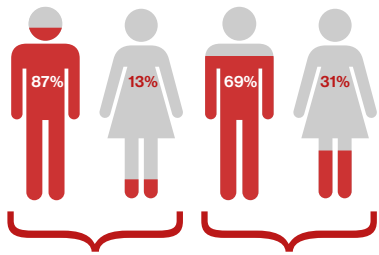
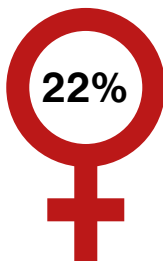
Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Public Service Fellows:



Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine Fellows:



Women now comprise 22% of the Society's Fellowship. The proportion of women elected as new Fellows remains steady at 28%. We are actively seeking to improve on this as part of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy.



Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine.

Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Public Services.

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 Bye-laws. These, along with the Society's Regulations, constitute our governing instruments.

Officers

President

Sir Emyr Jones Parry

GCMG FInstP FLSW (until May 2020)

Professor Hywel Thomas CBE FREng

FRS FLSW MAE (from May 2020)

Vice-Presidents

- Professor Michael Charlton FInstP MAE FLSW (Science, Technology and Medicine)
- Professor David Boucher FRHistS FAcSS FLSW (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) (until May 2020)
- Professor Helen Fulton FSA FLSW (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) (from May 2020)

Treasurer

- Professor Keith Smith
FRSC FLSW

General Secretary

- Professor K Alan Shore
FInstP FLSW



Professor Helen Fulton was elected Vice-President of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in May 2020.

Council Members

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

- Professor Roger Awan-Scully (from May 2020)
- Professor David Boucher (from May 2020)
- Dr Sally Davies
- Professor Sioned Davies (until May 2020)
- Professor David Evans (until May 2020)
- Professor Clair Gorrara (from May 2020)
- Professor Alma Harris (from May 2020)
- Professor Ieuan Hughes
- Professor John Jones
- Professor Densil Morgan (until May 2020)
- Professor John Morgan (until May 2020)
- Professor Iwan Morus
- Professor Tim Phillips (until May 2020)
- Professor Qiang Shen (from May 2020)
- Professor Hywel Thomas (until May 2020)
- Professor Terry Threadgold
- Professor John V Tucker (from May 2020)
- Professor Meena Upadhyaya (from May 2020)
- Dr Lynn Williams

Royal Patron

From June 2019, His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, graciously accepted the Society's invitation to remain its Royal Patron for a further period of five years.

Financial Review

The Society's finances remained on a positive footing during 2019-20, despite the challenging circumstances surrounding the coronavirus pandemic. We continued to diversify our funding streams where possible, with increased efforts to secure restricted funding for projects in addition to our core funding. Our Council and Finance Committee played an active role in financial management, helping to safeguard the charity's long-term sustainability.

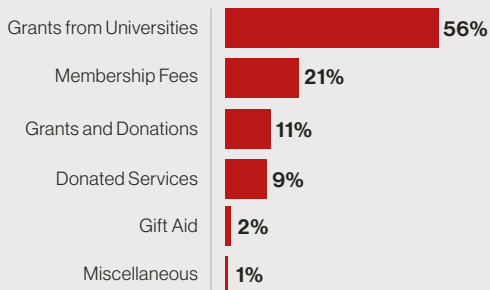
We achieved a surplus of £24,139 during the year, consisting of an unrestricted surplus of £16,921 and a restricted surplus of £7,218. The balance sheet shows that we carried forward a total fund of £418,478 at the end of the period, consisting of unrestricted funds of £402,167 and restricted funds of £16,311.

Income

Our total income during the year was £321,179, a slight increase compared to the previous year (£320,511). Much of our core income (£176,700 in total) continued to derive from universities in Wales; they provided generous unrestricted grants and, in some cases, additional grants for specific projects. Our next most importance source of income was admission fees and subscriptions from our Fellows, who now number over 550 (£66,543). This was supplemented by the Gift Aid claimed against membership fees wherever possible (£7,739).

The University of Wales Trinity Saint David continued to host us at its Registry Building in Cardiff. The University's in-kind support for the Society – which also includes IT services and administrative support – was valued at £29,370.

Sources of Income

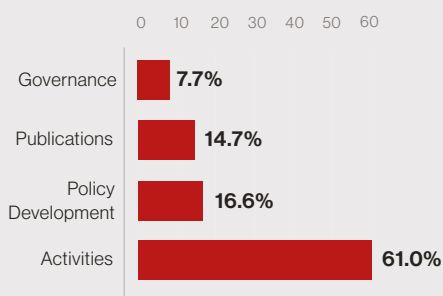


Expenditure

Total expenditure this year was £286,831. This was significantly lower than the previous year's total (£307,078), largely because of the constraints on our activities imposed by the pandemic. Some areas of restricted activity expenditure have been carried over to 2020-21.

As in previous years, our largest category of expenditure was on activities – including conferences, workshops, and building the Society's Fellowship (£174,913). Other key areas of work during the year were publications (£42,190) and policy development (£47,713). As with many other charities our size, the largest single cost to the charity – included in all the above areas – was staffing (£202,519).

Categories of Expenditure



Reserves

The Society reviewed its reserves policy during the year. Our new policy is to maintain a free reserve of six months' core costs (£132,645).

The remainder of the Society's unrestricted funds (£259,006) are now designated a Strategic Development Fund. Some reserves are in the form of investments; their value was affected this year by the coronavirus pandemic, and we continue to monitor their long-term performance.

Future developments

There are many opportunities for the Society to develop and expand its work – covering areas such as higher education and research policy, civic engagement, and support for early career researchers. To maximise our impact, we are exploring a number of avenues for additional funding. These include realising the public recommendation, by the Diamond Review of higher education in Wales, for the Society to receive core public funding. We also continue to pursue income from trusts, foundations, and other public and private income sources.

The Society's full financial statements have been independently examined. The full accounts can be viewed at www.learnedsociety.wales.



“It is more important than ever for us to do all that we can to promote Wales overseas. This means using every asset at our disposal... We achieve more when we work together.”

Eluned Morgan AM,
Minister for International Relations
and Welsh Language, speaking at
our Soft Power Strategies event,
November 2019.

Financial Summary

Crynodeb Ariannol

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 July 2020

Datganiad o Weithgareddau Ariannol yn y flwyddyn yn diwedd 31 Gorffennaf 2020

	Unrestricted funds Cronfeydd anghyfyngedig	Restricted funds Cronfeydd cyfyngedig	TOTAL FUNDS CYFANSWM CRONFEYDD	TOTAL FUNDS CYFANSWM CRONFEYDD
	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM / INCWM A GWADDOLION O:				
Donations and legacies/ Rhoddion a chymynroddion	109,201	1,370	110,571	105,141
Charitable activities/ Gweithgareddau elusenol	179,530	27,950	207,480	213,875
Investments/Buddsoddiadau	3,128	-	3,128	1,495
Total Income and Endowments Cyfanswm Incwm a Gwaddolion	291,859	29,320	321,179	320,511
EXPENDITURE ON / GWARIANT AR:				
Charitable activities/ Gweithgareddau elusenol	264,729	22,102	286,831	307,078
Total Expenditure Cyfanswm Gwariant	264,729	22,102	286,831	307,078
Net (loss)/gain on investments/ Enillion/(colledion) net ar fuddsoddiadau	(10,209)	-	(10,209)	2,248
Net Movement in Funds/ Symud Net mewn Cronfeydd	16,921	7,218	24,139	15,681
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS / CYSONI CRONFEYDD				
Total funds brought forward/ Cyfanswm cronfeydd a ddygywyd ymlaen	385,246	9,093	394,339	378,658
Total funds carried forward Cyfanswm cronfeydd i'w dwyn ymlaen	402,167	16,311	418,478	394,339

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2020 / Mantolen ar 31 Gorffennaf 2020

	£ 2020	£ 2019
FIXED ASSETS/ASEDAU SEFYDLOG		
Tangible assets / Asedau diriaethol	-	556
Intangible assets / Asedau anniriaethol	10,516	5,370
Investments / Buddsoddiadau	42,039	52,248
Total Fixed Assets / Cyfanswm Asedau Sefydlog	52,555	58,174
CURRENT ASSETS/ASEDAU CYFREDOL		
Debtors / Dyledwyr	20,544	63,230
Cash at bank and in hand / Arian yn y banc ac mewn llaw	375,225	293,621
Total Current Assets / Cyfanswm Asedau Cyfredol	395,769	356,851
LIABILITIES/RHWYMEDIGAETHAU		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year Credydwyr: symiau'n ddyledus o fewn blwyddyn	(29,846)	(20,686)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/ASEDAU CYFREDOL NET	365,923	336,165
NET ASSETS/ASEDAU NET	418,478	394,339
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY/CRONFEYDD YR ELUSEN:		
Restricted income funds / Cronfeydd incwm cyfyngedig	16,311	9,093
Unrestricted funds / Cronfeydd anghyfyngedig	402,167	385,246
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS/ CYFANSWM CRONFEYDD YR ELUSEN	418,478	394,339