



Guidance for Honorary Fellowship Recommendations

Honorary Fellows may be recommended by any Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. This guidance sets out the process for doing so. The criteria for an Honorary Fellow differ from that of an Fellow and thus, the nominations process is distinct.

Role of Honorary Fellows:

- Honorary Fellows are individuals with a global reputation who engage with the Society at an ambassadorial level.
- Each Honorary Fellow will be encouraged to play an active role in the Society, helping promote the organisation's impact and contributing their time and influence to help deliver the Society's priorities.
- Once elected, they are lifelong members subject to adherence to the Fellowship Code of Conduct.
- They may use the letters HonFLSW after their names.
- Honorary Fellows are not required to pay an admission fee or subscription fee.
- They are not entitled to vote on Society business but are entitled to any other privileges of being a Fellow.

Honorary Fellowship Criteria:

Election as an Honorary Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales recognises those with an international reputation, an exceptionally high public profile, and outstanding impact in their domain. They will be supportive of LSW's Mission and will be willing to act as an ambassador for the Society.

Candidates may include those who could not ordinarily be nominated under LSW Fellowship rules. An Honorary Fellow should not have a perceived conflict of interest with the Society's strategic objectives and ambitions.

Honorary Fellows may be from any nation, background (academic or otherwise) or field of expertise, as long as it can be demonstrated that they meet the following criteria:

- **An outstanding and impactful contribution to society and/or scholarship which is globally recognised.**

Honorary Fellows will have a reputation for achievements that are of international value, including charitable and philanthropic work.

- **An exceptionally high positive public profile.**

Honorary Fellows will have a significant and positive public profile beyond their area of expertise.

- **A career and standing that align with the strategic objectives and ambitions of LSW.**

The work and career of Honorary Fellows will support and align with the strategic objectives and ambitions of the Society. We hope that our Honorary Fellows will be willing to commit their time and influence to help shape and develop the Society's priorities.

- **Willingness to engage with the Society at the ambassadorial level.**

Honorary Fellows may be in a position to participate in high level debates and agenda-setting activities on behalf of the Society.

- **It is desirable, but not essential, that Honorary Fellows can demonstrate some connection to, or affinity with, Wales.**

We would expect our Honorary Fellows to be personally committed to the wellbeing of Wales.

Process for recommending Honorary Fellows:

- Recommendations for Honorary Fellowship of the Learned Society of Wales may be submitted by any Fellow of the Society, with the exception of any Fellows who are members of the Fellowship Committee and the selected Independent Member.
- Each recommendation must be 'seconded' by another Fellow of the Society.
- Recommendation must be via the 'Letter of Recommendation' provided for this purpose.
- Each Letter of Recommendation must detail how the Fellow believes the candidate meets the criteria for Honorary Fellowship.
- Honorary Fellows will be invited to engage with the Society in some form during their Fellowship – from attending a suitable event to delivering a lecture. This will be highlighted to them if invited to election.

- The window to submit a Letter of Recommendation will be detailed on the website each year – recommendations must be received by the deadline to be considered in that election year.
- Nominations should remain confidential and the individual being recommended for Honorary Fellowship should NOT be told that their name is being put forward. They will be contacted by LSW staff if their names are approved.

Scrutiny of Honorary Fellowship nominations:

- Letters of Recommendation received in any election year will be presented to a special meeting of the Fellowship Committee. This meeting will consist of the usual members of the Fellowship Committee along with one Independent Member (a Fellow) as well as an invitation extended to one Honorary Fellow to contribute to the scrutiny.
- This special Fellowship Committee meeting will consider each recommendation received against the Honorary Fellowship Criteria.
- Due diligence will be followed with regards to the need to undertake any additional research into a candidate before making a decision.
- Following this discussion, the special Fellowship Committee will agree which names from the Letters of Recommendation will be put forward to Council as a list of 'names recommended for election' to Honorary Fellowship of LSW with no rank order.
- This list of names recommended for election will be presented to Council for approval.
- Any Council member who has submitted or seconded a Letter of Recommendation for a name on the list must absent themselves from this discussion.
- No feedback on the discussions will be collected or offered.
- There will be no cap on the number of names that can be recommended.

Election of Honorary Fellows:

- Once approved by Council, LSW staff will contact individuals on the list of names recommended for election and invite them to accept the offer of Honorary Fellowship (subject to the result of the Fellowship ballot).
- The expectations of Honorary Fellows with regards to a willingness to engage with the Society at the ambassadorial level will be highlighted in this invitation

and individuals will be invited to accept (or decline) Honorary Fellowship on this basis.

- Individuals who accept this invitation will be added to the annual Fellowship ballot along with the names of proposed new Fellows for Fellowship.
- After election, each new Honorary Fellow will be invited to attend a suitable event or meeting (often the AGM) to be welcomed and formally admitted to Honorary Fellowship of the Society.