



Wednesday 06 May 2026

## Annual General Meeting, 20 May 2026

Dear Fellow,

The Learned Society of Wales Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place at 3:00pm on Wednesday 20 May 2026.

The Society will be hosting a hybrid AGM. This will allow Fellows to attend in person at Cardiff University or join us online. You can **register for the AGM [here](#)**.

If you are joining online and need any assistance in setting up Zoom, please contact me at [clerk@lsw.wales.ac.uk](mailto:clerk@lsw.wales.ac.uk).

To view the Agenda and Papers for the meeting, please click [here](#).

If you are unable to attend the AGM and would like to vote by proxy, please click the link below to complete your Proxy form by 4.00pm on Monday 18 May 2026.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/XJLHIO/>

Yours Sincerely,

**Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala**  
Clerk to Council  
[clerk@lsw.wales.ac.uk](mailto:clerk@lsw.wales.ac.uk)



**CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU**  
**THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES**

**Annual General Meeting - Agenda**

**Wednesday 20 May 2026, 15:00 - 17:00**

<b>0</b>	<b>Housekeeping</b> Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive	oral <b>(5 mins)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> Professor Hywel Thomas, President	oral <b>(5 mins)</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>In Memoriam</b> Professor Hywel Thomas, President	oral <b>(2 mins)</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Professor Hywel Thomas, President	oral <b>(1 min)</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting</b> Professor Hywel Thomas, President	attached <b>(1 min)</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Highlights of the Year</b> Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive	oral <b>(20 mins)</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Honours, Prizes and Awards: Fellows' achievements</b> Professor Hywel Thomas, President	AGM/2026/01 <b>(5 mins)</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Governance Matters:</b> <b>(a) 2024/25 Annual Report and Accounts; Appointment of Independent Examiners for 2025/26</b> Dr Sally Davies, Treasurer	AGM/2026/02 <b>(15 mins)</b>
	<b>(b) Officers, Council, Committees &amp; Groups: Outgoing and new members</b> Professor Faron Moller, General Secretary	AGM/2026/03 <b>(15 mins)</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Election of new Fellows 2025/26 and the Formal Welcome and Introduction of Fellows</b> Professor Helen Fulton, VP HASS	AGM/2026/04 <b>(20 mins)</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>President's Annual Address</b> Professor Hywel Thomas, President	Oral <b>(15 mins)</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>President-elect's Address</b> Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens, President-elect	Oral <b>(10 min)</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Wednesday 19 May 2027	oral <b>(1 min)</b>



**CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU  
THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES**

**Minutes of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting**  
**Held in The Hadyn Ellis Building and via Video Conferencing**  
**on Wednesday 21 May 2025**

**In attendance:**

**Present:**

Professor Hywel Thomas	(President)
Professor Robert Beynon	(Vice-President STEM)
Dr Sally Davies	(Treasurer)
Professor Faron Moller	(General Secretary)

Professor Alka Ahuja	Professor David Gethin	Professor Rhiannon Owen
Professor Sashin Ahuja	Professor Haley Gomez	Dr Dafydd Owen
Dr Padma Anagol	Professor Claire Gorrara	Menai Owen-Jones
Dr Mahaboob Basha	Professor Manu Haddad	Professor Duc Truong Pham
Dr Zubeyde Bayram-Weston	Professor Simon Hands	Professor John Pickett
Professor David Boucher	Professor Ann Heilmann	Professor Julian Preece
Professor Nigel Brown	Professor Chris Hopkins	Professor Eleri Pryse
Professor Tony Brown	Professor Kerry Howell	Professor Raluca Radulescu
Professor Simon Chandler-Wilde	Professor Uzo Iwobi	Professor David Ian Rabey
Professor Jing Chen	Dr Layla Jader	Professor Paul Rees
Professor Anthony Cohn	Professor Angela V John	Professor Tom Rippeth
Dr Amanda Collis	Professor Terry Jones	Professor Gareth Roberts
Professor Simon Cox	Professor Huw Jones	Professor Bernard Schutz
Professor Ceri Davies	Professor Steven Jones	Professor Hasamukh Shah
Professor Huw Davies	Professor Karin Wahl-Jorgensen	Dr Changjing Shang
Professor Siwan Davies	Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason	Professor Qiang Shen
Professor Indu Deglurkar	Professor Deborah Kays	Professor Alan Shore
Professor Iain Donnison	Professor Robert Knipe	Professor Dame Elan Closs
Professor Philip Donoghue	Professor Yukun Lai	Stephens
Dr Arwyn Edwards	Professor Arthur Lees	Professor Dame Jean Thomas
Dr Haydn E. Edwards	Professor Yueng Lenn	Professor Terry Threadgold-
Professor Dianne Edwards	Professor John Lloyd	Taylor
Professor Edwin Egede	Professor Pedr ap Llwyd	Professor Elizabeth Treasure
Professor Andrew Evans	Professor Marian Ludgate	Professor Meena Upadhyaya
Professor Robert Evans	Professor Marco Marletta	Dr Peter Wakelin
Professor Christopher Evans	Professor John Mayberry	Professor Oliver Williams
Professor David Evans	Professor Angela Mihai	The Reverend Professor John
Brian Ford-Lloyd	Professor Kathryn Monk	Tudno Williams
Professor Gordon Foxall	Professor Michael Morgan	Professor Stephen Williams
Professor Jane Francis	Professor John Moses	Sian Williams
Professor Alan Fraser	Professor Alexander Movchan	Dr Yan Wu
Professor Jadwiga Furmaniak	Professor Helen Nicholson	Agnes Xavier-Phillips
	Professor Perumal Nithiarasu	<b>94 Fellows in attendance</b>

**In attendance:**

Joe Boyle	<i>(Communications Officer)</i>
Dr Fiona Dakin	<i>(Head of Public Policy)</i>
Lynwen Davies	<i>(Interpreter)</i>
Menna Ellis	<i>(Events Assistant)</i>
Olivia Harrison	<i>(Chief Executive)</i>
Dr Barbara Ibinarriaga Soltero	<i>(Programme Manager)</i>
Dr Haydee Martinez Zavala	<i>(Clerk to Council)</i>
Alex Rees	<i>(Operations Officer)</i>
Lisa Stillman	<i>(Finance Officer)</i>
Helen Willson	<i>(Head of Equity and Engagement)</i>

***The Annual General Meeting opened at 3:00 p.m.***

**0. Housekeeping**

The President, Professor Hywel Thomas, welcomed everyone to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and invited the Chief Executive to address the briefing. The Chief Executive outlined housekeeping announcements for in-person and online attendees.

Attendees were informed that the meeting would be streamed to Fellows attending online, and that it would be recorded for minute-taking purposes.

Additionally, the Chief Executive instructed in-person attendees on how to enable their interpretation and hearing assistance devices.

**01. Welcome and Introduction**

The President formally welcomed all attendees to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Learned Society of Wales and declared the meeting open.

A special welcome was given to new Fellows and current Fellows who have been unable to attend a previous AGM.

The President welcomed Lynwen Davies, who was in attendance to provide simultaneous translation, and reminded attendees that they were invited to address the AGM in Welsh or English.

**02. In Memoriam**

The President noted the passing of the following Fellows,

- Professor Sir Mansel Aylward, CB MD DSC FFPM FFOM FFPH FRCP FLSW (1942 – 2024).
- Professor Ronald Brown, FLSW (1935 – 2024).
- Professor Geraint Jenkins, DLitt FBA FLSW (1946 – 2025).
- Professor John Parkes, FRS FLSW (1950 – 2024).
- Professor Richard Rathbone, FRHistS FLSW (1942 – 2024).

The meeting held a moment of silence in their memory.

**03. Apologies for absence**

The President noted that 13 apologies had been received, including one from the Vice-President of HASS. Additionally, 16 Fellows had registered to attend by Proxy.

All apologies have been recorded below:

**Apologies: 13 Fellows**

Professor William Housley	Professor Robin Williams	Professor Paul Matthews
Professor Sir Deian Hopkin	Professor Helen Fulton	Professor Jon Timmis
Professor Kathryn Monk	Professor Michael Davies	Professor Michael Fitzpatrick
Professor Yvonne McDermott Rees	Maxine Penlington	Professor Andrew Rowley
	Dr Elaine Canning	

**Present by Proxy: 16 Fellows**

Professor William Housley	Professor Delyth James	Professor Sheila Hunt
Professor Sir Malcolm Evans	Professor Geraint Jewell	Dr Sue Niebrzydowski
Professor Michael C R Davies	Dr Cameron Durrant	Professor Peter Atkinson
Professor Maria Hinfelaar	Professor Katherine Leni Oglesby	Professor Keith Harding
Professor Michael Reed	Professor Roger King	Professor Ralph A Griffiths
Professor John Harper		

**04. Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting**

Members **RECEIVED, NOTED** and **APPROVED** the Minutes of the fourteenth Annual General Meeting of the Society, held on 22 May 2024.

## **05. Introduction to Honorary Fellows**

The Chair, and President, invited the General Secretary, Professor Faron Moller, to introduce the Honorary Fellow, Professor Dame Jane Francis:

*This can be viewed [here](#).*

*Jane Francis is Director of the British Antarctic Survey. She is involved with international polar organisations, such as the Antarctic Treaty and European Polar Board, and is on several advisory boards of national polar programmes. She is a geologist by training, with research interests in past climate change. She has undertaken research projects at the universities of Southampton, London, Leeds and Adelaide, using fossils and sediments to determine the change from greenhouse to icehouse climates in the polar regions over the past 100 million years. She has undertaken over 15 scientific expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctica in search of fossil forests and information about climates of the past.*

*Professor Dame Francis was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (DCMG) in recognition of services to UK polar science and diplomacy. She was also awarded the UK Polar Medal by H.M The Queen, the Royal Geographical Society's Patrons Medal and the 2022 Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation Award for Planetary Health. Professor Dame Francis is Chancellor of the University of Leeds, a Fellow of the Royal Society, and President of the Royal Geographical Society.*

Professor Moller thanked Professor Dame Francis for attending the meeting and delivering an engaging speech, then invited the Chief Executive to continue with the meeting proceedings.

## **06. Highlights of the Year**

The Chief Executive presented the following overview of the Society's activities over the past year.

### **The Learned Society of Wales: 2023-2028 Strategy**

The Society's charitable purpose is to advance education, learning, academic study and knowledge to contribute to scientific, cultural, social, environmental and economic development within Wales and beyond. The mission in the current 5-year strategy is to achieve that charitable objective by harnessing the multidisciplinary expertise, experience and connections of our Fellowship, to promote and develop Wales' research and innovation community, and to support the use of excellent and diverse research to solve the challenges faced in Wales and across the world.

To achieve this, there are four strategic objectives:

## **1. Contribute to Major Policy Solutions by Providing Independent Advice and Facilitating Knowledge Exchange**

This year, the Society has been running a popular new format for its policy work in the form of expert roundtables. These are on a topic identified as an area of interest to policymakers and the Society convenes Fellows with expertise in the area with key policymakers, to both discuss the topic and produce factsheets. The Society carefully curates attendees to ensure they provide independent, multidisciplinary advice from experts from a wide variety of backgrounds.

The Society continues to be a convening power for debate. For example, working with Welsh Government on the Constitutional Future for Wales. Additionally, at this year's Eisteddfod, the Society held a cystadleuaeth Traethawd Tri Munud (three minute thesis competition) for ECRs with the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol. This was so successful that the Society will be running it again next year.

Another element of LSW's policy work is to support Wales Studies – research for and about Wales. Again, the Society drew on its convening powers to bring together the key researchers and stakeholders, such as Medr and the University of Wales Press, and many of its Fellows, to build the case for research and innovation that falls underneath the Wales Studies banner.

In addition to its own policy roundtables, the Society continued to work with others to harness the expertise of the Fellowship to produce trusted, independent advice for policymakers to tackle challenges. For example, the report on valuing Arts and Humanities degrees, done in collaboration with the Open University in Wales.

Finally, the Society continued to grow its work with the other national academies, particularly its most similar counterparts in Scotland and Ireland through the Celtic Academies Alliance.

## **2. Create an Environment that Supports Wales' Current and Future Experts**

The Society's second priority is to create an environment that supports Wales' current and future experts.

As part of this, the Society has increased its grant portfolio with four categories now available for its research workshop grants. These are designed to encourage collaborate investigation into research proposition that is at an early stage of its development. There was unprecedented demand this year, resulting in the Society using its small £7k underspend from last year to boost the total pot to £28k, and subsequently fund 26 workshops.

Through these grants, the Society has supported research in an amazingly wide variety of areas, from food banks to cosmic rays, and from Community-Driven Entrepreneurial Education to access to social prescribing for refugees.

The Society has also introduced a new way for it support more of the events that Fellows run. The FLSW Event Support offers financial support, as well as promotion and other in-kind support to help raise the profile of Fellows and the Society in work that aligns with its strategy. This year, 11 events have been supported.

Another way the Society supports researchers is by celebrating them. The most high-profile way this is done is through the medals awarded to outstanding researchers every year. This year was no exception, with medals being awarded to 6 outstanding researchers last October.

The Society has continued to grow its offer and support to Early Career Researchers (ECRs), primarily through its ECR Network. It now has around one thousand ECRs as part of the network, including from all nine Welsh Universities, other organisations that employ researchers such as businesses, charities and the public sector, and independent researchers. The multi-disciplinary, pan-Wales approach is designed to add value to other ECR networks, whether those be at individual institutions, discipline based, or run by others, such as the British Academy. The ECR Network is becoming increasingly recognised by key partners, including Welsh Government and UK funders.

The 2024 ECR Colloquium was held in Bangor last June. Over 100 ECRs from across Wales attended for a fully bilingual event. The theme was “A Connected Wales”, chosen to reflect the Society’s commitment to developing a cohesive and interdisciplinary research network in Wales, and to connect Welsh research with policy and practice.

### **3. Develop a More Diverse and Active Fellowship**

As clear in the mission statement, the Fellowship is at the heart of the Society and key to delivering its strategy. The Chief Executive thanked many Fellows who have played a significant role in delivering the strategy this year, whether that be through chairing an ECR Network workshop, contributing expertise to policy work, and so on.

The Society has engaged with much more of its Fellowship this year through Fellow receptions in USW, Aberystwyth, Bangor, Wrexham and at Cardiff Metropolitan where it held its first Women’s Network.

The Society is pleased to see 34% of its new Fellows this year are women but know this should still improve. A Women’s Network meeting was piloted as part of the strategic priority to pro-actively encourage Fellows from under-represented groups and will be deciding, with our Fellows, how to support and develop this network in the coming year.

The Society's other commitment to increasing the diversity of the Fellowship was to increase the number of people from ethnic minority backgrounds. The Society is pleased to say that it has improved, with 23% of the new Fellows being from an ethnic minority background, but there is more to do. For this reason, the Society is pleased to be supporting the Wales Ethnic Minority Professor Initiative, recently launched in the Senedd.

Fellows were reminded that they can help with this strategic priority to diversify the Fellowship by nominating. Any Fellow, including new Fellows, can nominate and all attendees were encouraged to do so.

#### **4. Develop Our Organisation**

The Society has done a lot of work in reviewing its policies and profile to be as welcome and inclusive as possible. The Chief Executive hoped that Fellows have seen the difference in the website and other communications. In particular, the Society is delighted that this has resulted in more Fellows deciding to engage in the Society's work. For example, in Council and Committees.

As a result of the increased income last year, the Society has focused on updating and professionalising its finance function this year and, with the support of Finance Committee, have been moving to making better use of investments and planning for longer-term sustainability.

Finally, with the staff team of eleven all in place this year, the Society is investing in staff development. The Chief Executive thanked every member of the team.

The Chief Executive concluded the presentation and opened the meeting for any questions.

#### **Attendees asked the following questions:**

- When looking online, a Fellow noticed that the workshop grants are siloed by discipline, with no interdisciplinary option. They asked whether the Society was considering this for future.
  - The Chief Executive responded, noting that the grants were originally designed to target underfunded disciplines, namely HASS and Wales Studies. Now that these disciplines have grown, the Chief Executive suggested that more funding can be allocated elsewhere. The grants are being reviewed over the summer, to be launched in autumn. Hence, the Society will consider this.

## **07. Honours, Prizes and Awards: Fellows' achievements**

The President thanked the Chief Executive and team for the work they have carried out so far.

Before proceeding with the next item, the President noted that the medals will be paused in 2025/26 while the Society seeks funding for additional medals to be launched next year. Instead of the Medals Ceremony taking place in the autumn, there will be a celebration event to mark the Society's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The President presented paper **AGM/2025/02**, the honours and awards that Fellows have received in the last 12 months (to the Society's knowledge). He noted that each year he is amazed by the breadth of the achievements and successes of the Fellowship and is proud to work with such a distinguished group of individuals. The President congratulated every Fellow listed.

*The full list of Honours, Prizes and Awards can be found in the paper.*

## **08. Introduction to Honorary Fellows**

The President invited the Vice-President of STEMM, Professor Robert Beynon, to introduce the Honorary Fellow, Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason:

*This can be viewed [here](#).*

*Dr Kanneh-Mason has had a transformational impact on the appreciation of, and engagement with classical music among young people, ethnic minorities and the general public. She and her outstanding family have captured the hearts of many people. She is an outstanding role model in many dimensions.*

*Her election to the Learned Society of Wales affirms its commitment to the highest educational standards and to excellence in music, particularly at a time when music and music education is somewhat under siege.*

*Professor Beynon did not list all of her many awards and recognitions, as they are too numerous to enumerate here, but they can be found in her biography on the Society's web pages. As examples, though, her book "The House of Music" has won several prizes, including the JM Barrie Lifetime Award and the Independent Society of Musicians Distinguished Musician Award. There are many more, including her Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Academy of Music.*

Professor Beynon thanked Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason for attending the meeting and delivering such an inspiring speech, then invited the Treasurer to continue with the meeting proceedings.

## **09. Governance Matters:**

### **(a) 2023/24 Annual Report and Accounts; Appointment of Independent Examiners**

The Treasurer, Dr Sally Davies, introduced the Society's Annual Report and Accounts for the period 01 August 2023 to 31 July 2024. The report is available to view on the Society's website [here](#) and hard copies are available to Fellows upon request.

#### **Key Financial Developments in 2023/24**

##### **Details of income**

The Treasurer noted that:

In 2023/24, the Society's income was £639,365 (up from £548,871 the previous year).

The Society became a large charity in the year 2022/23. Hence, the Accountancy firm that was employed last year to guide through the increased charity requirements of a larger charity has helped improve financial processes and controls.

The Society remains extremely grateful to all Welsh Universities who provided grants and in-kind support. Additionally, the Treasurer gave sincere thanks to all Fellows for their contribution through payment of subscriptions, devoted time, as well as additional donations.

Fellows were reminded that subscriptions are a charitable donation, not a membership fee. Therefore, all eligible Fellows were encouraged to claim GiftAid as it increases the value of the subscription to the Society by 25%, at no cost.

##### **Details of Expenditure and Reserves**

The Treasurer noted that:

Total expenditure this year was £645,324.

The Society reported a deficit of £5,959 (before gain on investments). After gains on investments (£12,765) the net difference in funds from 2022/23 to 2023/24 was a small surplus of nearly £7000. This has been used already in 2024 to fund additional small grants where the Society had an exceptional number of suitable applications.

The Society continues to hold sufficient reserves to satisfy the reserves policy and at the end of the financial year the Society held free reserves of £447,485.

Over half of the reserves are retained to cover at least six months of our core costs (£267,725), as per recommendations for a Charity and agreed by the finance committee. The remainder is designated as the Society's Strategic Investment Fund, the use of which is reviewed annually by Finance Committee and Council.

The Finance Committee began a review of its reserves and investments. The first stage has been to withdraw our funds from bank savings accounts and open a CAF Investment Platform.

Additionally, the Treasurer stated that:

- the Society is extremely grateful for the significant legacy received from Professor Robin Okey earlier this year and encouraged Fellows to consider leaving LSW a gift in their will.
- the Society is seeking sponsors for high-profile LSW awards and events, namely the medals and annual dinner.

### **Annual Report and Accounts**

The Treasurer welcomed Fellows to ask questions regarding the Annual Report and Accounts. None were raised.

**Fellows resolved to adopt the Society's Annual Report and Accounts  
2023 - 2024.**

### **Independent Financial Examiner**

Advantage Accountancy & Advisory has reviewed the Society's accounts and is pleased to advise that there were no issues or areas of concern. The Treasurer welcomed Fellows to ask questions regarding the Independent Financial Examiner. None were raised.

**Fellows resolved to approve Advantage Accountancy & Advisory as the  
Society's Independent examiners for 2024/25.**

The Treasurer concluded the presentation and invited the General Secretary, Professor Faron Moller, to introduce the next item on the agenda.

### **(b) Officers, Council and Committees: Outgoing and new members**

The General Secretary introduced paper **AGM/2025/04** to fulfil the Society's constitutional requirements and inform Fellows about:

- the Society's Governing Instruments (Royal Charter, Bye-laws and Regulations),
- details of membership of all LSW Committees, including the Council
- the outcome of the Election of Members of Council and Committees 2025

Regarding the election, the General Secretary highlighted the fantastic response received to the call for applications. There were 35 vacancies for 2025/26 and 51 applications received. This strong interest is a clear sign of a thriving Society, one that is truly engaged and committed to shaping our direction.

While the high volume of applications means that not everyone who expressed an interest could join the Council or Committees, LSW staff have proactively reached out to those who were not elected to explore other meaningful opportunities for engagement.

This proactive approach reflects the ongoing commitment to inclusivity and providing multiple opportunities for Fellows to be involved.

### **Work of Council and Committees 2024/25**

This year, Council have:

- Further embedded EDI into the Society's Fellowship, operational, and financial processes.
- Reviewed and revised the Society's Bye-laws and Regulations.
- Reviewed the Society's Risk Register.
- Approved the 2024/25 budget and associated activity plan.
- Approved the 2023/24 accounts.

### **Outgoing and new members**

The General Secretary outlined the outgoing and new members of Council, Committees, and Advisory Groups:

#### **Council**

Professor Iwan Rhys Morus and Professor Terry Threadgold have completed their terms of office.

The Fellowship elected the following nine candidates:

- Professor Rachel Ashworth
- Professor David Boucher
- Professor Siwan Davies
- Professor Sir Deian Hopkin
- Professor Pedr ap Llwyd
- Professor Mererid Puw Davies
- Professor Raluca Radulescu
- Professor Elizabeth Treasure
- Professor Karin Wahl-Jorgensen

Council members continuing their terms of office are:

- Professor Hywel Thomas, President (Chair)
- Professor Robert Beynon, Vice-President STEMM
- Professor Helen Fulton, Vice-President HASS
- Dr Sally Davies, Treasurer

- Professor Faron Moller, General Secretary
- Professor Qiang Shen
- Professor John Tucker
- Professor Meena Upadhyaya
- Professor Kirsti Bohata
- Professor Claire Gorrara
- Professor Alma Harris
- Professor Ambreena Manji

The General Secretary offered his sincere thanks to everyone who had given up their time to serve on the Council.

The full list of Council members can be found here:

<https://www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/our-council/>

### **The Executive Committee**

Its members will remain the same for 2025/26:

- Professor Hywel Thomas, President (Chair)
- Professor Robert Beynon, Vice-President
- Professor Helen Fulton, Vice-President
- Dr Sally Davies, Treasurer
- Professor Faron Moller, General Secretary
- Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive
- Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala, Clerk

### **General Purposes Committee**

Professor Raluca Radulescu and Professor Loredana Polezzi will serve for a second term, while Professor Perumal Nithiarasu will complete his term.

Its newly elected members are:

- Professor Sir Deian Hopkin
- Professor Indu Deglurkar
- Professor John Harwood

Committee members continuing their terms of office are:

- Professor Hywel Thomas (Chair)
- Maxine Penlington
- Professor Raluca Radulescu
- Professor Roger King
- Professor Loredana Polezzi FLSW (co-opted)

## Finance Committee

Professor Lisa Collins and Professor Mark Rees were re-elected and will serve their second terms.

Other Committee members continuing their terms of office are:

- Dr Sally Davies (Chair)
- Professor Ann Heilmann
- Professor John Tucker
- Professor Dawn knight

Its newly elected member is Professor Chenfeng Li.

## Governance Oversight Committee

Its members will remain the same for 2025/26:

- Professor Hywel Thomas (Chair)
- Professor Robert Beynon
- Professor Helen Fulton
- Dr Sally Davies
- Professor Faron Moller
- Professor Qiang Shen
- Professor Claire Gorrara

## Fellowship Committee

The members that started after the 2024 AGM and will continue their terms of office are:

- Professor Nigel Brown
- Dr Haydn E. Edwards
- Professor Edwin Egede
- Professor Helen Roberts

Professor Shareen Doak is stepping down while Professor Terry Threadgold and Dr Sally Davies are completing their terms as Council representatives in this Committee.

The Council representatives for 2025/26 will be Professor David Boucher and Professor Elizabeth Treasure.

Other Committee members continuing their terms of office are:

- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, (Co-Chair)
- Professor Helen Fulton FLSW, (Co-Chair)

## **Human Resources Committee**

Professor David Wyn Jones will step down.

Its newly elected members are:

- Professor Pedr ap Llwyd
- Professor Graeme Garrard

Committee members continuing their terms of office are:

- Professor Faron Moller (Chair)
- Maxine Penlington
- Elin Rhys
- Professor Geoff Richards

## **Presidential Search Committee**

The General Secretary noted that the new Presidential Search Committee has begun its search for the Society's next President as Professor Hywel Thomas will be completing his second term next year. The Committee is composed of the Governance Committee, excluding the President but including the Chief Executive.

## **Cenhadon**

For 2025/26:

### **Aberystwyth University**

- Professor Rhys Jones
- Professor Rattan Yadav FLSW

### **Bangor University**

- Professor Yueng-Djern Lenn
- Professor Raluca Radulescu

### **Cardiff Metropolitan University**

- Professor David Brooksbank
- Professor Gary Beauchamp

### **Cardiff University**

- Professor William Housley

### **Swansea University**

- Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi

### **University of South Wales**

- Professor Louise Bright

**Wrexham University**

- Professor Richard Day

Fellows were informed of current Cenhadon vacancies and encouraged to contact the Clerk if interested.

**Other Committees and Advisory Groups**

In addition to the Governance Committees, there are other committees and working groups such as:

- Scrutiny Committees
- Medals Committees
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Advisory Group
- Researcher Development Advisory Group
- Welsh Language Advisory Group

The General Secretary noted that many Scrutiny Committee members will be stepping down this year. Having been a crucial element to the Fellowship, he gave his thanks.

The General Secretary concluded this item by congratulating all newly elected members and thanking those who are completing their terms.

The full list of Committee members can be found here:

<https://www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/committees/>

**10. Introduction to Honorary Fellows**

The Treasurer proceeded with the next item and introduced two Honorary Fellows that were unable to attend the meeting. In recognition of their exceptional contributions to their fields, the Treasurer read out their biographies.

The first is The Honourable Julia Gillard AC, former Australian politician who served as Prime Minister of Australia and leader of the Labor Party from 2010 to 2013. She was deputy prime minister of Australia in the Kevin Rudd administration from 2007 to 2010, the first and only woman in Australian history to hold either of these offices.

The second is Professor Edward Witten, who has made profound contributions to contemporary physics, including supersymmetric and topological quantum field theory, string theory, M-theory, quantum gravity and quantum information theory. He is the only physicist to receive the Fields Medal, the mathematical equivalent of the Nobel Prize. Professor Witten's acceptance can be seen [here](#).

## **11. Election of new Fellows 2024/25 and the Formal Welcome and Introduction of Fellows**

The Treasurer invited the Vice-President for STEMM, Professor Robert Beynon, to introduce the Fellows elected in 2025.

Before proceeding, Professor Beynon emphasised Wales' reputation for high-calibre research and a thriving civic life, built on knowledge and expertise, is recognised in our newly elected Fellows,

The new Fellows include academics from across Welsh and UK universities, writers, researchers and leaders from the world of higher education, as well as law, medicine, media and arts.

Professor Beynon introduced all newly elected Fellows, while the President and Chief Executive handed their certificates to those present (*\* indicates Fellows present*):

<b>Fellows</b>	
*Professor Sashin Ahuja	*Professor Yukun Lai
*Dr Padma Anagol	Professor Caroline Lear
Dr Manon Antoniazzi	*Professor Arthur Lees
Dr Sumina Azam	*Professor John Lloyd
*Dr Mahaboob Basha	Professor Rainald Löhner
*Dr Zubeyde Bayram-Weston	Professor Anthony Mandal
Dr Shannu Bhatia	*Professor Paul Matthews
*Professor Simon Chandler-Wilde	*Professor John Mayberry
*Professor Jing Chen	Professor Angela Mihai
*Professor Nick Clifton	Professor Emma Jane Milton
*Dr Amanda Collis	*Professor Michael Morgan
*Professor Huw Davies	*Professor John Moses
*Professor Philip Donoghue	Professor Alexander Movchan
*Dr Arwyn Edwards	*Professor Rhiannon Owen
*Professor Michael Fitzpatrick	*Dr Dafydd Owen
*Professor Gordon Foxall	*Menai Owen-Jones
Professor Alan Fraser	Professor Ken Peattie
*Professor Jadwiga Furmaniak	*Professor Tom Rippeth
Professor Gwyn Gould	*Professor Has Mukh Shah
Professor Hugh Greenwell	*Dr Changjing Shang
*Professor Chris Hopkins	Professor Jonathan Timmis
*Professor Kerry Howell	*Dr Peter Wakelin
Professor Delyth James	Professor Oliver Williams
Professor Huw Jones	*Sïan Williams
Dr Lyn Jones	*Dr Yan Wu
Dr Rhodri Jones	*Agnes Xavier-Phillips
Professor Steven Jones	

Professor Terry Jones Professor William Jones *Professor Deborah Kays	<b>Honorary Fellows</b> *Professor Jane Francis *Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason
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## **12. President's Annual Address**

The President initially addressed the meeting in Welsh. He emphasised his delight in speaking to everyone at the end of another year full of opportunities, challenges and change. On behalf of the Society, he welcomed all of the new Fellows, and thanked Professor Dame Jane Francis and Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason for their illuminating presentations.

Each Fellow represents excellence in their fields, bringing a wide range of new experiences to the Society. Almost one quarter of this year's new Fellows have come from ethnic minority backgrounds. This is the second year in a row that the Society has succeeded in its ambition to redress the historical imbalance in its Fellowship, which is hugely important as the Society continues to work to improve its diversity.

He encouraged all Fellows to contribute to strengthen and diversify the already remarkable Fellowship.

The President recognised that it has been a challenging year for many Fellows and Early Career Researcher Network members who work in the university sector, with redundancies and entire departments facing closure. The Society has been highlighting the issue of underfunding for research in Wales and proposing solutions to decision makers for a long time. It continues to make the case for further increases in funding for the sector and advocating for the vital contribution research has, and will, make for Wales.

In this challenging context, it is more important than ever to support the next generation of researchers. The Society started the year with its second annual colloquium for Early Career Researchers in Bangor and re-shaped the Researcher Development Advisory Group to include mid-career researchers alongside ECRs. These researchers are the future of the research sector in Wales. Hence, the President thanked those who have given training and mentorship through the ECR Network and provided guidance support on the Advisory Group.

### **Annual Medals Ceremony**

The Annual Medals Ceremony showcases the best of Welsh knowledge and research with a ceremony in the Senedd. The 2024 winners are brilliant ambassadors for the Society's mission, covering a huge range of cutting-edge research. The President highlighted the work and expertise of the 2024 winners:

**Hugh Owen Medal**

- Professor Gary Beauchamp

**Frances Hoggan Medal**

- Professor Susan Baker

**Menelaus Medal**

- Professor Stuart Taylor

**Dillwyn Medals**

- Dr Alix Beeston
- Dr Laura Richardson
- Dr Roxanna Dehaghani

**Networking Grant Schemes**

The Society also supported impactful research of its own through its networking grant schemes. This funding is allowing experts to reach communities across Wales, from community entrepreneurship in Llanelli, to supporting mental wellbeing for food bank service users. This year, the Society added a new strand to its grant scheme for research on Peace, in collaboration with Academi Heddwch, and funded projects with international reach including partners in Myanmar, Thailand and Uganda.

**Celtic Academies Alliance**

The Society itself is also increasingly international facing. It has further deepened the connections with the Royal Irish Academy and the Royal Society of Edinburgh through the Celtic Academies Alliance, working towards the formalisation of an agreement which will see all three organisations scaling up their ambitions for collaboration. This year also saw a new President and a new strategy for the Federation of European Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA). We signed the recent statement from ALLEA expressing grave concern over the escalating threats to academic freedom in the United States. Our relationship with Europe is more crucial than ever, so we are planning to deepen our engagement with the European Commission and the European research community through ALLEA in the coming year. We have also supported a showcase of Welsh research in Brussels and hosted a webinar for Early-Career researchers explaining the opportunities in Horizon Europe.

The President noted that, in another year of challenge and contrast, never has the need for critical thinking, and robust, reliable evidence been more clear. The Society continues to bring Fellows together with key decision-makers to think about critical topics including artificial intelligence, medical technology innovation, and disability, and it plans to continue and extend this work next year. The President invited all Fellows to help the Society make the best use of the immense expertise that the Fellowship brings for the benefit of Wales, the wider world, and the future.

The President expressed his privilege to work alongside Council members. In particular, he gave special thanks to,

- Professor Iwan Morus who is completing his term on Council.
- Professor Alan Shore, Professor Terry Threadgold, and Professor Alma Harris who have completed their terms as Chairs of three Advisory Groups.
- Again, to Terry Threadgold who will also be leaving Council after nine years.

Finally, he addressed the meeting in Welsh again to give immense thanks to the Society's donors for their continued support, namely Medr and Welsh Universities. Additionally, he thanked all Fellows who have contributed not only through donations, but also their time.

### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

The President noted that the next AGM will take place on Wednesday 20 May 2026.

The President formally closed the 2025 AGM.

**Minutes approved by the President and Chair, Professor Hywel Thomas on 16 July 2025.**



## CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES

### Honours, Prizes & Awards

#### List of Awards and Honours Granted to Fellows, May 2025 – April 2026

**Note:** The following list has been compiled from the Fellows' Bulletins of the past year and may not be complete. To ensure that we have the most accurate and up-to-date information, we invite you to share any awards or recognition received. Additionally, please be aware that the information is organised by the month in which the news was publicised, rather than the month in which the award or honour was granted. Please also note that book publications and small grant awards are not included in this list.

#### May 2025

- **Professor Rhiannon Owen FSLW** was named a Senior Research Leader by Health and Care Research Wales.
- **Professor Angela John's FLSW** biography 'Behind the Scenes: The Dramatic Lives of Philip Burton', about the schoolmaster who nurtured his pupil Richard Jenkins into Richard Burton, star of stage and film, was published.
- **Professor Claire Gorrara FLSW** was appointed to the advisory board of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).
- **Professor Roger Falconer FLSW** was appointed to the International Scientific Committee of the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences.
- **Professor Graham Hutchings FLSW** received the Royal Academy of Engineering's prestigious Armourers and Brasiers Company Prize for 2025.
- **Professor W. John Morgan's FLSW** book 'Cultural Cold Wars and UNESCO in the Twentieth Century' has been nominated for the 2025 ASEES Wayne S. Vucinich Prize, in the United States.

#### June 2025

- **Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW** became an Honorary Fellow of Coleg Cymraeg for her contribution to Welsh-medium tertiary education.
- **Professor Andrew Green FLSW**, 'Voices on the Path' is a detailed history of walking in Wales from the Mesolithic period on, was published.
- **Professor Simon Chandler-Wilde** received the RWB Stephens Medal from the Institute of Acoustics "for outstanding contributions to acoustics research and education".
- **Professor Huw Pryce's FLSW**, life was celebrated at the book launch of newly published, 'Memory and Nation: Writing the History of Wales'.

## July 2025

- **Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW** was been awarded a prestigious €3 million European grant under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Training Network for her project 'EU ARTHURS: European Arthurs, Medieval to Modern'.
- **Kellie Beirne FLSW**, Director of Cardiff Capital Region, was named as an Honorary Fellow of Cardiff University.
- **Professor Pedr ap Llwyd FLSW** received an Honorary Doctor of Letters from Bangor University, his old college, for making knowledge, culture, and heritage more accessible to people across Wales.
- **Professor Jianzhong Wu FLSW** was named by Cornell University as the Mary Shepard B. Upton Visiting Professor in Engineering.
- **Professor Rob Beynon's FLSW** life and work was recognised at a special session during the British Society for Proteome Research conference in Liverpool.
- **Professor Claire Gorrara FLSW** was appointed as Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Public Engagement) and Dean of the School of Advanced Study, for the University of London.

## September 2025

- **Professor Bernard Schutz FLSW**, received the Royal Society's Rumford Medal in recognition of his lifetime research in physics and astrophysics and his contributions to physics education.
- **Dr Aled Eurig's FLSW** book, 'Dafydd Elis-Thomas: Nation Builder' exploring the political career of Dafydd Elis-Thomas from its beginning with his election to Westminster as a Plaid Cymru MP in 1974 to his retirement from the Senedd in Cardiff in 2021, was published.
- **Professor Graeme Garrard FLSW**, Professor of Political Theory, Cardiff University, became a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

## October 2025

- **Professor Hywel Thomas FLSW** was one of 50 foreign experts honoured with China's 2025 'Friendship Award' at a ceremony in Beijing.
- **Professor Amira Guirguis FLSW** was appointed as the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Chief Scientist, the RPS' first chief scientist from Wales.
- **Professor Sir Michael Berry HonFLSW** was awarded the Isaac Newton Medal and Lecture by the Institute of Physics in recognition of his 'profound contributions across mathematical and theoretical physics in a career spanning over 60 years'.
- **Professor Medwin Hughes FLSW** was announced as the new Chair of the Welsh National Opera.
- **Dr Emma Yhnell FLSW**, became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology.
- **Dr Charles Mynors FLSW**, became a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.

## December 2025

- **Menai Owen-Jones FLSW** received [C-Suite Award at the Women's Business Club Women's Business Awards](#), honouring top-level female executives from across sectors and industries, and celebrates their success and vision.

## January 2026

- **Professor Meena Upadhyaya FLSW** was named as a Dame for services to community cohesion in Wales and to Medical Genetics.
- **Professor Julia Jones FLSW**, Professor in Conservation Science at Bangor University, received an MBE for her services to the environment.

## February 2026

- **Professor John Loughlin's** new book, [Human Dignity: Its Roots and Challenges in Western Thought](#) which argues that modern appeals to human dignity cannot be sustained without serious engagement with their deeper philosophical and moral foundations', was published.
- **Professor Ruth King and Professor Idris Eckley** are among the [Founding Fellows of the new Academy for the Mathematical Sciences](#), for which **Professor Faron Moller** is a member of the Executive Committee.
- **Congratulations to Dr Emma Yhnell** who has been awarded a Principal Fellowship of Advance HE.

## March 2026

- **Professor Laurence Williams** received a lifetime achievement award from the Nuclear Institute for contributions to improving nuclear safety; he was [the recent cover story in Nuclear Future](#). He was also appointed chair of Singapore's National Environment Agency's nuclear safety advisory panel, and awarded a [public service medal](#) from Singapore's President for services to the country.

## April 2026

- **Professor Iain Quinn FLSW** has a forthcoming book, [Cultural Dissonance: Brexit Reconsidered](#) (The Lutterworth Press/Boydell & Brewer) and will be giving a series of talks in the coming year.



## CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES

### **Annual Report and Accounts (1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025)**

The Society's Bye-Laws and Regulations require our audited accounts and annual report to be presented at the AGM. Fellows are therefore invited to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for the period **1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025**.

The Report and Accounts can be downloaded from the Society's website:  
<https://www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/key-documents/>

Hard copies are available on request.

The draft accounts were prepared by the Society's Finance Officer and Clerk, and checked by accountants from Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to registered charities.

The accounts were then submitted to the Society's Independent Financial Examiner, Stephen John Bickerton FCCA from Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd, for consideration in January 2026. Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd carried out its examination under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. This ensured that the accounts provide a "true and fair view", in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd had no concerns about the accounts, and they came across no other matters in their examination to which attention should be drawn in this report.

The report and accounts were approved by Council on 18 March 2026. They were signed on behalf of the Society and its Trustees by the President and the Treasurer and subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission.

## Key financial developments in 2024/25

Total income was £735,584, up from £639,365 the previous year. The Society remains grateful for the excellent support of universities in Wales; they provided generous unrestricted grants and, in some cases, additional grants for specific projects and in-kind support. We would also like to thank our Fellows who support our work through payment of fees, subscriptions and donations, often supplementing payments by allowing the Society to claim Gift Aid against membership fees. In addition to the £316,000 award from Medr, the universities provide one of our main income sources, with their combined grants totalling £179,617. Our Fellows' admission and subscription fees this year amounted to £98,041. The Society also received an unexpected legacy from the will of a past Fellow, Professor Robin Okey, of £75,290. The University of Wales Trinity Saint David continues to provide the Society with generous in-kind support, including office space, payroll and IT services

Total expenditure this year was £644,806 comprising:

- Publications - £31,781 (5%)
- Public Policy Development - £67,941 (10%)
- Researcher Development - £127,117 (20%)
- Promoting Research/Researchers - £63,560 (10%)
- Grants - £31,781 (5%)
- Fellowship Development - £158,901 (25%)
- Running Costs - £95,342 (15%)
- Governance - £68,383 (10%)

On 31 July 2025, the Society held free reserves of £545,190 (2024: £447,485). The reserves policy remained unchanged during the year. We retain sufficient unrestricted funds to cover at least six months of our core costs (£275,750), ensuring we can cover any sudden increase in expenses, one-time unbudgeted expenses, or unanticipated loss in funding. The remainder of our reserves (£269,440) is designated as the Society's Strategic Development Fund (SDF). During 2024/25, significant efforts were directed toward achieving an optimal balance between accessibility to funds and maximising interest income. This objective was successfully met through strategic management of funds via the CAF platform (Flagstone), delivering both liquidity and strong returns.

**Fellows are asked to adopt the 2024/25 Annual Report and Accounts.**

## **Appointment of Independent Examiners and the fixing of their Remuneration for 2025/26**

To maintain public confidence in their work, the law requires most charities to have an external scrutiny of their accounts.

The Society's Bye-laws state the following:

### **17. Auditors or Independent Examiners**

*17.1 The accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by auditors or independent examiners who shall be appointed by and whose duties shall be regulated by the **Council**.*

*17.2 No persons shall be appointed as auditors or independent examiners unless suitably qualified.*

The Finance Committee previously established that due to its size, a full audit of the Society's accounts is not required; the smaller-scale **independent examination** is sufficient. Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd have agreed to carry out the examination of the accounts for 2025/26 at a cost of £3,700 (excl. VAT).

**Fellows are asked to approve the appointment of Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd as the independent financial examiner for the financial year 2025/26, at a cost of £3,700 (excl. VAT).**



## CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES

### **Governance Matters**

#### **Governing Instruments**

The Society is a Royal Charter Charity (registered charity number 1168622). Its governing documents are its Royal Charter and Bye-laws. These, along with the Regulations, form the Society's governing instruments. Copies of all of these documents are available on the Society's website: [www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/](http://www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/)

#### **Council, Committees and Groups: Outgoing and New Members**

For the Society Year 2026/27, a total of 14 vacancies were identified across the LSW Honorary Officers (President, Vice-President for HASS, and General Secretary), Council, Committees, and Groups. At its meeting on 22 January 2025, Council approved the launch of the Presidential Search. Subsequently, at its meeting on 8 September 2025, Council considered the recommendations of the Presidential Search Committee and approved the launch of the ballot for the Fellowship, which ran from 9 to 30 September 2025, achieving a 43% participation rate. The scrutiny meeting took place on Friday 3 October 2025, with Professors Sashin Ahuja and Emmajane Milton acting as scrutineers.

For the remaining vacancies, Council approved the call for applications at its meeting on 19 November 2025. The call had been launched on 11 November, with the application deadline set for 13 January 2026. A total of 23 applications were received. Council reviewed the applications on 21 January 2026, and a ballot for the Fellowship was subsequently launched on 29 January 2026, running until 19 February 2026. The scrutiny meeting took place on Friday 20 February 2026, with Ms Kellie Beirne and Professor Ruth Chadwick acting as scrutineers.

## 1. The Council

The Charter provides for the Society's governing body to be the Council, in which "shall be vested the government and control of the Society and its affairs" subject to the provision of the Charter, Bye-laws and Regulations. This includes the determination of the educational activities of the Society, the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the Society and the safeguarding of its assets, as well as ensuring that all matters relating to accounts and financial procedures are conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. Members of the Council serve as Charity Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

The Council directs and manages the Society and governs and controls its affairs. It delegates some of its functions to standing committees, which report regularly to Council. As the Society is a registered charity, members of Council fulfil the role of Trustees. The Council held four ordinary meetings and one special meetings during the year.

The Society's Bye-laws (3.2) state that the total membership of the Council shall be no fewer than 10 people. The Regulations (3.1) state that Council shall comprise the following members:

- the President
- the two Vice-Presidents
- the Treasurer
- the General Secretary
- Elected Members; no more than 15 Fellows of the Society elected by the Fellowship
- Co-opted Members; no more than two Fellows of the Society co-opted by the Council

The Society's Regulations (8.1) state that Council members' terms of office are as follows:

- i. except as provided for in these Regulations, the term of Office for Elected Members of Council shall ordinarily be three Society Years;
- ii. Elected Members of Council shall be eligible for re-election for a second term;
- iii. Elected Members having served two terms shall not be eligible for re-election for a further term until at least one Society Year has elapsed;
- iv. the term of Office for new Elected Members of Council shall commence at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which their election was announced.

## **Council members during the Society year 2025-26 were as follows:**

### **Honorary Officers**

#### **Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)**

- Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President and Chair of Council
- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President STEMM
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

#### **Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)**

- Professor Helen Fulton FRSA FSA FLSW, Vice-President HASS

### **Elected members**

#### **Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)**

- Professor Siwan Davies FLSW
- Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW
- Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW
- Professor Dame Meena Upadhyaya OBE FRCPATH FLSW

#### **Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)**

- Professor Rachel Ashworth FLSW
- Professor Kirsti Bohata FHEA FLSW
- Professor David Boucher FRHistS FAcSS FLSW
- Professor Mererid Puw Davies FLSW
- Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW
- Professor Alma Harris FRSA FLSW
- Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW
- Professor Karin Wahl-Jorgensen FLSW

#### **Industry, Commerce, The Arts and Professions (ICAP)**

- Professor Elizabeth Treasure CBE FRACDS FDSRCS FFPH FDSRCPS FLSW
- Professor Sir Deian Hopkin FRHistS FRSA FCGI FLSW
- Professor Pedr ap Llwyd YH BA MA DAA FLSW
- Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens CBE FRSA PLSW DBE (from January 2026)

### **Co-opted members**

#### **Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)**

- Professor Ambreena Manji FLSW

This year, five Council members will complete their term of office at the 2026 AGM:

- Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW
- Professor Alma Harris FRSA FLSW
- Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FEng FLSW
- Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW
- Professor Meena Upadhyaya MAE FBCS FLSW

## **Council members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

### **Officers**

#### **Industry, Commerce, The Arts and Professions (ICAP)**

- Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens CBE FRSA FLSW DBE, President and Chair of Council

#### **Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)**

- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

#### **Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)**

- Professor Sara Elin Roberts FRHistS FHEA FLSW, Vice-President

### **Elected members**

#### **Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)**

- Professor Angharad Davies FRCPPath FRCP PFHEA FLSW
- Professor Siwan Davies FLSW
- Professor Michael Davies CEng FICE FGS FEngNZ FRSE FLSW
- Professor Matthew Griffin FLSW
- Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi DSc FRSB FRSC FABAP FAPAS FLSW

#### **Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)**

- Professor Rachel Ashworth FLSW
- Professor Kirsti Bohata FHEA FLSW
- Professor David Boucher FRHistS FAcSS FLSW
- Professor Mererid Puw Davies FLSW
- Professor Karin Wahl-Jorgensen FLSW
- Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW
- Professor Michael Reed FAcSS FLSW

### **Industry, Commerce, The Arts and Professions (ICAP)**

- Professor Elizabeth Treasure CBE FRACDS FDSRCS FFPH FDSRCPS FLSW
- Professor Sir Deian Hopkin FRHistS FRSA FCGI FLSW
- Professor Pedr ap Llwyd YH BA MA DAA FLSW

### **Co-opted Members**

#### **Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)**

- Professor Ambreena Manji FLSW

## 2. Governance Committees

The Society's Royal Charter and Bye-laws give Council the power to "create, dissolve and set terms of reference for such Committees of the Council as it sees fit, which may include persons who are not Council members". The Society's existing Committees are listed below:

### 2.1 Executive Committee

Council has delegated power to an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee supports the day-to-day business of the Society and ensures effective management.

#### **Its current members are:**

- Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President (Chair)
- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President
- Professor Helen Fulton FSA FLSW, Vice-President
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary
- Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive
- Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala, Clerk

#### **Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens CBE FRSA PLSW DBE, President (Chair)
- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President
- Professor Sara Elin Roberts FRHistS FHEA FLSW, Vice-President
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary
- Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive
- Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala, Clerk

## 2.2 General Purposes Committee

The General Purposes Committee ensures that Council has adequate information to enable it to discharge its duties. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- i. Members *ex officio*: The President (who shall be Chair)
- ii. Five members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship;
- iii. Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members.

### **Its current members are:**

- Professor Hywel Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President (Chair)
- Professor Indu Deglurkar FRCS FRCS(CTh) FLSW
- Professor John Harwood DSc FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Sir Deian Hopkin FRHistS FRSA FCGI FLSW
- Professor Roger King LFIEEE PE FLSW
- Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW
- Professor Loredana Polezzi FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW

### **Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens CBE FRSA PLSW DBE, President (Chair)
- Professor Indu Deglurkar FRCS FRCS(CTh) FLSW
- Professor John Harwood DSc FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Sir Deian Hopkin FRHistS FRSA FCGI FLSW
- Professor Roger King LFIEEE PE FLSW
- Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW
- Professor Loredana Polezzi FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW

## 2.3 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee ensures that Council has adequate information to enable it to discharge its financial responsibilities. This includes compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and other relevant legislation, management of Society budgets, and compliance with external financial reporting standards. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- i. Members *ex officio*: The Treasurer (who shall be Chair)
- ii. Four members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship;
- iii. Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members.

**Its 2025/26 members will remain the same for 2026/27:**

- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer (Chair)
- Professor Lisa Collins FRSB FRSS FLSW
- Professor Ann Heilmann FEA FLSW
- Professor Chenfeng Li, FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Mark Rees DSc FRCPATH FLSW FRCPE
- Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW
- Professor Dawn Knight FHEA FLSW (co-opted)

## 2.4 Governance Oversight Committee

The Governance Oversight Committee has replaced the Governance Appointments Committee. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- i. Members *ex officio*:
  - The President (who shall be Chair)
  - The General Secretary
  - The Treasurer
  - The Vice-President for STEMM
  - The Vice-President for HASS
- ii. Two members from amongst the Council; one of each gender who are not Officers, appointed by Council
- iii. Such other Fellow or Fellows, who are not Council members, not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt

*\*There are currently no co-opted members on this committee*

### **Its current members are:**

- Professor Hywel Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President (Chair)
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President STEMM
- Professor Helen Fulton FRHistS AcSS FLSW, Vice-President HASS
- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary
- Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW
- Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW

### **Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Dame Elan Closs Stephens CBE FRSA PLSW DBE, President (Chair)
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President STEMM
- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary
- Professor Sara Elin Roberts FRHistS FHEA FLSW, Vice-President HASS
- Professor Angharad Davies FRCPPath FRCP PFHEA FLSW
- Professor Michael Reed FAcSS FLSW

## 2.5 Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee oversees the election process for Fellowship and works to improve Fellowship diversity (for example, in terms of the Equality Act 2010). It also finalises each year's nomination forms and election processes in support of these aims. Its Terms of Reference provides for its membership to be as follows:

- i. Members ex officio:
  - Vice-President, HASS (who shall be co-Chair)
  - Vice-President, STEMM (who shall be co-Chair)
- ii. Two members of Council appointed from their number
- iii. Two members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship
- iv. Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members

### **Its current members are:**

- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, VP STEMM (co-Chair)
- Professor Helen Fulton FLSW, VP HASS (co-Chair)
- Professor David Boucher FRHistS FAcSS FLSW
- Professor Nigel Brown OBE FRSE FRSC FRSB FLSW
- Dr Haydn E. Edwards FRSC FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Edwin Egede FHEA FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Helen Roberts FHEA FLSW
- Professor Elizabeth Treasure CBE FRACDS FDSRCS FFPH FDSRCPS FLSW

### **Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, VP STEMM (Co-Chair)
- Professor Sara Elin Roberts FRHistS FHEA FLSW, VP HASS (Co-Chair)
- Dr Shannu Bhatia BDS MDS MFDS RCS (England) M Paed Dent RCS (England) FDS (Paed) RCS (England) SFHEA MmedEd FLSW
- Professor David Boucher FRHistS FAcSS FLSW
- Professor Nigel Brown OBE FRSE FRSC FRSB FLSW
- Dr Haydn E. Edwards FRSC FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Edwin Egede FHEA FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Helen Roberts FHEA FLSW
- Professor Elizabeth Treasure CBE FRACDS FDSRCS FFPH FDSRCPS FLSW

## 2.6 Human Resources Committee

The Human resources Committee ensures that Council has adequate information to enable it to discharge its HR responsibilities. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- i. Members ex officio: The General Secretary (who shall be Chair)
- ii. Four members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship, one of whom shall be appointed as Vice-Chair
- iii. Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members.

### **Its current members are:**

- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary (Chair)
- Professor Graeme Garrard FRHistS FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Pedr ap Llwyd YH BA MA DAA FLSW (co-opted)
- Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW
- Elin Rhys DLitt FLSW
- Professor Geoff Richards FIOR FBSE FRMS FLSW

### **Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW (Chair)
- Professor Graeme Garrard FRHistS FLSW (co-opted)
- Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi DSc FRSB FRSC FABAP FAPAS FLSW
- Ms Helgard Krause FLSW
- Professor Pedr ap Llwyd YH BA MA DAA FLSW (co-opted)
- Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW
- Professor Geoff Richards FIOR FBSE FRMS FLSW

## 2.7 Presidential Search Committee

Oversees and supports the process of electing a new President to succeed the outgoing officeholder. It is chaired by the General Secretary and is comprised of members of the Governance Oversight Committee, excluding the current President but including the Chief Executive.

### Members for the 2025-2026 Presidential Search:

- Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary (Chair)
- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer
- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President STEMM
- Professor Helen Fulton FRHistS AcSS FLSW, Vice-President HASS
- Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW
- Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW
- Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive

### 3. Advisory Groups

#### 3.1 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Advisory Group

Previously known as the EDI working group, it was set up in 2022 to review and respond to the recommendations of the EDI Report carried out in 2021. The group is responsible for reporting to Council to offer advice on the recommendations and how to deliver them. Its Terms of Reference provides for its membership to be as follows:

- i. Members ex officio: Head of Equity and Engagement
- ii. At least 9 Fellows – 1 of whom will be a Council member will chair the group and report to Council on progress/recommendations.
- iii. Such other person or persons as the Group may think fit to co-opt as members.

**Its current members are:**

- Professor Rachel Ashworth FLSW (Chair)
- Professor Louise Bright FLSW
- Dr Cameron Durrant FLSW
- Professor Sheila Hunt FLSW
- Dr Layla Jader MB ChB DA MD FMPHM FLSW
- Professor Andrew Lewis SFHEA MISM FLSW
- Professor Ruth Northway OBE FRCN PFHEA FLSW
- Professor Emmanuel Ogbonna FLSW
- Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW
- Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW
- Professor Meena Upadhyaya OBE FRCPath FLSW
- Dr Emma Yhnell SFHEA FLSW

**Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Rachel Ashworth FLSW (Chair)
- \*Dr Louise Bright FLSW, TBC
- Dr Cameron Durrant FLSW
- Professor Sheila Hunt FLSW
- \*Dr Layla Jader MB ChB DA MD FMPHM FLSW, TBC
- Professor Andrew Lewis SFHEA MISM FLSW
- \*Professor Ruth Northway OBE FRCN PFHEA FLSW, TBC
- Professor Emmanuel Ogbonna FLSW
- Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW
- Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW
- Professor Meena Upadhyaya OBE FRCPath FLSW
- Dr Emma Yhnell SFHEA FLSW

### 3.2 Researcher Development Advisory Group

The Advisory Group for Researcher Development shapes the direction of the Early Career Researcher Network and its activities. The Advisory Group members are responsible for assessing the current Welsh research environment, its opportunities and barriers, and for exploring how the Society can expand its activities to develop researchers' careers. Its Terms of Reference provides for its membership to be as follows:

- i. Members ex officio:  
Programme Lead – Researcher Development  
Programme Officer (to also provide secretariat support)
- ii. One member of Council appointed from their number, whom shall be appointed as Chair
- iii. Four members appointed by Council from among the Fellowship.
- iv. At least four members representing Early Career Researchers and Mid-Career Researchers from across Wales, one whom shall be appointed as Vice-Chair.
- v. Such other person or persons as the Advisory Group may think fit to co-opt as members.

**Its 2025/26 members will remain the same for 2026/27:**

#### **LSW Fellows:**

- Professor Siwan Davies FLSW – Swansea University (Chair)
- Professor Carol Featherston FIMechE FRAeS FLSW – Cardiff University
- Professor Martina Feilzer FLSW – Bangor University
- Professor Royah Solange Saltus FLSW - University of South Wales
- Professor Simon Hands FLSW – University of Liverpool

#### **Early & Mid-Career Researchers:**

- Dr Ruth Atherton - University of South Wales
- Dr Helen Chadwick - Swansea University
- Dr Caitlyn Donaldson - Cardiff University
- Dr Edith England - Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Dr Gareth Evans - Swansea University
- Steffan James - Cardiff University
- Dr Esther Muddiman - Cardiff University
- Dr Yipeng Quin - Cardiff University
- Dr Yasir Saleem Shaikh - Aberystwyth University
- Dr Catherine Sharp - Public Health Wales
- Dr Hannah Vallin - Aberystwyth University

### 3.3 Welsh Language Advisory Group

In accordance with the provisions of Royal Charter and its bye-laws (Bye-law 5 (5.4)), the Council has established an Advisory Group to advise and further LSW's commitment to the Welsh Language and being a bilingual organisation. The purpose of the group is to hold LSW to account in its commitments as a bilingual organisation, as well as to provide advice regarding specific Welsh-language activities including LSW's participation in the National Eisteddfod.

The Advisory Group shall consist of the persons following, namely:

- i. Members ex officio:
  - LSW staff Welsh Language lead
  - LSW administrative support staff
- ii. A Chair appointed by Council.
- iii. Between four and five members appointed by Council from among the Fellowship.
- iv. Such other persons or members of the Fellowship as the Advisory Group may think fit to co-opt as members.

**Its current members are:**

- Professor Alan Shore FInstP FLSW (Chair)
- Dr Aled Eirug FLSW
- Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW
- Professor Enlli Môn Thomas FHEA FLSW
- Dr Lynn Williams FLSW
- Nia Williams FLSW

**Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Professor Mererid Puw Davies FLSW, (Chair)
- Dr Aled Eirug FLSW
- Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW
- Professor Enlli Môn Thomas FHEA FLSW
- Nia Williams FLSW

#### 4. Cenhadon

One of the ways we develop our relationships with Welsh Universities and their affiliated Fellows is through the work we do with our Cenhadon (previously known as URLS). Each University has a small number of Fellows designated in the role of 'Cenhadon' who elect to work with LSW in supporting and promoting the society through links and activities as well as representing the wider Fellowship at that institution.

**Its current members are:**

##### **Aberystwyth University**

- Professor Rhys Jones FRGS FLSW
- Professor Rattan Yadav FLSW

##### **Bangor University**

- Professor Yueng-Djern Lenn FLSW
- Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW

##### **Cardiff Metropolitan University**

- Professor David Brooksbank FRSA FLSW
- Professor Gary Beauchamp SFHEA FLCM FIWA FLSW

##### **Cardiff University**

- Professor William Housley DSc.Econ FAcSS FLSW
- Professor Rossi Setchi FLSW FIET FIMechE FBCS

##### **Open University**

-

##### **Swansea University**

- Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi DSc FRSB FRSC FABAP FAPAS FLSW
- Professor Yan Wu FHEA, FLSW

##### **University of South Wales**

- Professor Louise Bright FLSW

##### **University of Wales Trinity Saint David**

-

##### **Wrexham University**

- Professor Richard Day FInstP FRAeS FIMMM FLSW

**Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

**Aberystwyth University**

- Professor Rhys Jones FRGS FLSW
- Professor Rattan Yadav FLSW

**Bangor University**

- Professor Yueng-Djern Lenn FLSW
- Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW

**Cardiff Metropolitan University**

- Professor David Brooksbank FRSA FLSW
- Professor Gary Beauchamp SFHEA FLCM FIWA FLSW

**Cardiff University**

- Professor William Housley DSc.Econ FAcSS FLSW
- Professor Rossi Setchi FLSW FIET FIMechE FBCS

**Open University | 1 vacancy**

- TBC

**Swansea University | 1 vacancy**

- Professor Yan Wu FHEA, FLSW
- TBC

**University of South Wales**

- Dr Louise Bright FLSW

**University of Wales Trinity Saint David | 1 vacancy**

- TBC

**Wrexham University**

- Professor Richard Day FInstP FRAeS FIMMM FLSW

## **5. LSW Medals And Awards**

In light of the Society's 15th anniversary celebrations that took place last year, Council agreed to pause the awarding of medals for 2025 to establish new medals and awards. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the members of the Medals Task and Finish Group for their dedication and contributions. The new medals and awards were launched on 1 March 2026.

### **5.1 Medals Task and Finish Group**

- Professor Helen Fulton FRSA FSA FLSW (Chair)
- Kellie Beirne
- Caryn Cox – Independent (non-Fellow) member with background in Public Health
- Professor Matthew Griffin FLSW
- Professor John Harwood DSc FLSW
- Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi DSc FRSB FRSC FABAP FAPAS FLSW
- Professor Alison Wray FAcSS FLSW

### **5.2 Impact Award – Scrutiny Committee**

- Professor Ruth King FRSE FLSW (Chair)
- Professor Nick Clifton FHEA FLSW (Vice Chair)
- Professor Angela V John FRHistS FLSW
- Professor Gwyn Gould FLSW
- Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason (Honorary Fellow)
- Independent Member – yet to be appointed.

### **5.3 Established Career Medals – Scrutiny Committee**

- Professor Chris Evans FRSC FRCPATH FIOR FLSW (Chair)
- Professor Lisa Isherwood FRSA FLSW (Vice Chair)
- Professor Dianne Edwards CBE ScD FRSE FLS MAE FLSW FRS
- Professor William Housley DSc.Econ FAcSS FLSW
- Dr Ruth Atherton (Researcher Development Advisory Group member)
- Dr Helen Chadwick (Researcher Development Advisory Group member)
- Independent Member – yet to be appointed.

### **5.4 Early Career Medals - Scrutiny Committee**

- Professor Kathryn Woodward FLSW (Chair)
- Professor Neil Champness FRSC FLSW (Vice Chair)
- Professor Geraint Lewis FLSW
- Professor Matthew Jarvis FLSW
- Dr Esther Muddiman (Researcher Development Advisory Group member)
- Dr Caitlyn Donaldson (Researcher Development Advisory Group member)
- Independent Member – yet to be appointed.

## 6. FLSW Event Support Review Panel

The Review Panel was established by the General Purposes Committee for the purposes of conducting scrutiny of received applications for funding through the [FLSW Event Support Scheme](#), in a fair, equitable, and transparent manner; and making recommendations on the received applications.

- Professor Roger King LFIEEE PE FLSW (Chair)
- Professor Gwyn Gould FLSW
- Professor Katherine Leni Oglesby OBE FRSA FLSW
- Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW
- Professor Loredana Polezzi FLSW

## 7. Honorary Fellowship Review Task and Finish Group

- Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, VP STEMM (co-Chair)
- Professor Helen Fulton FLSW, VP HASS (co-Chair)
- Professor Alan Shore FInstP FLSW
- Professor Johanna Waters FLSW
- Menai Owen – Jones Cdir Flod FRSA FIWA PGCert LLB FLSW

## 8. UK and Ireland Academies Human Rights Committee (UKIHRC)

**Its current members are:**

- Professor Michael Charlton FInstP FLSW MAE
- Professor Yvonne McDermott Rees FLSW

**Its members for 2026-27 will be as follows:**

- Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW
- Professor Yvonne McDermott Rees FLSW

**Please note that the members of the Scrutiny Committees for the Fellowship election cycle are listed in paper AGM/2026/04.**



## CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES

### Election of New Fellows and Honorary Fellows

#### Election Cycle 2025/26

##### 1. Nominations for Honorary Fellowship

The Society did not issue a call for Honorary Fellowship nominations in 2025/26, as Council paused the nomination process to allow time for a thorough review, with the aim of developing clearer and more inclusive guidance. A Task and Finish Group was established to undertake this work. The Group conducted a comprehensive review and proposed a revised set of criteria and guidelines, which were subsequently approved by both the Fellowship Committee and Council. The 2026/27 Honorary Fellowship nomination cycle was re-launched on 1 May this year under the new guidelines. However, the Society was delighted to formally admit Sir Bryn Terfel Jones during to the Honorary Fellowship at its [15th anniversary event at the Senedd](#), held on 6 November 2025. Sir Bryn's 2024/25 nomination had been approved by Council in the preceding society year and was subsequently put forward to, and approved by, the Fellowship in the Autumn 2025 ballot.

##### 2. Nominations for Fellowship

###### 2.1 Nominations

The 2025/26 election cycle was launched on 2 June 2025 by inviting all Fellows to submit nominations for potential new Fellows. Thirty-nine Fellows, or 5.4% of the entire LSW Fellowship, submitted sixty nominations by the closing date of 31 October 2025. This represented a drop in Fellows' engagement compared with the previous year when 7.8% of all Fellows served as proposers.

Of the sixty nominees, five had been nominated previously.

	Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics & Medicine	Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences	Industry, Commerce, Arts & Professions	<b>Total</b>
Re-nominated	4	0	1	<b>5</b>
New nominations	26	17	12	<b>55</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>60</b>

In the last four years, the Society has made concerted efforts to encourage nominations of women and of people from ethnic minority backgrounds. In 2025/26 cycle, twenty-five nominees, or 42% of the total number, were women. However, following the Fellowship ballot, twenty-three of them were elected to Fellowship, making women 52% of all electees. This election result compares favourably with last year's ratio when 34% of electees were women. Despite this year's slight increase in the proportion of elected women, the Society's overall gender ratio remains 70:30 in favour of men.

The number of nominees who identify as being from an ethnic minority background decreased from 30% last year to 18% this year despite efforts to further diversify Fellowship and encourage Fellows to increase the number of nominees from ethnic minority backgrounds. In terms of the election rate, 10% of ethnic minority nominees were elected to Fellowship, against 85% of nominees who did not identify as being from an ethnic minority. The Society would like to appeal to all Fellows to consider nominating suitable candidates, giving particular consideration to people from under-represented groups. To this end, several information sessions will be held online in June to assist Fellows willing to serve as proposers and their nominees.

## 2.2 Scrutiny

Ten Scrutiny Committees operated during the election cycle. Their role was to assess the nominations and recommend election.

Five of the Scrutiny Committees, STEMM1 to STEMM5, covered the broad academic areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine, for which Professor Rob Beynon was the responsible vice-president.

Three Scrutiny Committees, HASS1 to HASS3, covered the broad academic areas of the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, for which Professor Helen Fulton was the responsible vice-president.

The remaining two Scrutiny Committees, ICAP1 and ICAP2, covered leadership in Industry, Commerce, Arts, and Professions, for which the responsibility was shared by the vice-presidents for HASS and STEM.

A full list of 2025/26 scrutiny committees' members is provided in **Appendix A**.

In November and December of 2025, four mandatory training sessions were held for all Scrutiny Committee members. Following the training, the ten Scrutiny Committees met during the period 8-29 January 2026. Scrutiny meetings were supported by five cross-discipline independent members whose role was to offer an external and EDI expert viewpoint, facilitate consistency across all ten committees and aid the committees in conducting the scrutiny process in a fair, equitable and transparent manner.

As in previous years, each vice-president held a meeting in February with the scrutiny committee chairs in their respective areas to review the recommendations, with both Vice-Presidents holding a review meeting with the chairs of the two ICAP committees.

The Council considered the Scrutiny Committees' and Vice-Presidents' recommendations in March before approving a list of the forty-four nominees for submission to the Fellowship vote.

## 2.3 Election Criteria

The criteria for election to Fellowship and Honorary Fellowship are set out in the Society's bye-laws and are available here:

<https://www.learnedsociety.wales/fellowship/becoming-a-fellow/criteria/>.

## 2.4 Ballot of Fellows

Under the Society's regulations, to be elected, a nominee must receive the support of at least 50% of Fellows who return valid ballots by the due date.

A ballot including the names, roles, and institutional affiliation of the forty-four Fellowship nominees was circulated to all current Fellows on 23 March 2026 with the return deadline of 13 April 2026.

In total, 309 valid ballots were returned by the deadline, representing a 43% Fellowship response rate and indicating a similar engagement rate of Fellows compared with 295 returned ballots in the 2024/25 cycle.

The President appointed two Fellows, Professor Ruth Chadwick FAcSS FSB FRSA FLSW and Professor James Durrant CBE FRSC FRS FLSW, as Scrutineers for the

election. The Scrutineers counted the returned ballots in the presence of the Society's Clerk, Dr Haydee Martinez Zavala on 15 April and verified the election results.

All forty-four nominees listed on the ballot paper were elected. The election results were announced publicly on 28 April on the Society's website and social media accounts as well as in the April Fellows' Bulletin. The names of the forty-four electees are also recorded in **Appendix B** to this paper.

## **2.5 Formal Welcome and Admission of Fellows**

New Fellows elected during the 2025/26 election cycle who are physically present during the Annual General Meeting will be welcomed to the Society and asked to sign the Roll of Fellows, along with any other Fellows and Honorary Fellows who are in attendance but had not been formally admitted in previous years.



**CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU  
THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES**

**APPENDIX A**

**Scrutiny Committees in the 2025/26 Election Cycle**

<p><b>HASS1: Language, Literature and the history and theory of the Creative and Performing Arts</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Mary-Ann Constantine</a>  Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Sarah Hill</a>  <a href="#">Professor Mererid Puw Davies</a>  <a href="#">Dr William Marx</a>  <a href="#">Professor Radhika Mohanram</a>  <a href="#">Associate Professor Steve Morris</a>  <a href="#">Professor Angharad Price</a>  <a href="#">Professor David Ian Rabey</a></p>	<p><b>HASS2: History, Philosophy and Theology</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Mark Humphries</a>  Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Hanna Diamond</a>  <a href="#">Dr Lloyd Bowen</a>  <a href="#">Professor Sir Richard Evans</a>  <a href="#">Professor Christopher Wickham</a>  <a href="#">Professor Frances Knight</a>  <a href="#">Professor Lucy Huskinson</a>  <a href="#">Professor Sir Steve Smith</a></p>
<p><b>HASS3: Economic and Social Sciences, Education and Law</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Colin McInnes</a>  Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Johanna Waters</a>  <a href="#">Professor Urfan Khaliq</a>  <a href="#">Professor Yvonne McDermott Rees</a>  <a href="#">Professor R Gwynedd Parry</a>  <a href="#">Professor Michael Reed</a>  <a href="#">Professor Chris Taylor</a>  <a href="#">Professor Kathryn Woodward</a></p>	<p><b>ICAP1: Leadership in Public Engagement and Understanding</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Mr Robert Humphreys</a>  Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Ms Nia Williams</a>  <a href="#">Professor David Benton</a>  <a href="#">Dr Louise Bright</a>  <a href="#">Professor Tom Crick</a>  <a href="#">Professor Dame Julie Lydon</a>  <a href="#">Professor Lynda Warren</a>  <a href="#">Dr Olwen Williams</a></p>
<p><b>ICAP2: Leadership in Professional, Educational and Public Sectors</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Maxine Penlington</a>  Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Katherine Leni Oglesby</a>  <a href="#">Professor Nigel Brown</a>  <a href="#">Professor Aled Eirug</a>  <a href="#">Dr Layla Jader</a>  <a href="#">Sir Emyr Jones Parry</a>  <a href="#">Professor Kathryn Monk</a>  <a href="#">Professor John G Williams</a></p>	<p><b>STEMM1: Medicine and Medical Sciences</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Shareen Doak</a>  Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Malcom Mason</a>  <a href="#">Professor Alun H Davies</a>  <a href="#">Professor Delyth James</a>  <a href="#">Professor Ruth Northway</a>  <a href="#">Professor Gareth Stratton</a>  <a href="#">Professor Ian Weeks</a>  <a href="#">Professor Susan Wong</a></p>

<p><b>STEMM2: Biology: Molecular Sciences to Ecosystems</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi</a> Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Ann Ager</a> <a href="#">Dr Zubeyde Bayram-Weston</a> <a href="#">Professor Brian Ford-Lloyd</a> <a href="#">Professor Roy Goodacre</a> <a href="#">Professor Hilary Lappin-Scott</a> <a href="#">Professor Dipak Ramji</a> <a href="#">Professor Andrew Rowley</a></p>	<p><b>STEMM3: Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy and Earth Sciences</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Dave Adams</a> Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Martyn Tranter</a> <a href="#">Professor Peter Atkinson</a> <a href="#">Professor Nora de Leeuw</a> <a href="#">Professor Rachel Evans</a> <a href="#">Professor Ifan Hughes</a> <a href="#">Professor Eleri Pryse</a> <a href="#">Professor Carole Tucker</a></p>
<p><b>STEMM4: Computing, Mathematics and Statistics</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Simon Cox</a> Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Ruth King</a> <a href="#">Professor Arnold Beckmann</a> <a href="#">Professor Gwyn Bellamy</a> <a href="#">Professor Tim Phillips</a> <a href="#">Professor Timothy Porter</a> <a href="#">Professor Karl Michael Schmidt</a> <a href="#">Professor Reyer Zwiiggelaar</a></p>	<p><b>STEMM5: Engineering</b></p> <p>Chair: <a href="#">Professor Michael Davies</a> Vice-Chair: <a href="#">Professor Serena Margadonna</a> <a href="#">Professor Liana Cipcigan</a> <a href="#">Professor Richard Day</a> <a href="#">Professor Roger King</a> <a href="#">Professor Hywel Morgan</a> <a href="#">Professor Perumal Nithiarasu</a> <a href="#">Professor Rossi Setchi</a></p>
<p><b>Independent Members</b></p> <p><a href="#">Dr Emma Yhnell</a> <a href="#">Dr Zubeyde Bayram-Weston</a> <a href="#">Professor Alan Shore</a> <a href="#">Professor Dipak Ramji</a> <a href="#">Professor Terry Threadgold</a></p>	



**CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU  
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**APPENDIX B**

**Fellows Elected in 2025-26**

**Honorary Fellows**

[Sir Bryn Terfel CBE FRWCMD](#)

Bass-baritone Opera and Concert Singer and Vice President of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

**Fellows**

<p><b>Dr Carmen Casaliggi PhD, FHEA, FRHistS</b> Reader in English Literature at Cardiff Metropolitan University</p>	<p><b>Dr Kathy Seddon PhD CF FRSA</b> Wales Cancer Research Partner at Cardiff University; Worshipful Livery Company of Wales; and others</p>
<p><b>Professor Stephen Cushion BA, MA, PhD, Fellow and Senior Fellow of Advanced HE BA (E Anglia)</b> Professor at the Cardiff School of Journalism, Media, and Culture at Cardiff University</p>	<p><b>Dr Sara Shinton</b> Director of the UKRI Future Leaders Fellows Development Network; Institutional Lead, Wellcome InFrame Research Culture Collaboration at University of Edinburgh</p>
<p><b>Professor Leighton Evans BSc (Econ.), PGCE, MA, PhD, fHEA</b> Professor of Media Theory at Swansea University</p>	<p><b>Dr Eleanor Anne Freeman OBE FRCP FRCPI</b> Co-founder and co-lead for Stroke Hub Wales at Cardiff Metropolitan University; Retired Consultant Physician at Aneurin Bevan University Health Board</p>
<p><b>Professor Helena Gaunt EMBA, PFHEA, NTFS, FGSMD</b> Principal of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama</p>	<p><b>Professor Charlotte Rees PhD, PFHEA, FRCP(Edin)</b> Pro Vice-Chancellor &amp; Executive Dean at Swansea University</p>
<p><b>Dr Iwan Llewelyn-Jones MA (Oxon), PhD, Adv. Perf. Dip. (RCM), LRAM, FHEA</b> Senior Lecturer and Director of Music Performance at Bangor University</p>	<p><b>Professor Phil Smith MD, FRCP, FAcadMed</b> Consultant Neurologist at Cardiff and the Vale University Health Board; Lead for Undergraduate Written Assessments at Cardiff University</p>

<p><b>Professor Iain Quinn BM (Hartford), MM (Yale), PhD (Dunelm), FRCO, FRHistS, FRSM, FSA</b> Professor of Organ and Coordinator of Sacred Music at the College of Music, Florida State University</p>	<p><b>Professor Marianne van den Brie BSc, MSc, PhD</b> Professor of Psychological Medicine at Cardiff University</p>
<p><b>Professor Richard Thomas</b> Head of School of Culture and Communication at Swansea University</p>	<p><b>Professor Yvonne Wren BSc (Hons), MEd, PhD, RCSLT</b> Professor of Speech and Language Therapy at Cardiff Metropolitan University</p>
<p><b>Professor Mary Heimann BA (Vassar) MA, DPhil (Oxon), FRHistS</b> Chair in Modern History at Cardiff University</p>	<p><b>Professor Colin Berry BSc PhD DSc</b> Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry at Cardiff University</p>
<p><b>Professor Anne Davies FBA</b> Professor of Law and Public Policy at Oxford University</p>	<p><b>Professor Simon Creer</b> Professor of Molecular Ecology at Bangor University</p>
<p><b>Professor Adam Hedgecoe PhD</b> Professor and WISERD Director at Cardiff University</p>	<p><b>Professor Sharon Huws</b> Interim Director Institute for Global Food Security and Professor of Animal Science and Microbiology at Queen's University Belfast</p>
<p><b>Professor Judy Hutchings BSc, MA, Dip.Clin.Psych., D.Clin.Psych., FBPS, FBABCP, OBE</b> Professor at the School of Psychology of Bangor University and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board</p>	<p><b>Professor D. Dafydd Jones</b> Chair in Biochemistry at Cardiff University</p>
<p><b>Professor Melanie Jones BSc, MSc, PhD</b> Professor of Economics at Cardiff Business School at Cardiff University</p>	<p><b>Professor Sarah Davies FHEA, FRGS</b> Professor and Head of Department, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences at Aberystwyth University</p>
<p><b>Professor Peter Merriman FAcSS, FRGS, SFHEA</b> Professor of Human Geography at Aberystwyth University</p>	<p><b>Professor Ake Fagereng</b> Professor in Structural Geology at Cardiff University</p>
<p><b>Professor Yingli Wang BSc, MBA, PhD, CMILT, FHEA</b> Professor in logistics and operations management and Pro-Dean for Research, Innovation, and Impact at Cardiff University</p>	<p><b>Professor Graham John Langley PhD, BSc, CChem, CSci, FRSC</b> Emeritus Professor at University of Southampton</p>
<p><b>Professor Peng Zhou</b> Professor of Economics; University Dean of International; Director of Cardiff Confucius Institute; Director of Welsh Institute for Research in Economics and Development at Cardiff University</p>	<p><b>Professor Neil Loader</b> Professor of Physical Geography at Swansea University</p>

<p><b>Mr Christopher Catling MA, FSA, MCIFA</b> Secretary (Chief Executive) of The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales</p>	<p><b>Dr Emma McKinley</b> Senior Research Fellow at Cardiff University</p>
<p><b>Claire Curneen</b> Artist and Senior Lecturer at Cardiff Metropolitan University</p>	<p><b>Professor Daniel Roy Parsons FRGS FGSPVC</b> Research and Innovation and Professor in Geosciences at Loughborough University</p>
<p><b>Dr Claire Price FHEA FIBMS FRSB MRSC</b> Senior Lecturer in Biomedical Sciences at Swansea University</p>	<p><b>Professor Jonathan Gillard</b> Professor of Statistics/Data Science and Deputy Head of School of Mathematics at Cardiff University</p>
<p><b>Dr Sonali Dasgupta PhD, FRCP, PG Dip</b> Medical Oncology Consultant at Velindre University NHS Trust</p>	<p><b>Professor Apala Majumdar FRSE FIMA</b> Professor of Applied Mathematics at Manchester University</p>
<p><b>Professor Elwen Evans KC</b> Vice-Chancellor at University of Wales Trinity Saint David</p>	<p><b>Professor Alexander Giles Davies CPhys CEng FInstP FEng</b> Professor of Electronic and Photonic Engineering, and Deputy Executive Dean (Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences) at University of Leeds</p>
<p><b>Dr Wendy Ewart MBE DSc (Hon) PhD BSc</b> Independent Consultant in Biomedical Science</p>	<p><b>Professor Cinzia Giannetti EngD, FHEA</b> Professor in Digital Manufacturing at Swansea University</p>
<p><b>Mr Ben Lewis</b> Director of the Open University in Wales</p>	<p><b>Professor Yacine Rezgui</b> Professor and Leader of the Urban Intelligence Research Centre at Cardiff University; Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Optimise-AI</p>