

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's Academic Board
Wednesday, 8 May 2013
Terrace Rooms 2 and 3, Bangor University

Present:

Members (Coleg): Dr Hefin Jones (Chair and Dean), Dr Dylan Foster Evans, Dr Carwyn Jones, Dr Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones, Gwilym Dyfri Jones, Professor Densil Morgan, Delyth Murphy, Dr Eleri Pryse, Gwerfyl Roberts, Professor Deri Tomos

Members (Institutions): Phil Ainsworth, Julie Brake, Dr Geraint Cunnick, Dr Lisa Lewis, Dr Siân Wyn Siencyn, Dr Enlli Thomas

Members (Students): Manon George

Members (Colleges Wales): Llinos Roberts

Officers: Dr Ioan Matthews (Chief Executive), Dr Dylan Phillips (Senior Academic Manager), Dr Dafydd Trystan (Board Secretary), Nia Brown (Development Officer)

Presentation by: Sel Williams (Bangor University)

Item	Main discussion points	Action Points	Timescale
<p>1. Welcome and Opening Remarks</p>	<p>1.1. Everyone was welcomed to Bangor by Wyn Thomas, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Bangor University.</p> <p>1.2. Bangor University was thanked for accommodating the meeting, and also Iona Rhys and Eirian Jones for facilitating the day's arrangements.</p> <p>1.3. The members were formally welcomed to the meeting by the Dean.</p> <p>1.4. Llinos Roberts was welcomed to her first meeting representing Colleges Wales.</p> <p>1.5. A minute's silence was held at the beginning of the meeting, in memory of Eilir Hedd Morgan, a bright lecturer in the Sciences and member of the Coleg's Staffing Scheme, who was killed in an accident earlier this year.</p>		

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2. Apologies and Declarations of Interest	<p>2.1. Apologies were received from Professor Siwan Davies, Dr Gwenno Ffrancon, Adam Jones, Dr Anwen Jones, Dr Gina Morgan, Dr Angharad Naylor, Professor Gwynedd Parry, Dr Gwilym Roberts, Alys Rosser, Dr Gwennan Schiavone and Carys Swain.</p> <p>2.2. There were no declarations of interest to note.</p>		
3. Minutes of the Meeting held 6 February 2013	<p>3.1. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record; with the exception of noting Dr Dylan Foster Evans' comments for minute 9 – Welsh Language and Literature Plan.</p> <p>3.2. It was agreed to amend the minute.</p>	Development Officer to amend the record	May 2013
4. Membership (BA/13/05/04)	<p>4.1. The following four members were thanked for their loyalty and their involvement with the Coleg, and it was recommended to re-appoint them for a further term for the period 2013/14 until 2018/19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Dylan Foster Evans • Gwilym Dyfri Jones • Professor Densil Morgan • Dr Eleri Pryse <p>4.2. The nominations were confirmed by the Board.</p> <p>4.3. In response to an enquiry regarding the re-appointment process, it was confirmed that the recommendation to re-appoint followed a formal discussion by the Coleg managers. It was noted that the Coleg would not re-appoint members without appropriate consideration.</p> <p>4.4. An update was given by the Chief Executive on discussions with the student body regarding their number of representatives on the Academic Board.</p>		
5. Academic Collaboration Committee	<p>5.1. An oral report was given by the Chief Executive regarding the establishment of the Academic Collaboration</p>		

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<p>6. Academic Staffing Scheme (BA/13/05/06)</p>	<p>6.1. A draft paper on promotions and sabbaticals was presented by the Registrar. This was followed by discussion and the Board gave useful feedback to develop the draft.</p> <p>6.2. <u>Promotions</u>: The members noted their concern that Coleg lecturers could feel inferior having seen the rules and also that there would not be an opportunity to reward worthy lecturers. The importance of institutional commitment to developing professional lecturers was also mentioned. It was noted that a re-draft was required, focusing on the individual's situation, the individual's funding status from the Coleg and in terms of responsibilities, it was noted that the Academic Board favours option 8b.</p> <p>6.3. <u>Sabbaticals</u>: Arrangements for funding teaching during sabbaticals, the situation of lecturers not on a learning pathway and questions regarding publishing English medium research were discussed. The officers noted that they would reflect the points raised in the final version and would emphasize the principle that all Coleg finance is to be used for the benefit of Welsh language provision and research.</p> <p>6.4. It was recommended to present an amended version of the paper in the next meeting.</p>	<p>Registrar to re-present the paper</p>	<p>July 2013</p>
<p>7. Subject Planning</p>	<p>7.1. A presentation was given by the Registrar outlining the progress in the subject plans.</p> <p>7.2. It was noted that a template had been prepared which contained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The investment total • Tables quantifying investment per university and year • A statement noting the investment context • Targets per university 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 year targets as well as 2 year targets. <p>7.3. It was noted that the next steps would be to place each plan on the new template, undertake an analysis of the investment, create a national investment table and bring the targets together nationally.</p>		
8. Approving the Law Plan	<p>8.1. It was noted that the Law Plan had been placed in the new template, except for defining targets.</p> <p>8.2. The content of the plan was approved by the Board.</p> <p>8.3. It was recommended to present the Plan, as a matter of information only, in the next meeting.</p>	Add targets	July 2013
9. Plans to be approved in the next meeting	<p>9.1. Progress was noted in the plans for Geography, Agriculture and Environmental Science, Welsh Language and Literature, Music, Modern Languages and Business.</p> <p>9.2. It was reported that the Geography plan was almost ready, apart from the funding table.</p> <p>9.3. It was reported that the Welsh plan had been redrafted and that it needs to be placed in the template.</p> <p>9.4. It was reported that the Music and Modern Languages plans were in final draft form and that both, to different extents, face challenges in reaching student targets.</p> <p>9.5. It was reported that the Business and Sport Science plans were in draft form.</p>	Present final Plans to the Academic Board for approval	July 2013
10. New plans	<p>10.1 The Mathematics and Physics, Social Policy and Sociology and Criminology plans were introduced for the first time.</p> <p>10.2 Aberystwyth University's recent success in Mathematics and Physics was reported, and that Swansea and Cardiff Universities have plans in the pipeline. Concerns were noted that there are relatively small numbers across the three locations.</p> <p>10.3 It was reported that the Social Policy and Sociology Plan</p>	Present amended Plans to the Academic Board	July 2013

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	<p>had been drawn up under the guidance of Bangor University, however it was extremely collaborative.</p> <p>10.4 It was reported that the Criminology Plan had been drawn up by the Task and Finish Group and that there was a golden opportunity here but unfortunately there are few educators. It was noted that there are also small numbers in the field of Policing Studies.</p> <p>10.5 It was noted that Education and Childhood, Creative Industries and History and Theology, Nursing and International Politics and Politics plans would be presented before the Board in due course.</p>		
11. Honouring innovators in higher education	<p>11.1. A discussion commenced following a letter from Professor Emeritus Gareth Roberts suggesting that innovators in higher education should be honoured.</p> <p>11.2. The importance of taking prompt action to honour deserving individuals, and the confidential nature of the matter was noted.</p> <p>11.3. It was agreed that a message should be circulated inviting only the members of the Academic Board to suggest names of Fellows of the Coleg to be honoured and ideas for other honours/awards to bring before the Board of Directors.</p>	Development Officer	May 2013
12. Translation Studies	<p>12.1. An oral report was given by the Chief Executive on developments in the field of Translation Studies.</p> <p>12.2. It was reported that there would be an appointment for the role of National Co-ordinator before the end of the summer term.</p>		
13. Welsh Language Skills Certificate	<p>13.1. An oral report was given by the Chief Executive regarding the Welsh Language Skills Certificate.</p> <p>13.2. Everyone who was involved with the recent examinations</p>		

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	<p>was thanked, and it was noted that the papers were currently being assessed.</p> <p>13.3. It was noted that the supporting material had created an impression on the Board members.</p>		
<p>14. Undergraduate Scholarships</p>	<p>14.1. An oral report was given by the Chief Executive on developments regarding Undergraduate Scholarships.</p> <p>14.2. It was reported that discussion was on-going and that a seminar has been arranged in Aberystwyth during June 2013.</p> <p>14.3. It was explained that there would be a new plan in the future to ensure the future of the scholarships but that the incentive scholarships would remain the same.</p>		
<p>15. Student Issues</p>	<p>15.1. It was noted that there is an opportunity for the Coleg to create a platform for students and create a sense of belonging for undergraduates, since postgraduates already have a voice. It was explained that there had been discussion with the NUS but that the ideas need to come from the students before the Coleg can act but there would be very little practical support with this.</p>		
<p>16. Issues from the Branches</p>	<p>16.1. It was noted that the matters raised by the branches regarding the subject panels would be included on the agenda of the meeting in the Autumn.</p>	<p>Coleg Officers</p>	<p>October 2013</p>
<p>17. Matters Arising</p>	<p>17.1. <u>Staffing Awards</u> An oral report was given by the Chief Executive on staffing awards. It was noted that it would be possible to respond to a newsletter that was about to be distributed regarding the award process. The Board of Directors would decide on the final process on 19 June 2013.</p> <p>17.2. <u>Research Scholarships</u></p>		

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	<p>It was noted that 28 applications had been received for the research scholarships, which seemed to be more popular since the comments made by the Academic Board. The awards panel would meet on 20 May 2013.</p> <p>17.3. <u>Attendance register</u> It was noted that an attendance register is being kept and it would be considered when re-appointing in the future.</p>		
18. Presentation on the Coleg's Academic Plan	<p>18.1. A presentation was given by Sel Williams, Bangor University, on the Coleg's Academic Plan.</p> <p>18.2. He was thanked for his perceptive comments and a positive discussion followed on the content of the presentation.</p> <p>18.3. The philosophical basis of the comments was welcomed, which reminded educators of the mission of the Coleg and that there is a purpose to promoting a Welsh linguistic and cultural vision across each subject. It was noted that the fields of health and teacher training were already trying to keep a Welsh vision and Welsh policies as a central part of their courses.</p>		
19. Any Other Business	<p>19.1. It was reported that a meeting had been held between the Learned Society and the Coleg and that there would be more regular meetings in future, including arranging a collaborative annual lecture.</p> <p>19.2. The aim of receiving presentations from the institutions on their provision in the Academic Board was considered and agreed upon.</p> <p>19.3. The appointment of Dr Eleri Pryse as Chair of Gwerddon's Editorial Board was noted, and she was congratulated.</p>	Development Officer and Branch Officers to arrange	Autumn 2013
20. Dates of the Next	20.1. Everyone was thanked for their input and it was noted		

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Meetings	<p>that a special meeting of the Academic Board will be held on 17 July 2013 at Cardiff Metropolitan University when a workshop will be arranged before the meeting.</p> <p>20.2. The following dates for academic years 2013/14 and 2014/15 were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 October 2013, Carmarthen • 5 February 2014, Aberystwyth • 7 May 2014, Cardiff • 15 October 2014, The University of South Wales • 4 February 2015, Carmarthen • 13 May 2015, Glyndŵr University 		