

Academic Board of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol
Wednesday, 17 July 2013
Conference Room 1, Cyncoed Campus, Cardiff Metropolitan University

Present:

Members (Coleg): Professor Siwan Davies, Dr Dylan Foster Evans, Dr Carwyn Jones, Dr Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones, Gwilym Dyfri Jones, Huw Morris (ex-officio), Delyth Murphy (until 3.30), Professor Gwynedd Parry, Dr Eleri Pryse, Gwerfyl Roberts (until 2.45)

Members (Institutions): Dr Anwen Jones, Dr Lisa Lewis, Dr Gina Morgan (until 3.00), Dr Angharad Naylor, Dr Siân Wyn Siencyn

Members (Students): Manon George

Members (Colleges Wales): Llinos Roberts, Carys Swain

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

Apologies: Dr Hefin Jones (Chair and Dean), Phil Ainsworth, Julie Brake, Dr Rhys Jones (deputising for Dr Gwenno Ffrancon), Professor Densil Morgan, Alys Rosser, Dr Gwennan Schiavone, Dr Enlli Thomas, Professor Deri Tomos

Item	Main discussion points	Actions	Timescale
<p>1. Welcome and Opening Comments</p>	<p>1.1. The members were formally welcomed to the meeting by the Vice-Chair, Delyth Murphy, and the Academic Board extended its best wishes to the Dean. The meeting was advised that Gwilym Dyfri Jones would deputise for the Vice-Chair from 3.30 onwards.</p> <p>1.2. Cardiff Metropolitan University was thanked for hosting the meeting, and those who participated in a successful workshop on good practice in the morning were also thanked.</p> <p>1.3. Huw Morris, Chair of the Academic Collaboration</p>		

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	Committee, and Dr Angharad Naylor, Cardiff University, were welcomed to their first meeting.		
2. Apologies and Declarations of Interest	2.1. Apologies as noted above were accepted, and an apology was also tendered by the Chair who was absent at short notice for family reasons. 2.2. There were no declarations of interest.		
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 May 2013	3.1. It was reported that the minutes of the previous meeting would be further reviewed, for clarity. A comment by Dr Dylan Foster Evans on minute 6.3 relating to sabbatical period learning pathways was noted, as was a comment from Dr Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones on minute 11.3, noting that Academic Board members were personally to nominate Fellows, as well as the Directors and other suitable individuals. 3.2. It was agreed to revise the minutes.	Development Officer to revise the minutes and circulate them before the next meeting	September 2013
4. Membership	4.1. It was noted that this would be the last meeting for Manon George as a student representative, and she was thanked for her valuable contribution during her term of office, and the Board wished her well in her new job at Cardiff University. 4.2. The Chief Executive provided an update on discussions with the student body confirming that there would be six student representatives on the Academic Board in future.	Officers to confirm the membership	16 October 2013
5. Academic Staffing Scheme (BA/13/04/05)	5.1. The Registrar presented a summary of the revised paper on the Coleg policy for promotions and sabbatical periods. 5.2. It was noted that a clause should be included, in the light of the change to the minute above, concerning lecturers who are not on a research pathway, and the paper was	Registrar to revise the paper	16 October 2013

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	<p>investment in the subject, including attempting to increase the numbers nationally through distance learning.</p> <p>6.6. It was explained that the Welsh Language Panel would need to meet to discuss the plan further, and that a revised action plan would be presented in due course.</p> <p>6.7. The Music Plan was discussed in detail, noting the substantial investment in the light of the numbers and the challenges facing the institutions. It was explained that the Music Academic Co-ordinator project, in its present form, was ending. The ambitious targets were noted, noting that the target was higher than the current number of Welsh-speakers studying the subject.</p> <p>6.8. The Business Plan was received and discussed, noting that three hubs are developing, in Bangor, the south west and the south east. Changes to the text were noted, and in particular a change to the current situation on page 3 and the footnote on page 5.</p> <p>6.9. The Social Policy and Sociology Plan was received and approved, showing a solid basis for moving forward in Bangor and Cardiff.</p> <p>6.10. The Sports Plan was accepted. It was noted that Bangor University had committed to the plan but Aberystwyth University had decided not to fund a post in this field, and the status of that institution in the plan had changed as a result. It was agreed to write to Cardiff Metropolitan University about a curriculum review in that institution and the possible impact on Welsh-medium provision. Subject to a number of changes noted by members, the Plan was approved.</p> <p>6.11. The International Politics and Politics Plan was presented for the first time by Dr Dylan Phillips. It was explained that Aberystwyth had a long tradition of teaching the subject and that there was a range of provision and a</p>	<p>Ask the co-ordinator to try and attract students from further education to continue studying</p> <p>Revise the plan</p> <p>Revise the plan</p> <p>Write to the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff Metropolitan University about Welsh-medium modules.</p>	<p>September 2013</p> <p>Summer 2013</p> <p>Summer 2013</p> <p>September 2013</p>

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	<p>commitment to the future, that Swansea has no provision currently, and that provision is being developed in Cardiff. Following detailed discussion, including careful consideration of questions concerning inter-institutional collaboration and the terms of the staffing plan, the Plan was approved.</p> <p>6.12. Dr Dylan Phillips gave a short presentation on the Mathematics and Physics Plan, referring to the chairmanship of Dr Eleri Pryse and the recent constructive meeting. It was noted that academics were collaborating, the number of students was strong, and that the most extensive provision was in Aberystwyth. The plan was approved.</p> <p>6.13. It was explained that the old Creative Industries Plan, through the Centre for Welsh Medium Higher Education as was, had now ended and a new plan was being drawn up, facilitated by Eifion Lloyd Jones. Following an initial discussion in May when some information was transferred from the old plan, the panel will meet in the next academic year to discuss it further. The current draft plan was noted and it was reported that a revised version would be presented in the autumn meeting.</p> <p>6.14. It was noted that the Panel for the Education Studies Plan had met and that a fuller plan would be presented to the Academic Board in the autumn meeting. The draft plan was accepted.</p> <p>6.15. An early version of a History, Welsh History, and Archaeology Plan was accepted and approved. It had been discussed by a new panel, chaired by Professor Densil Morgan, which had agreed priorities.</p> <p>6.16. A progress report on the Nursing Plan was received. A fuller version will be presented to the next Academic Board.</p>		

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	<p>6.17. An early version of a Criminology Plan was received and approved. This is a new field for Welsh-medium provision. It was noted that discussion and consideration was needed on the implications of offering 80 credits through a single member of staff (page 4).</p> <p>6.18. During the discussion a large number of questions were raised about specific matters arising from the plans, and the importance of the principle that institutions do not rely solely on the Coleg to fund education and Welsh-medium provision was noted.</p>		
7. Art and Design	<p>7.1. At this point in the meeting, Gwilym Dyfri Jones took the Chair.</p> <p>7.2. It was reported that Cardiff Metropolitan University had asked about the status of Art and Design within the Creative Industries Subject Plan. It was explained that Art and Design was considered to be a separate subject.</p> <p>7.3. It was noted here that the Coleg is reconciling the statistics in the plans following the HEFCW guidelines and the HESA and UNISTATS statistics, and so 80 credits is more consistent now.</p>		
8. Academic Collaboration Committee	<p>8.1. Huw Morris, Chair of the Academic Collaboration Committee, gave a verbal report on the committee's work. The expert background of the members, and the quality and importance of their advice on collaborative validation of modules across institutions was noted.</p> <p>8.2. The minutes of the meetings on 30th January 2013 and 1st May 2013 were noted for information.</p> <p>8.3. It was noted that the committee had adopted terms of reference which will be presented to the next meeting of the Academic Board.</p> <p>8.4. It was reported that the committee had discussed student</p>	Present the terms of reference for the Academic Collaboration Committee to the next	16 October 2013

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	<p>education, the importance of Section B10 of the QAA, registration, examination, timetabling, regulations, defining collaboration, and creating a collaboration framework including the creation of electronic application forms for collaborative degrees and modules to facilitate discussion between the institutions, the registries, and the Coleg. It was mentioned that there is an emphasis on avoiding earmarking money until there is certainty about collaborative plans. The aim of the committee is to facilitate not obstruct the collaborative process. It was noted that Philosophy and Part Time Studies plans have already been presented to the committee and that it will be looking at module applications from October onwards.</p> <p>8.5. The Chair was thanked for his presentation, and best wishes were given to the committee in its work.</p>	Academic Board	
<p>9. Welsh Language Skills Certificate (BA/13/04/2009)</p>	<p>9.1. The report of the Chief Examiner, Dr Elin Meek, was received, and she was thanked for her work along with all those in the institutions who had been involved with the examination process. It was reported that there were 40 candidates, of whom 6 received distinctions, 28 passed, and 6 failed.</p> <p>9.2. It was reported that there would be an opportunity to re-sit the examination and that recommendations to improve the examination processes for the next year had already been discussed.</p> <p>9.3. The successful applicants would receive their certificates at the National Eisteddfod in Denbigh during August 2013.</p>		
<p>10. Translation Studies</p>	<p>10.1. A verbal report was received from the Chief Executive noting the appointment of Lowri Wynne Williams as Translation Co-ordinator from September 2013.</p>		

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11. Honouring pioneers in higher education	<p>11.1. An update was provided following an invitation to members of the Academic Board in the last meeting to propose (i) names for possible Fellows, and (ii) ideas for other honours and awards.</p> <p>11.2. Four possible names had been received from members of the Academic Board, and the invitation was extended until September when the Coleg's Honours Committee will be meeting for the first time to discuss the nominations as well as nominations from the Directors.</p> <p>11.3. The second item was deferred in the absence of the Chair who had submitted ideas for other honours and awards.</p> <p>11.4. The intention of introducing a History prize for the best doctoral thesis in Welsh was noted.</p> <p>11.5. It was intended, subject to the agreement of the family, to establish a prize in memory of Eilir Hedd Morgan, a lecturer through the Staffing Scheme, who was killed in an accident earlier this year.</p>	<p>Development Officer</p> <p>Place the item on the agenda for the October meeting.</p>	<p>Summer 2013</p> <p>16 October 2013</p>
12. Staffing Scheme Awards and Postgraduate Scholarships	<p>12.1. A verbal report was received from Dr Dylan Phillips on the awards made under the Staffing Scheme and the Postgraduate Scholarships, stating that they have been filled and that the names will be published at the National Eisteddfod in August 2013.</p>		
13. Undergraduate Scholarships	<p>13.1. A verbal report was received from the Registrar on developments in the area of Undergraduate Scholarships. It was noted that discussions with HEFCW are continuing and that there is money left for awarding scholarships for September.</p>		
14. Matters to be raised – Students	<p>14.1. The students had no matters to raise.</p>		

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15. Matters to be raised – Branches	15.1. The branches had no matters to raise.		
16. Matters arising	16.1. An update was received on the involvement of the Coleg with the Learned Society. It was noted that there is an annual joint lecture between the Coleg and the Learned Society, which has been organised for 19 November 2013 in Aberystwyth, and that Professor Brinley Roberts will be lecturing on the subject of Edward Llwyd.		
17. AOB	<p>17.1. The suggestion of placing the agenda and papers for the meetings on Sharepoint for the convenience of members was noted.</p> <p>17.2. A question was raised about the Strategic Development Fund, and the Chief Executive reported on the Coleg's plans for the year. It was noted that the plans reflect the financial pressures on the Coleg's budget.</p>	Coleg officers to discuss with the Coleg IT officer	Septemeber 2013
18. Dates of next meetings	<p>18.1. The following dates were noted for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 academic years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16th October 2013, Carmarthen • 5th February 2014, Aberystwyth • 7th May 2014, Cardiff • 15th October 2014, University of South Wales • 4th February 2015, Carmarthen • 13th May 2015, Glyndŵr University 		