

SCHOOL OF WELSH MEDIUM STUDIES

- Date:** 23 April 2007
- Venue:** Council Chamber
- Present:** Professor Densil Morgan (Chair), Ms Meri Huws, Mrs. Bethan Llwyd Jones, Mrs. Bethan Wyn Jones, Dr. Llion Jones, Mrs. Delyth Murphy, Mrs. Mairwen Owen, Mrs. Delyth Prys, Mr. Gerallt Wyn Roberts, Mrs. Gwerfyl Wyn Roberts, Mr. Wyn Thomas, Professor Gerwyn Williams, Mr. Emyr Roberts (minutes), Dr. Ioan Matthews and Dr. Dylan Phillips, Centre for the Development of Welsh Medium Education.
- Apologies:** Mr. Ifor Gruffydd, Dr. Keith Hughes, Mrs. Elen Huws, Mr. Dewi Wyn Jones, Dr. Gwyn Lewis, Dr. Delyth Morris, Dr. Robert Pope, Dr. Enlli Thomas, Dr. Einir Young.

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Dr. Ioan Matthews and Dr. Dylan Phillips from the Centre for the Development of Welsh Medium Education to the meeting.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the School's meeting held on 31 January 2007 were received as a correct record. It was noted that item 4(i) should read 'with an increase of 24 FTEs'

3. MATTERS ARISING

1. Item 3.2 - Neuadd John Morris Jones

- (i) The Chair reported that he had recently contacted the Director of Estates concerning the condition of Neuadd John Morris Jones at the beginning of the academic year. He was awaiting his response.
- (ii) It was noted that Ms Cheryl Wright had been appointed Deputy Director of Estates and will be responsible for the halls of residence and building use as well as Croeso/Welcome Bangor.

2. Item 3.3 – Developments in the Colleges

It was reported that the College of Health and Behavioural Sciences had not yet appointed a Head of College. The College will then be in a position to respond to the request for Welsh medium developments.

3. Item 4 (iii) – Scholarships and Fellowships

It was reported that Scholarships had been awarded to the School of Music, the School of Social Sciences and the School of Chemistry and one from last year to the School of Law. In addition, there was a resubmission for one Scholarship from the School of Health Sciences and this was successful. There was also success in obtaining Fellowships for the Institute of Creative Industries, the School of Music and the School of Biological Sciences. Dr Prysor Williams' Fellowship in the School of Environment and Natural Resources has been extended for a further year.

4. Item 5 - 'Y Ford Gron', University of Wales, Aberystwyth

It was reported that 'Y Ford Gron' was not a part of the School of Welsh Medium Studies at Aberystwyth but, rather, staff development meetings which hold sessions on different issues, such as research, recruitment, etc. *It was agreed* to include specific items, such as research and recruitment on the School's agenda and ask relevant staff members to give brief presentations (Action: DDM/ER).

4. REPORT FROM TASIG

Meri Huws reported on some of the items discussed by TASIG at its meeting held on 21 March 2007.

- (i) The Higher Education Wales Committee has established a group comprising of Pro-Vice-Chancellors and Registrars to provide strategic guidance on developments relating to Welsh medium education.
- (ii) Staff were asked to inform Elinor Elis-Williams, the Press Officer, without delay if they have any ideas regarding materials or events which could be included for the National Eisteddfod.
- (iii) 'Gwerddon' has recently been published on the web and there will be an official launch at Aberystwyth next week.
- (iv) Professor Thomas Watkin was congratulated on his appointment to the new post of Chief Legislative Counsel for Wales and was thanked for his work in the

- University. *It was agreed* – to ask the Chair to write to Professor Watkin to thank him and wish him well in his new post (Action - DDM).
- (v) Schools were asked to provide their short and medium term targets for the Academic Language Scheme.
 - (vi) During the TASIG meeting, Mr. Ioan Evans, Marketing and Progression Officer at the Centre for the Development of Welsh Medium Education, gave a presentation on *Ymgyrch Mantais*. This is a marketing strategy to promote Welsh medium provision and is targeted mainly at young people aged between 16 – 21.
 - (vii) Canolfan Bedwyr has succeeded in obtaining a 2 year extension to the Sabbatical Scheme.
 - (viii) There is a need to create some sort of package to report on Welsh medium stories in the University.
It was agreed to ask Mr. Alan Wyn Parry and Ms Elinor Elis-Williams to look into the idea. (Action MH).

5. PRESENTATION BY DR. IOAN MATTHEWS – CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

1. Dr. Ioan Matthews gave a presentation on recent events on a national level in Welsh Medium Higher Education.
2. In November 2006 a National Sector Group was established under the aegis of Higher Education Wales (HEW) with representation from every higher education establishment. The Group will be responsible for developing and monitoring the Higher Education Welsh Medium strategy.
3. The Strategic Structure, First Steps, Provision Planning, Marketing, Staff Development and the Centre's Function were explained in detail.
4. Members then had an opportunity to ask questions. It was noted that the Group's title or location had not yet been decided. Decisions regarding the status of the body will also have to go through the heads of the various institutions.
5. It is hoped to circulate information down to the relevant officers in the Colleges in the new academic year.

The Chair thanked Dr. Ioan Matthews for his presentation.

6. TERMIADUR Y GYFRAITH

Mrs. Delyth Prys reported that it is hoped that a Welsh dictionary of Law terminology will be launched to coincide with the graduation of the first cohort of students from the School of Law.

7. VALEDICTION

The Chair reported:

- (i) that Mr. Gerallt Wyn Roberts' period in office as President of Undeb Myfyrwyr Cymraeg Bangor was drawing to a close and he thanked him for his contribution to the School's work and wished him well in future.
- (ii) that Dr. Cen Williams will be retiring in the summer as Director of Canolfan Bedwyr and was therefore attending his last meeting of the School. He was thanked for his immense contribution over the years, not only to the work of the School, but to that of Canolfan Bedwyr and the University in general, and he was also wished well in future.

8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 2.15p.m. on Thursday 18 October 2007 in the Council Chamber.