

2017

BANGORIAD

Bangor University's Alumni Magazine



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY

A GOLDEN FUTURE



**FROM BANGOR TO SAN FRANCISCO,
PHYSICAL EDUCATION ALUMNUS
PROFESSOR JEREMY HOWELL TELLS
US HOW THREE LITTLE WORDS SET
HIM ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS**

Join Bangor University's Legacy Programme!



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Remember... Your Student Days at Bangor?



Remember... Today's Students in Your Will!

The following paragraph provides an example of the wording you can use in your will:

A bequest to your alma mater can help you avoid estate taxes and join a group of individuals who have demonstrated their lasting commitment to the future success of Bangor University.

Legacy gifts are tax exempt, so they can reduce the tax payable by your estate.

You may have a lifelong interest in a specific area or you may wish to preserve the memory of your own name or that of a family member by funding a specific award.

“I give to Bangor University, College Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DG the sum of £.. (free of tax) for its general purposes (OR for the purposes of..) and I direct that the receipt of the University Registrar or other authorised officer for the time being of the University shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my trustees.

”

Further information is available at: bangor.ac.uk/giving/legacies or by contacting alumni@bangor.ac.uk or **01248 382020**

Hello from Bangor University!

It's been another busy year for Bangor University and we're pleased to report the highlights in this issue of *Bangoriad*.

The Development and Alumni Relations Office held a number of reunions and alumni events all over the world in 2015 and 2016, see pages 20-22, and it was a great pleasure to meet so many of you there and to hear of your achievements since graduating. We highlight some of our successful alumni stories in our Alumni of the Year feature on pages 8 and 9.

We also include our annual Roll of Donors to acknowledge donations made to the University and to thank everyone for their support. In particular, donations to The Bangor Fund allow the University to deliver a margin of excellence and provide an enhanced experience to our students. You can see how some of the money donated to The Bangor Fund has been spent on page 16.

Thank you for your continued interest in the University and please do keep in touch!

Kind regards,

Sheila O'Neal
Executive Director of Development



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BANGORIAD Online

Make sure that we always have your current email address so you can receive future editions of *Bangoriad*: www.bangor.ac.uk/alumni/update

Keep in touch online

 Bangor University Alumni Prifysgol Bangor (Page) and Bangor University Alumni (Group)

 Bangor University Alumni Association

Find a Friend

If you'd like to contact friends from your University days you've lost touch with, we can help! Email details of your lost contacts to alumni@bangor.ac.uk and we'll try to reconnect you.

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Data Protection: Alumni data is held securely and confidentially on our database for the purposes of promoting closer links between Bangor University and its former students. It is available to the University's academic and administrative departments for the same purpose, as well as to recognised University societies.

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From the Vice-Chancellor Greetings from Bangor

I'm pleased to once again report substantial progress in establishing Bangor University's position in the top tier of universities in Wales, and indeed internationally.

The recent National Student Survey, a high-profile census which gathers opinions from students about their experience of their courses, places us second in Wales and in the top 15 of non-specialist universities in the UK. At the UK level, our score puts us on par with Oxford and Cambridge for the third year running.

This year, seven of our subject areas achieved an astonishing 100% student satisfaction and a further seven subject areas are in the top 10. Bangor is ranked 4th for Academic Support, top 20 for Teaching and top 20 for Assessment and Feedback. We are also first in Wales for Academic Support and Personal Development.

Our repeated success is an impressive and important result for us as an institution. It is a remarkable vote of confidence in the University by our students, and reflects the excellent standards of teaching and facilities available at Bangor.

Internationally, Bangor University's appearance at 107th in the table of global

universities with the most international outlook boosts our goal to be an international University for the region.

The outstanding research at the University has also been recognised and you can read more about some of our research projects on page 12.

Last autumn saw the opening of our brand-new Arts and Innovation Centre, Pontio. Pontio is a wonderful facility which has already made an enormous contribution to the educational, social and cultural life of our students and of our region. See more about the new Centre on page 14.

As ever, we would like to encourage you to continue to be involved and act as ambassadors for the University. As you can see over the next pages, there is much to celebrate.

Prof. John G. Hughes
Vice-Chancellor



LOCAL HISTORIC DRAMA AT PONTIO

Chwalfa, the first major production held at the University's new Pontio Arts & Innovation Centre, opened to sell-out audiences last February, with an additional performance being added due to popular demand.

The play, adapted from T Rowland Hughes' epic 1946 novel, is based on the events of the 1900-1903 Great Strike at Bethesda's Penrhyn quarry, still the longest running industrial dispute in UK history. The dispute began when attempts by the owner, Lord Penrhyn, to eliminate the North Wales Quarrymen's Union's influence within the quarry led to a walk-out by more than 2,000 men. The quarry reopened in 1901 and fewer than 100 men returned to work.

The professional cast were accompanied by a sixty-strong community chorus many of whom have family members that were directly affected by the strike, and whose forefathers were among the striking quarrymen. It was these very quarrymen who contributed from their meagre wages to establish Bangor University, so this production was at the heart of the Bangor community in many ways.

Brought to the stage by Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru in partnership with Pontio and Cwmni'r Frân Wen, the Welsh-language drama production was translated for non-Welsh speakers by way of the company's own smartphone app, Sibrwd, which gives a little voice that whispers in the user's ear in their own language during the theatre performance. *The Guardian* gave Chwalfa a four star review, writing, "Llion Williams is superb as an union leader... his oratory was so powerful I didn't even need Sibrwd to catch the drift."

In the Community



From left: Ethan Ray (Bangor City FC), Professor Carol Tully, Professor John G. Hughes, Dilwyn Jones (BCFC Chairman), Richard Bennett, Director of Sport and Peter Crew (BCFC)

BANGOR UNIVERSITY STADIUM

The home of Bangor City Football Club (BCFC) has been renamed the Bangor University Stadium following a landmark partnership deal.

The University has become Bangor City's stadium naming rights partner as part of a three-year agreement. The partnership will see the University engaging with the football club, which moved to its new home in Nantporth in 2012, in a number of ways.

Richard Bennett, Director of Sport at the University, said: "Through work placements and volunteering roles we will help the club develop their

junior programmes, as well as giving our students employability skills in areas such as facility management, media and coaching. This is the start of an exciting partnership with Bangor City FC and something that will benefit Bangor University, the football club and the local community."

Bangor City FC Chairman, Dilwyn Jones, said: "This collaboration is aimed at establishing sustainability and progression through a sharing of skills and resources. I am excited at the prospect of developing relationships with students and staff and bringing an extra dimension to player and business development at the club."

STORIEL – BANGOR'S NEW MUSEUM AND GALLERY

The Gwynedd Museum and Gallery has recently been transformed thanks to a £2.6 million refurbishment. Its new name – Storiell – combines its functions; that of telling the stories of Gwynedd through the artefacts and that of a gallery ('oriell' in Welsh) showcasing art. The museum, which has moved to its new home in the historic Bishop's Palace Town Hall building, was officially opened by Arfon AM Alun Ffred Jones last January.

As well as redeveloping the Bishop's Palace building for public use, the project's aims are to contribute towards the regeneration of Bangor city, transform the interpretation and access to the Storiell collections, open doors to Bangor University's hidden treasures and expand access and engagement. Storiell features art galleries, museum exhibitions, a community exhibition space, a shop, café, learning space and meeting rooms. Staff and volunteers liaise with a wide range of individuals and groups across Gwynedd to ensure the collections and the work they do is accessible across the county. They are also working hard on conserving and opening up Bangor University's fantastic collections and digitising the collections so they will be searchable online in the future. The development was made possible thanks to a number of funding grants including support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Welsh Government and Bangor University.

Prof. Jerry Hunter, Bangor University's Pro Vice-Chancellor for Welsh Medium and Civic Engagement, said: "The close partnership with



Gwynedd Council has ensured that we have safeguarded and developed an accessible and important resource at the centre of Bangor City. Through this project there is a real chance to open the doors of Bangor University's hidden collections to Gwynedd residents and beyond."

Professor Jeremy Howell

(PHYSICAL EDUCATION, 1978)



Born in Kidwelly, South West Wales, Bangor alumnus Professor Jeremy Howell is an acclaimed Professor of Sport Science at the University of San Francisco (USF), a successful businessman and a philanthropist.

Professor Howell was part of the first cohort to study Physical Education in Bangor in 1978. Following his degree, he won a Thomas and Elizabeth Williams Scholarship from his hometown which enabled him to study at postgraduate level in the United States, and he has never looked back!

He is currently Program Director of the Collegiate Athletics+ Masters Program, an online sports management degree at USF focused on the business of college sports. He also has extensive industry experience having consulted with both profit and not-for-profit organisations on business operations, product development and strategic philanthropy.

In 2015, Professor Howell returned to Bangor to receive an Honorary Fellowship for services to Sport Science. The citation was given by his former Professor, Lew Hardy (see right).

We were delighted to welcome Jeremy back to Bangor and to hear about the impact and influence our institution has had on his career to date...

You were part of the first full cohort of Physical Education at Bangor; was it exciting to be part of something new?

Right at the outset, you could feel the sense of innovation in that we were part of something really new and ground-breaking. I played rugby for the University so you can imagine my delight at having Tony Gray, one of Wales' all-time rugby legends, as one of my lecturers and coach. John Fazey, an emerging scholar, sparked my interest in pursuing graduate work in North America; and then there was Lew Hardy, an incredibly passionate professor who was to become one the premier sport scientists in the world.

Since then, there has been a lot of development in the field of Sports Science and this has been seen in Bangor too. When I started studying in 1978 the department had only 30 or so students. Today it has grown into the School of Sport, Health and Exercise Science. The depth of research, teaching and influence that now occurs is astounding. I am very proud to be a part of that first cohort.

What did you enjoy most about your time at Bangor?

Like most students, it was the camaraderie and friendships I developed. I think it is fair to say that I both studied and played hard. I feel as though I grew up at Bangor. I am still close friends with several of my fellow alumni, many of whom live here in the States, and meet up with them regularly.

What was the best advice you received?

That's an easy one to answer - three little words uttered by Professor Lew Hardy: "Do It Now."

Towards the end of my studies at Bangor, I learnt about the Thomas and Elizabeth Williams Scholarship, which became pivotal in my life and career. Armed with this information and a passion to continue my postgraduate studies in the U.S., I walked into Lew's office to ask for advice on the best way to apply. Lew looked at me and said "Do it now". He picked up the phone, dialled a number, introduced himself to Alan Ingham (Professor at the University of Washington, Seattle), and then handed me the phone. Less than a year later I was living in Seattle on a full scholarship and starting a journey that has me now living in San Francisco and working in a field that I love.

I don't think Lew has any idea how influential those three little words – "Do it now" – were to be in my life.

What happened next after you finished your PhD?

In my last year of PhD studies, I received a phone call from U.C. Berkeley regarding a possible semester-long teaching position. Two weeks later I was living in the Bay Area, teaching undergraduate classes. That one semester position turned into a two-year 'visiting instructor' position.

“I don't think Lew has any idea how influential those three little words – “Do it now” – were to be in my life.

”

Professor Jeremy Howell

After leaving U.C. Berkeley, you worked in the business world of sports science. How was this different to working in academia?

When my contract ended with U.C. Berkeley I went on to work for Western Athletic Clubs, a San Francisco-based sports resort and urban health club corporation. It was my first foray into the business world and I ended up developing and directing their health and fitness operations for about 5 years. The corporation was a 100% subsidiary of Atlantic Philanthropies; one of the largest foundations in the world. Atlantic Philanthropies was formed by Chuck Feeney, founder of Duty Free Shopping and one of the most amazing people I have ever met.

Chuck calls his philanthropic philosophy "Giving while Living" – to me it was nothing more than a billionaire philanthropist's way of saying "Do it now." And we certainly did 'Do It'.

I was able to allocate millions of dollars to a whole range of projects tied to exercise and sport – projects as far ranging as global human trafficking, Bay Area after school programs, the International Children's Games, fall prevention initiatives with seniors, and innovative cancer treatment initiatives. Something that I am extremely proud of.

How did it feel coming back to Bangor to receive your honorary fellowship last year?

It was an amazing experience and wonderful honour. I felt quite emotional as Lew Hardy introduced me to the graduating student body. Unfortunately my wife Yvonne and my kids could not make it but my sister Sarah was there. It was great to have my Welsh family present.

How do you see your role as an alumnus and giving back to today's students?

I have met many Bangor alumni based in California at Bangor events over the last couple of years and I look forward to meeting more! I think it's important for alumni to help their alma mater as much as possible, whether it's offering work experience or advice to current students, or helping financially; it all helps. I am certainly looking to do more – to pay it forward so to speak.



Prof. Lew Hardy (left) with Prof. Jeremy Howell

PROF. LEW HARDY

Professor Lew Hardy is a research professor at Bangor University's School of Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences. He came to Bangor University in 1978 to develop the first course in Physical Education, now known as Sports Science. Previously Head of School, he now works part time on research, securing grants, supervising postgraduate students and teaching on the School's MSc courses.

His research interests are focused on Performance Psychology, including mental toughness and performance under pressure; personality factors; motivation for exceptionally high levels of achievement; transformational leadership and group dynamics and organisational psychology.

Prof. Hardy has secured over £1.2 million in research grants for various projects and has consulted for a number of companies including the Rugby Football Union, UK Sport and the British Association of Mountain guides. He regularly works with the Ministry of Defence on projects centred on leadership and coaching in training and with the England and Wales Cricket Board on talent development and developing mental toughness and resilience.

Prof. Hardy chaired the British Olympic Association's Psychology steering group from 1989 to 2001, and has worked with numerous national teams including British Gymnastics and Bob Skeleton. He also recently worked with UK Sport on a number of projects to maximise Britain's medal capture at the Rio Olympics.

In 2011 he received the British Psychological Society's Distinguished Contribution to Sport and Exercise Psychology Award.

Alumni of the Year

2016

Your relationship with Bangor University doesn't end with graduation. As an alumnus you will have a life long relationship with your alma mater. We strive to stay in touch with you and keep you informed of the latest developments at the University, and to keep you connected with your classmates through reunions and events.

As a Bangor alumnus, you have much to be proud of in your fellow graduates. Bangor alumni have gone on to hugely successful careers in a wide variety of fields all over the world. From Major General Susan Ridge (History, 1984), the first female Major General in UK history, and Paul Berenger (French, 1969), former Prime Minister of Mauritius, to Oscar-winning film Director Danny Boyle (English, 1978) and IVF pioneer Sir Robert Geoffrey Edwards CBE (Zoology, 1951), Bangor alumni are making a difference!

To acknowledge your achievements, every year the Alumni Advisory Board considers

candidates and advises the University on an Alumnus of the Year award. This award highlights the value that the University attaches to its alumni and their achievements, and draws the attention of the wider public to the contributions the University's former students make to society.

We are always interested in hearing about alumni who have excelled in their field, whatever that may be, and alumni can be considered for this peer-reviewed award for a range of achievements. Nominations can be made to acknowledge:

- particular professional success
- voluntary work or philanthropy of significant merit
- achievements of national or international significance
- work which is especially distinctive or has made significant contribution to the lives of others
- the continued support of the University through activities such as mentoring and sharing knowledge and experience

Alumnus of the Year: KEVIN DEEMING

(Physical Oceanography,
1969)

Following a degree in Physics at Aberystwyth University Kevin studied a Master's degree in Physical Oceanography at Bangor's School of Ocean Sciences (then known as the Marine Science Laboratories), graduating in 1969.

After receiving his MSc, he undertook two years' research in Jamaica then returned to Bangor to form Marine Investigations and Services Ltd, based on Bangor's High Street.

Kevin served as a Senior Manager for a large international marine survey company before forming his own company, Metoc plc, in 1983 which provided project management and advice in ocean science and engineering worldwide. Kevin retired in 2010.

Kevin sits on the board of the School of Ocean Sciences Alumni Association (SOSA) and is the Editor of *The Bridge*, the School of Ocean Sciences (SOS) newsletter. Kevin strongly believes in giving back and is a generous supporter of the School of Ocean Sciences, by giving his time to support SOS activities, and by funding four annual MSc scholarships for the School.

Kevin returned to Bangor with his guests in July to receive his award which was presented with a citation by Professor Chris Richardson from the School of Ocean Sciences.



Kevin Deeming (centre) receiving Alumnus of the Year 2016 from Prof. John G. Hughes, Vice-Chancellor (left) and Prof. Chris Richardson, School of Ocean Sciences

If you are aware of a former student who you think should be considered for an Alumnus of the Year award, please let us know at: alumni@bangor.ac.uk

International Alumni of the Year

Two of our International alumni were also honored with Alumni of the Year Awards in 2016 in recognition of their achievements.

AMINA RASHID AL-ALAIWI (Accounting and Finance, 2010)

Bangor University's Business School is proud to have an established partnership with the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF).

The partnership between Bangor University and BIBF began in 2004 with the first cohort of students graduating in 2007. Since then more than 500 students have graduated from this programme which enables students to study the foundation year and the first two years of their degree in Bahrain and complete their final year to earn their degree in Bangor.

This year we were proud to launch the Bangor University / BIBF Alumnus of the Year award. This honour recognises a graduate of the Bangor/BIBF programme who has achieved professional distinction, while also finding time to undertake volunteer activities and give back to their community.



Born in Bahrain, Bangor was Amina Rashid Al-Alaiwi's first study abroad experience. Having earned her Diploma in Banking and Finance and Advanced Diploma in Islamic Finance at BIBF, Amina came to Bangor University to gain her B.A. in Accounting and Finance in 2010. She was awarded the Best Performance Award in Accounting and Finance for the Class of 2010.

Of her time in Bangor, Amina says "The best thing about Bangor is the peace, which you can hardly get while living in big cities. I loved the nature in the area and the fact that the local people were very friendly". She is still in touch with a number of friends that she made in Bangor.

Following graduation, Amina enrolled on the Chartered Financial Analyst program. She has recently passed the Level II exam and is currently preparing for the upcoming Level III exam in June 2017.

Amina is now Superintendent in the Inspection Directorate at the Central Bank of Bahrain. She started in a junior position as a fresh graduate and now supervises her own team.

Amina was presented with her award by Prof. Phil Molyneux, Dean of College of Business, Law, Education and Social Science, during the third annual Bangor alumni reunion in the Kingdom of Bahrain in September 2016.

JUAN CHEN (MA Banking and Finance, 2003)



Juan Chen was named Bangor University Alumnus of the Year China 2016 at an alumni reunion held in the Four Seasons Hotel Shanghai in October.

Juan spent two years in Bangor, gaining a Master's degree in Banking and Finance in the renowned Bangor Business School in 2003. After returning to Beijing, she started her career as a journalist in the Xinhua News Agency as a business reporter. She is now Deputy Editor in

a newly established English news service portal, Yicai Global, a subsidiary of the China Business Network, where she is passionate about telling global readers real China stories. At Bangor, Juan learnt to "never be afraid to ask why" and how to perform academic research, skills which she has found invaluable during her career.

Professor John G. Hughes, Bangor University's Vice-Chancellor, presented Juan with the award and said: "Bangor University is proud of all of our alumni's achievements and we are delighted to have introduced the Alumnus of the Year China award. Juan Chen is a very deserving first recipient."

Honorary Fellows

An Honorary Fellowship is a highly prestigious award which gives the University an opportunity to recognise a distinguished contribution made by individuals in various walks of life. Honorary Fellowships were awarded to the following during the July 2016 graduation ceremonies:



**His Excellency
Rasheed Mohammed
Al Maraj, for
Services to Banking**
*Governor of the
Central Bank of
Bahrain*



**John Meirion Morris,
for Services to the
Arts**
Sculptor



**Nia Roberts,
for Services to
Broadcasting**
*Television and radio
presenter*



**Dr Ruth Hussey CB
OBE, for Services to
Medical Sciences**
*Retired Chief Medical
Officer and Medical
Director NHS, Wales*



**Professor John
Porter, for Services
to Science
(Plant Biology, 1981)**
*Professor at the
University of
Copenhagen and
the University of
Greenwich*



**Elin Manahan
Thomas, for
Services to Music**
Soprano singer



**Professor R. Merfyn
Jones CBE, for
Services to the
University**
*Former Vice-
Chancellor of
Bangor University*



**Major General Susan
Ridge, for Services
to Law (History,
1984)**
*Director General
Army Legal Services*



**Rhian Huws
Williams, for
Services to Social
Work (Sociology,
1983)**
*Chief Executive of
the Care Council for
Wales*



**Glyn Watkin Jones,
for Services to
Industry**
*Chairman, Watkin
Jones Group*



**J. O. Roberts, for
Services to Drama**
Actor
*Mr Roberts sadly
passed away shortly
after graduation
week*



**Professor John
Wingfield, for
Services to Science
(Zoology, 1974)**
*Environmental
Endocrinologist at
the University of
California, Davis*

Building Begins on Science Park Project



M-SParc, Wales' first dedicated Science Park, is coming to North Wales. Developed by Menai Science Park Ltd, a subsidiary company wholly owned by Bangor University, this ambitious project will focus on bringing the brightest and best to North Wales.

The 5000sq meter building includes flexible working spaces, offices, laboratories, meeting rooms, and outside parkland space and will house companies in a range of sectors who have commercially viable ideas or research projects.

Executive Director, Ieuan Wyn Jones, said "This project ties in with many ongoing economic strategies, and comes at an opportune time to link with other ongoing projects in the region, including Wylfa Newydd and projects in the renewable sector. However, we understand that we need to do more than simply provide premises and excellent business support in

order to assist companies to create jobs. To ensure that young people are able to take full advantage of these roles, M-SParc is working with Bangor University to provide Masters Degrees and scholarships that link to our key sectors so that students can graduate with appropriate skills. The Science Park will create a bridge between innovative companies and Bangor University. We are already in advanced discussions with a number of potential tenants from a range of sectors."

What sets the Science Park apart from any other is that enthusiastic staff members

will assist tenant companies to find the best business support. Bangor University's research excellence will be available to all tenants and includes a large pool of talented graduates and PhD placement opportunities.

The project has received £10.8 million investment from the Welsh Government and a further £10.2 million of European Regional Development Funding through the Welsh Government and will be open for business in 2017-2018.

HRH The Prince of Wales opens Marine Centre Wales

HRH The Prince of Wales visited Bangor University's School of Ocean Sciences in July to officially open the Marine Centre Wales (MCW) building located on the shore of the Menai Strait. Built at a cost of £5.5M, MCW is a national facility for the growing marine sector in Wales. The Centre provides access to expertise and a collaborative space for researchers, commercial operators, and agencies in the Welsh marine sector.

The new building, financed as a part of the £25 million SEACAMS project, has been designed to make the best use of space, minimise energy consumption, and provide natural light and scenic views of the Menai Strait. It will house up to 50 staff, including academic researchers from the School of Ocean Sciences, and provide vital project development space, enabling companies access to the University's scientific expertise, to lab facilities and to a fleet of research vessels including the RV Prince Madog.

It is also home to the University's Centre for Applied Marine Sciences, which has the mission to increase the impact of marine research on real-world applications, and is the headquarters of the Sêr Cymru National Research Network for Low Carbon, Energy and Environment.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. John G. Hughes and HRH The Prince of Wales

MCW's aim is to speed the transfer of new knowledge and to encourage commercial growth. Linking research, commercial development, and government policy is important where both commercial opportunities and the legislative framework are rapidly developing. The Centre also works on projects gathering evidence which inform environmental policies for governments and agencies. MCW is dedicated to fostering the development of a joined-up marine community to address cross-sectoral and technology needs. This provides businesses with

opportunities to answer specific research and commercial questions in the short term while planning future developments within a holistic strategic framework in the long term.

Bangor University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor John G. Hughes, said: "We were honoured to have The Prince of Wales open our Marine Centre Wales. Our work here contributes to a strong and healthy marine economy for Wales and makes a significant contribution to sustainable Welsh fisheries and a sustainable marine environment."

International links thanks to the Drapers' Company

Bangor University has a great history with The Drapers' Company, who were early donors to the University. The livery company continue to support Bangor in a number of ways and some of their money is used to help strengthen the University's links with several international institutions.

Since 2002, the School of Ocean Sciences, through generous funding from The Drapers' Company, has run a two-week field course to the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS), at the Eastern Shore Laboratory at Wachapreague on the Atlantic Coast of Virginia, USA. Students who are registered on the three Marine Biology degree courses are eligible to attend and around 30 students a year benefit from this experience.

The Drapers' Company also administer the Bangor Research Fellowship Fund. In 2015 and 2016 money from the Wynn Humphrey-Davies Bequest was utilised to send senior academic members of staff and PhD students to present papers at the prestigious Harvard Celtic Colloquium held at Harvard University.



The Drapers' Company Award Presentation 2016. Left to right: Prof. Carol Tully, Benjamin Butler, Ocean Sciences student, John Giffard, CBE, Master Draper, G eraldine Derroire, Forestry student and Prof. John G. Hughes

Funds from the Wynn Humphrey-Davies Bequest have also been used by the School of Electronic Engineering to maintain links with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. Bangor academics have been able to visit MIT to

learn more about their research activities in areas such as Network Coding and Regenerative Medicine.

Bangor University is grateful to The Drapers' Company for their continued financial support.

Bangor College China's joint research centre launched

Vice-Chancellor Prof. John G. Hughes addressed the audience at the opening ceremony of the CSUFT-Bangor University Joint Research Centre of Bangor College China, in Changsha, China in October.

The partnership between Central South University of Forestry and Technology (CSUFT) and Bangor University was established in 2014, creating the first UK-

China joint higher education institution in Hunan Province. Its success was acknowledged by The British Council when they shortlisted Bangor College China for Educational Institutional Partnership of the Year 2016. By working together on a joint curriculum in different disciplines, both Bangor University and CSUFT are able to offer enhanced course options and provide access

to top quality teachers and resources.

Her Majesty's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Dame Barbara Woodward DCMG OBE, attended the ceremony and in her remarks stressed that this type of partnership is key to a wider UK-China relationship, at institutional and individual level.

First RITS-Bangor MBA Class Graduate

Following two years' part time study on the Bangor University validated MBA programme, 96 proud students from the Research Institute of Tsinghua University in Shenzhen (RITS), a branch of China's top Tsinghua University, were conferred their MBA degree at Bangor University in July.

Professor John G. Hughes, said: "We value the strategic partnership with RITS, and are committed to the success of the project. Most of the MBA students are young entrepreneurs in the most economically developed cities in China. Having such students among Bangor University's alumni community will not only provide diversity for the institution, but also opportunities for further business links for the University and the North Wales region."



Dame Barbara Woodward



GO BEYOND RESEARCH AT BANGOR

One of the hallmarks of a great university is the extent to which their teaching is informed by the research that is carried out by their staff. Research is central to Bangor University; it is an integral part of our teaching and a passion of our academic staff. One of the outstanding features of our research is the breadth and depth of the impact that we create through our work. There is a strong recognition of the impact of our research, and the significance that the work at Bangor University makes on the lives of people around the world.

The excellence of our work was underlined in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, a national assessment of research quality, which rated over three-quarters of the research we carry out as being world leading or internationally excellent.

Bangor has a strong research base across a spectrum of academic disciplines, engaging in research at national and international levels. The University provides strong support for research activities by encouraging links with commercial and industrial bodies in the UK and overseas, whilst also being responsive to local and

regional needs and role as a research resource and a training base for Wales.

Three research projects at the University have been included among the 20 most impressive examples of university research which contribute to development and the University has been awarded 5 of the 8 Research Clusters funded through the Sêr Cymru National Research Network for Low Carbon, Energy and Environment. This again highlights that Bangor University is a world-leading research power that is making the world a better place.

IMPACT OF BANGOR UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

Research from Bangor University transforms the lives of millions of people around the world and in many different ways. This impact ranges from the food we eat and the environment we live in, through health and well-being to improving the economy and the law of the land.

Research at the University is carried out either directly in the Schools or in Research Centres and Institutes associated with one or more School. Here are some recent examples of how our research has had impact on the world, across a range of subjects:

Local company secures a market leading position in cytology stains

CellPath Ltd, a small family business focused on the production of laboratory supplies, sought assistance from Bangor University's Chemistry researchers to advise on developing processes for the manufacturing of high-quality stains, in particular for the Papanicolaou cervical cancer smear test. Developed in the 1930s, the Papanicolaou cervical cancer smear test used a stain made up of four dyes to react with certain entities to detect any potential cancerous or pre-cancerous processes. In the late 1980s and early 1990s a series of misdiagnoses were made due to the design of the stain used for the test and were reported in the national press. Alongside this, there was also a worldwide shortage of one of the key ingredients in the stain. This sparked CellPath's interest in exploring ways to manufacture more reliable stains. Bangor University researchers developed a new approach to compounds for the Papanicolaou test and other biomedical special stains. The new processes made the stains more effective, economical and readily available when compared with the existing formulas. The company rapidly became the UK market leader in cytology stains, with over 50% of the domestic market, and exports to Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Norway and Sweden.



Backpacks for bees could provide vital information

Bee populations, our vital crop and fruit pollinators, are in serious decline; their survival faces challenges on several fronts including insecticides and varroa mites. Harnessing the bee's own electrical energy is the solution proposed by an exciting new project to create a lightweight and long range bee-tracking device.

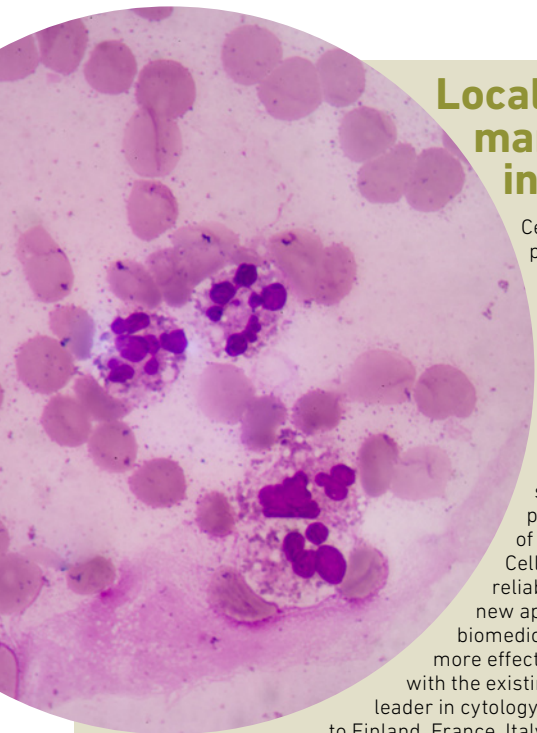
Devices that enable the insects to be tracked could reveal a great deal. Having such data could, for example, show us where bees are collecting nectar and how far they're travelling as well as assist in resolving how neonicotinoid and other similar pesticides interfere with bees' navigational abilities.

However, existing bee monitoring devices face limits in their applications. Three major challenges need to be overcome to be truly useful: their weight, range, and how long their power source lasts.

A Bangor University ecologist has got together with a microelectronics expert at the University to bring cutting edge micro-technology to resolve these problems to be able to track bees over their whole range.

The proposed solution does away with the heaviest part of existing devices, the battery, to create a self-sustained tracking device estimated to weigh only a third of the bee's body weight (most current devices weigh more than the bee). This also resolves the current problem of longevity, as current transmitters are limited by the battery life.

The device they intend to create for the bees will weigh less than two grains of rice (50 microgrammes) and will be the size of a match head. Researchers intend to use a mobile receiver to track and follow the bee's transmitted signal as it moves within the landscape. The transmitted signals will have a range of up to 100 metres and be able to track the bee over its entire foraging range.





New rice variety brings food security to millions

Pioneering research led by Bangor University has improved the livelihoods of more than 5 million households across India and Nepal. In India, the two Ashoka rice varieties are estimated to provide benefits of £17million annually to the poorest farming households. The research involved developing new varieties of rice which provide a 15-40% yield advantage over the varieties grown traditionally. These new varieties were superior in their good taste, drought tolerance and had high pest-resistance properties. 83% of surveyed Ashoka users reported increased rice availability in 2008, with a mean increase in rice self-sufficiency of almost one month. These direct benefits allow farmers to plant an additional crop or devote time to non-agricultural activities, providing extra income and permitting them to send their children to school.

OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS AT THE UNIVERSITY INCLUDE:

- Using DNA to tackle wildlife crime
- Preventing the recurrence of depression with Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy
- *Food Dudes*: Encouraging healthy eating in children internationally
- Improving the lives of people living with dementia through non-pharmacological intervention
- A leadership training model to decrease wastage rates in Armed Forces recruits
- A new maize variety which benefits more than 300,000 resource-poor farmers in India
- Understanding the links between Energy Efficiency and Global Food Production
- Language policy and usage impacting awareness of linguistic diversity
- Conservation, restoration and improving drinking water quality
- Advancing the regionalisation of Public Law
- Improving business skills among SMEs in a European Union convergence region
- Global Innovation Initiative collaborative research into mine reclamation in Southeast Asia
- Life-saving rapid tuberculosis testing
- Population decline of some of the world's largest herbivores
- Exercise intensity and the immune system
- A teacher-training programme aimed at preventing the early development of children's antisocial behaviour in Jamaica
- Archaeological research in Iceland, identifying human activity predating Viking settlements
- 'PRIME Centre Wales' for Primary and Emergency Care Research covering general practice, community nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, social care, emergency and unscheduled care
- "Capturing our Coast", a project designed to explore how the marine environment is responding to global climate change
- 'Smart' contact lenses which could predict your risk of suffering a common cold

Bangor Institute For Health And Medical Research (BIHMR)

Bangor University has launched a new Institute to sustain and grow excellence in our health and medical research.

The Institute brings together a critical mass of academics from across scientific and professional disciplines, increasing opportunities for interdisciplinary working in clinical and applied research, and across the knowledge continuum.

BIHMR will increase the visibility of health and medical research in Bangor University as a unified centre that grows and attracts the best health and medical researchers to North Wales. It will provide an excellent environment and training programme for postgraduate research students of health and medical research that enables personal and professional growth.

The Institute will work with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board in areas of shared research interests and expertise, to create a strong NHS research environment in North Wales.

Prof. Jo Rycroft-Malone is Bangor University's Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and one of the leads for BIHMR. She said, "We have pinnacles of excellence we can build on now with the creation of the Institute. Through it, we have the opportunity to really build on areas that we're very familiar with such as dementia research, rehabilitation work and implementation research. BIHMR is a space for collaboration, for capacity and capability building and for showcasing the University's research internally and externally."



Prof. Jo Rycroft-Malone



In April, widely admired Welsh pianist Llŷr Williams played to a full house in Pontio's brand-new Theatr Bryn Terfel. The concert with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Vasily Petrenko, featured a varied programme including works by Haydn, Beethoven and Brahms. Internationally renowned opera star Bryn Terfel was in attendance at the sold-out concert held in the theatre named in his honour.

During the performance, Llŷr played Pontio's new Steinway model D concert grand piano, which was selected by him especially for Pontio. The Steinway was purchased following a generous donation from the Gaynor Cemlyn-Jones Trust.

Bangor University has benefitted from donations from the Gaynor

Cemlyn-Jones Trust in a number of ways since the Trust was established in the mid-1990s. These include a permanent Marine Archaeology Research Fellowship and a PhD studentship. The addition of the Steinway grand piano will be a huge boost to Pontio's artistic programme for years to come.



Llŷr Williams

Pontio Level by Level

Autumn 2015 saw the opening of the magnificent Pontio Arts & Innovation Centre. Already enjoyed by thousands of visitors, every level of the building has something to offer students and the community.



Level 2 enjoys views over to the Cathedral from Gorad restaurant. You can also access Theatr Bryn Terfel's Balcony 2, the Studio, White Box and the Level 2 Lecture Theatre from here. Glass doors lead out to the external performance area and public art piece, Caban.



Level 5 houses a large lecture theatre, Social learning and Co-working areas, and the Copa Food Kiosk serving drinks and snacks. Fantastic views across the City can be had from the balcony and the exit on to Penrallt Road is just a few steps away from the Main University Building.

On **Level 1** you'll find the main doors into the cinema and Theatr Bryn Terfel's Balcony 1.

Level 3 is where you'll find Arloesi Pontio Innovation and café Cegin.



Level 0 is the main reception lobby accessed from Deiniol Road. Here you will find the Reception, Box Office and theatre bar Ffynnon, as well as doors into Theatr Bryn Terfel Stalls and the Cinema.

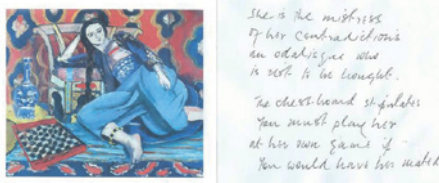
Level 4, with facilities for meetings and office accommodation, is the new home of Bangor Students' Union.



Sponsorship of the 2016 Bangor Design Conference

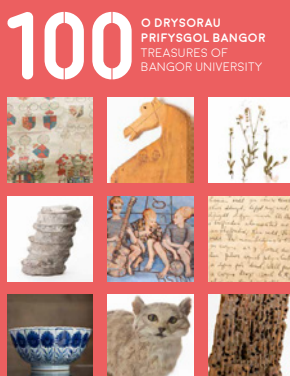


Publication of R.S. Thomas "Too Brave to Dream", an anthology of previously unpublished ekphrastic poems



Pictured: Matisse, Odalisque with Chair

Production of a booklet "The Cultural Treasures of Bangor University"



Our generous alumni made it possible for The Bangor Fund to disburse almost £106,000 to 23 projects across the University in the last two academic years. Some of the awards granted include:

Refurbishment of the Normal Site Library Room where School of Education students can engage with children from the University crèche



Purchase of a large book scanner to digitise rare books, early Welsh printing and Arthurian material. Pictured is an image from the book, "The romance of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table", by Alfred W Pollard 1917. Illustrator Arthur Rackham



You can donate at the click of a button on our website: www.bangor.ac.uk/giving/how_to_give.php.en If you would like to discuss how to direct your donation please contact Emma Marshall, Director of The Bangor Fund, on e.marshall@bangor.ac.uk or +44(0) 1248 382594.

Development of The Institute for the Study of Welsh Estates (ISWE)

THE INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF WELSH ESTATES (ISWE)

College of Arts and Humanities
Bangor University

Issue 1
Spring 2016

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL - EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES: MAPPING THE FUTURE OF BANGOR UNIVERSITY'S ESTATE COLLECTIONS

BANGOR FUND GRANT SET TO TRANSFORM USE OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

ISWE and the Archives and Special Collections Department were delighted to receive a grant of £5,000 from the Bangor Fund in November 2015. Funded through the generous contributions of donors and alumni, the Bangor Fund grant will play an important role in unlocking the research and educational potential of the significant corpus of family and estate collections held within the university archives.

Because of the extent and complexity of the collections, much of their content has heretofore remained "hidden". The object of the project is to explore, discover and unravel this fantastic resource. Across 2016 the project team will work to develop a clearer understanding of the composition, content and character of the estate collections, by undertaking a systematic overview. This will identify items of special interest, allow for profiles to be constructed for each collection and highlight themes and subjects which span different collections.

These findings will allow the collections to be more easily incorporated into teaching programmes across the university and will provide the foundation for the construction of a package of research project outlets, which ISWE will aim to progress over the forthcoming years.

Furthermore, funding has been made available to promote the collections as an important part of Wales' cultural heritage. This will be achieved through the creation of enhanced online content, including the digitisation of documents, and through a Research Open Day which will showcase the value and potential of the estate collections.

The project team is eager to get started with the project. If you would like to join the team as a volunteer, please email iswe@bangor.ac.uk to enquire.

To find out more about the Bangor Fund and how you can make a difference, visit www.bangor.ac.uk/bangor-fund.

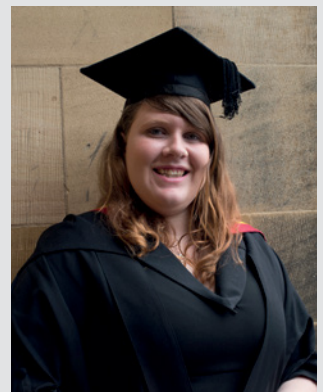
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What is ISWE?	News	ISWE Seminar Series	Current Projects	Events

OTHER PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- "Boddi mewn Celfyddyd" ("Immersion in Arts") An exhibition and publication of conference proceedings. An artistic response to the Flooding of Trewern in 1965
- iPads for Natural Sciences fieldwork
- Preservation of The School of Biological Sciences fish taxonomy collection
- Telemetry equipment for use on Ecology practicals and field trips
- Social Sciences field trips
- Travel costs for Learning Disability Nursing students to attend a national conference

Funding of The MSc Athena SWAN Women in Science Scholarship, awarded to Elizabeth McManus (right)



Bangor Fund grant helps win award!

The purchase of 12 camera traps for the College of Natural Sciences has allowed third year, PhD and MSc students to study the location and behaviour of medium-sized mammals without human impact.

Through the use of this equipment, Alex Jackson was awarded the 'Ian Herbert Memorial Prize' for the best undergraduate project in Applied Biology. Her final year project focused on how molehill disturbances affect sheep grazing and social behaviour, as well as assessing the relationship between farmers and moles.

Alex says, "Without The Bangor Fund purchasing the camera traps, my project simply would not have been possible. The number of camera traps meant I could collect more data, ensuring reliability of my results. During the end of 2015, the weather was extremely bad, with many days of high winds and heavy rain. By having more camera traps it allowed me the time to dry out cameras which stopped working due to water damage."

The results of this work are now being used to form a conservation management plan at Henfaes Research Centre, in order to help improve sheep and mole welfare.



A ten day field course for 12 School of Ocean Sciences students to the Scottish Highlands to study top predator population ecology and the purchase of equipment for use on the trip and beyond.



Alumni Advisory Board

Established in 2006, the Bangor University Alumni Advisory Board is a non-governing advisory group consisting of University alumni who have stayed connected to their alma mater and who share an interest in and concern for the growth of our vigorous and highly engaged alumni base.

The Board serves to represent the broader alumni community and to provide input and guidance to the University on matters of interest to its alumni.

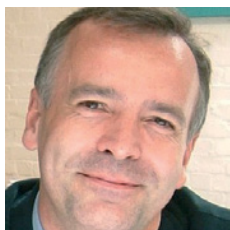
Board members are advocates and enthusiastic communicators of Bangor's mission and vision, working to move forward the University's alumni relations programme. They support the Development and Alumni Relations Office in a number of ways including by helping to cultivate a base of alumni volunteer leadership, initiating and managing alumni events and helping to identify potential new members or alumni who may be prepared to be engaged with the University.



Dr. George Buckley
(1993, Economics)
Chair of Alumni Advisory Board.
Economist at Nomura



Susan Owen Williams
(1995, Economics)
Change Manager at RBS



Prof. Andrew Brown
(1978, Educational Studies)
Professor of Education & Society at the UCL Institute of Education



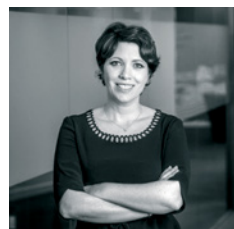
Dr. Ross Piper
(1998, Zoology with Animal Ecology)
Zoologist, author and presenter



Tim Clay
(1982, Marine Biology / Oceanography)
Clay Rogers & Partners Ltd



Mark Rigby
(1979, Agriculture)
Director at T H White Ltd



Jane Griffin
(1993, French)
Head of Global Media Relations, Infrastructure at Bechtel



Dr. Simon Coles
(1976, Electronic Engineering)
Recently retired Director of Tiro Consulting



Michael Rogerson
(2003, English & MA 2008)
Postgraduate Marketing Officer at Bangor University

HONG KONG PARKS INNOVATOR RETURNS TO BANGOR

Alumnus Fook Yee Wong (1980, Forestry) returned to Bangor last summer 36 years after graduating from his MSc course.

Following his degree in Physical Geography from the University of Hong Kong in 1973, Dr Wong joined the Government as an Executive Officer. In 1978 he was awarded a scholarship to study Environmental Forestry at Bangor. Upon his return he joined Hong Kong's Agriculture, Fisheries, and Conservation Department as a Forestry Officer. He recently retired from the Department as Assistant Director (Country and Marine Parks). In this role he was responsible for the day-to-day management of Hong Kong's country and marine parks, ensuring that the overall environment is protected, safe, clean and tidy; patrolling the parks to detect and prevent illegal

encroachment; and providing advice and information to visitors. The Branch's work also includes law enforcement, firefighting and tree planting.

During his visit to Bangor, he met with the Vice-Chancellor and toured the Thoday Building and Environment Centre Wales with Prof. John Healey, Professor of Forest Sciences, and Prof. Morag McDonald, Head of Bangor's School of Environment, Natural Resources and Geography (SENRGy). He also visited the University's Treborth Botanic Garden and met his former teacher Dr. Pat Dam and Dr. Shaun Russell who introduced the Chinese Garden on the site.

He was also pleased to bump into Prof. Colin Price, his teacher 37 years ago, on Bangor High Street!



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. John G. Hughes and Fook Yee Wong



Left - right: Prof. Paul Spencer, Dean of the College of Physical and Applied Sciences, Prof. Stephen McKeever and Prof. John G. Hughes, Vice-Chancellor



Quadruple alumnus returns as guest speaker

Bangor University was honoured to welcome alumnus Prof. Stephen McKeever back to Bangor as guest lecturer for the second annual Dr Tom Parry Jones Lecture in Entrepreneurship in April.



Prof. McKeever has had a distinguished academic career at Oklahoma State University (OSU), USA and currently holds the state government post of Secretary for Science and Technology. He is also Regents Professor and the More Oklahoma Science and Technology

Chair of Experimental Physics. Prof. McKeever drew from his vast academic research experience for the public lecture in Bangor entitled "The Scientist-Entrepreneur: Research Funding in a Brave New World".

Born in Widnes, Cheshire, Stephen arrived in Bangor in 1969 to study Electronic Engineering. He has the rare distinction of being a quadruple alumnus, having gained his BSc (1972), MSc (1973), PhD (1976) and Doctor of Science (2015) from Bangor University.

He met his wife Joan when she too was a student at Bangor and they were married in 1974. As a student, he was an active member of the RAG Society and the Motor Club (even though he couldn't drive!). Here he took up rally navigating and co-driving, which continues to be an interest today. He also enjoyed folk singing – playing guitar and singing for free beer in the local pubs in Bangor.

On completion of his PhD, Stephen did postdoctoral work at the universities of Birmingham and Sussex before immigrating to the USA in 1982 to become a professor at Oklahoma State University. He attained the rank of Associate Professor in 1986 and Full Professor in 1990. He is the former Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer at OSU (2003-2013), sits on numerous Boards and has served on several national and international scientific committees.

In his role as the Oklahoma Secretary of Science and Technology, Prof. McKeever serves as the chief advisor to the Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin on the impact of science and technology on the State's economic development. He is responsible for ensuring that scientific research and development conducted by universities in the State coordinates with and enhances the State's business community. He also oversees the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, a Fellow of the Institute of Physics, a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors and a Member of the Health Physics Society.

He has authored or co-authored over 200 scientific publications and 6 books, and has 6 US and 9 International patents in the area of radiation detection and measurements, specializing in development and applications of luminescence in radiation dosimetry.

Dr Tom Parry Jones

Prof. McKeever's public lecture "The Scientist-Entrepreneur: Research Funding in a Brave New World" was the second annual Dr Tom Parry Jones Lecture in Entrepreneurship.

Dr Tom Parry Jones OBE (1935-2013) was an eminent entrepreneur and inventor who developed the world's first electronic breathalyzer to detect blood alcohol content with breath samples. He was a Bangor University alumnus (Chemistry, 1958) and Honorary Fellow and his kind legacy established the Dr Tom Parry Jones Endowment Fund to promote science and engineering entrepreneurship in young people.



Dr Tom Parry Jones

Reunions & Events

A SPECIAL EVENING WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR MATTHEW BARZUN

Bangor University was privileged to have U.S. Ambassador Matthew W. Barzun, the highest ranking American official in the United Kingdom, as a guest speaker at a special event held in September. The magnificent Drapers' Hall in London was the setting for the evening which saw the Ambassador in conversation with Lord Mervyn Davies, Chair of Bangor University's Development Board. Assisted by great questions from the audience, the discussion was very entertaining and thought-provoking and we were delighted to have over 220 alumni and friends of the University attend.

After the success of the evening at Drapers' Hall, the University welcomed the Ambassador to Bangor where he gave a lecture entitled 'Building Bridges' to an audience of 400 University and local sixth-form students. An important part of Ambassador Barzun's role is outreach to young people. He created the Young Leaders UK programme, a network that connects Britain's rising leaders with the United States and with one another, and the Ambassador gave an inspirational talk to an engaged audience.



Lord Mervyn Davies (left) with Ambassador Matthew Barzun



Left - right: Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas, Chancellor of Bangor University, Prof. John G. Hughes, Vice-Chancellor, Matthew Barzun and William Charnley, Master Draper



ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

In June 2015, Bangor University alumni from Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates were greeted at a drinks reception held at the St Regis Hotel in Abu Dhabi.

Alumni and guests enjoyed an evening of reconnecting with old classmates at the event which marked Bangor University's new relationship with the Emirates Institute of Banking and Financial Studies (EIBFS). They were welcomed by a delegation from the University that included Vice-Chancellor, Prof. John G. Hughes, Professor John Thornton, Head of Bangor Business School and Sheila O'Neal, Bangor's Executive Director of Development.



Lord Mervyn Davies (left) in conversation with Sir Howard Stringer

AN EVENING WITH SIR HOWARD STRINGER

In November 2015, the University was honoured to have Sir Howard Stringer, former CEO of Sony Corporation, as a guest speaker at an exclusive event for Bangor alumni in London.

The Vice-Chancellor and members of the University's Development Board welcomed over 100 alumni and friends of the University to the stunning Reading and Writing Room and Gladstone Library of One Whitehall Place, London.

Alumni met over drinks and canapés before listening to Sir Howard Stringer in conversation with Lord Mervyn Davies, Chair of Bangor University's Development Board. Their discussion covered Sir Howard's Welsh roots, his time in the Vietnam war and his distinguished career at CBS and Sony.



BANGOR IN CHINA

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. John G. Hughes, welcomed more than 140 Bangor University alumni to reunions held in China recently.

Alumni and guests were hosted in Beijing and Shanghai at receptions which celebrated the achievements of Bangor alumni based in China. The first Alumnus of the Year China award was presented in Shanghai (see page 9) and both reunions gave alumni the chance to reconnect with former classmates and their alma mater.



Above: Shanghai reunion. Below: Beijing reunion



Reunions & Events

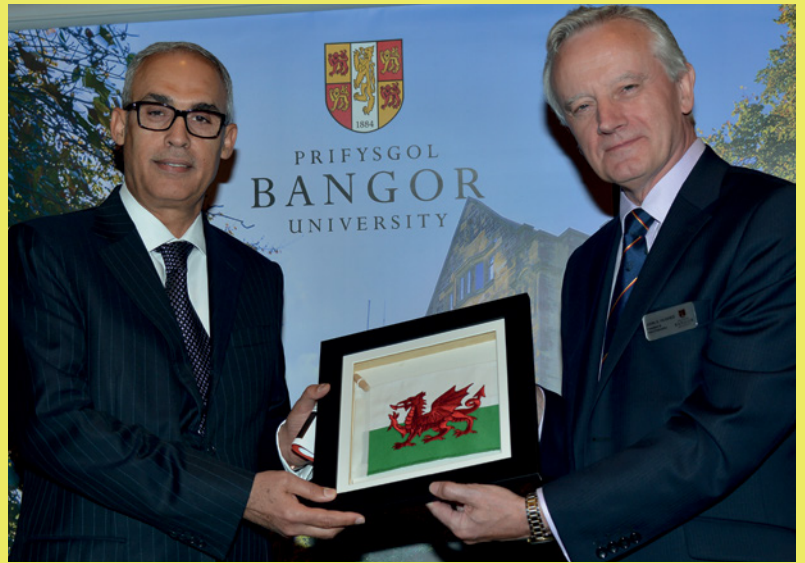
KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN, SEPTEMBER 2016

Following successful events in 2014 and 2015, a third reunion was held for Bahraini alumni in the beautiful Four Seasons Hotel, Bahrain Bay in September.

Overlooking Bahrain bay and the stunning Manama skyline, alumni and guests enjoyed catching up with friends over drinks and meeting senior members of staff from Bangor including Vice-Chancellor, Prof. John G. Hughes, Sheila O'Neal, Executive Director of Development and Prof. Phil Molyneux, Dean of the College of Business, Law, Education and Social Sciences.

The event celebrated the partnership between Bangor and the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) and took place a day after the annual BIBF graduation, which saw over 50 Bahraini students receive their Bangor-validated degrees.

Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Simon Martin, attended and addressed the group as did His Excellency Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain. The first Bangor / BIBF Alumnus of the Year award was also presented during the ceremony (see page 9).



Prof. John G. Hughes (right) presents H.E. Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj with a framed Welsh flag



Ambassador Simon Martin (left)

Alumni were welcomed to a number of other events held this year, including:

- A reunion in Boston, USA held during the annual Harvard Celtic Colloquium to celebrate Bangor's links with Harvard University
- A grand reunion for School of Ocean Sciences alumni to celebrate the completion of the new Marine Centre Wales in Menai Bridge
- A reunion in Changsha, in the Hunan province of China, to celebrate Bangor's partnership with the Central South University of Forestry and Technology, Changsha
- The inaugural Professor Sir John O'Reilly lecture. Prof. O'Reilly is one of the UK's most eminent engineers, previously Director General of Knowledge and Innovation for the UK Government and former Head of the School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science at Bangor University
- Alumni events in Ghana and Uganda hosted by staff from Bangor's School of Environment, Natural Resources and Geography
- A Bangor 2020 Group meeting in London with guest speaker Guto Harri, Honorary Fellow and Director of Communications at News UK
- The ten-year anniversary reunion for the School of Law
- The annual reunion held during the National Eisteddfod of Wales
- The second annual Dr Tom Parry Jones Lecture in Entrepreneurship (see page 19)

For further details and to see photos from some of the events, visit: www.bangor.ac.uk/alumni/reunionevents.php.en

Please remember to keep us up to date with your contact details so we can invite you to relevant reunions and events: www.bangor.ac.uk/alumni/update

In Memoriam

The University wishes to acknowledge all those alumni who have passed since the last issue of *Bangoriad*. We have received the following obituaries for publication:

DR TREVOR WILLIAMS

(PhD BOTANY, 1962)

John Trevor Williams (always known as Trevor) made an enormous contribution towards conserving the genes of the world's food crops. At the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR) in Rome, where he was Executive Secretary then Director from 1974 to 1989, he directed a programme of collecting, conserving and sharing the crop varieties that farmers had grown for centuries – the genetic resources needed for plant breeding and crop improvement.

At the time farmers were adopting new, higher-yielding seeds and many traditional crop varieties risked becoming extinct. One way to preserve genetic diversity was to place seeds in a gene bank for long-term conservation. IBPGR helped to establish an international network of gene banks, culminating in the opening, in 2008, of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, the so-called "Doomsday Vault", inside a sandstone mountain on the Norwegian island of Spitzbergen. Today, millions of seeds are stored for posterity deep beneath the Arctic permafrost. By the time Trevor stepped down as Director, there were more than 1,000 gene banks or collections around the world. IBPGR subsequently evolved into Bioversity International.

Trevor showed an interest in flora from an early age. From Moseley Hall Grammar School he went on to study Botany at Selwyn College, Cambridge, graduating in 1959, and completed his PhD in 1962 at the University of Wales, Bangor, under the supervision of the population biologist Professor JL Harper. He then spent three years as a research fellow at ETH Zurich, and was awarded his DSc. for research on threatened wet-meadow plant communities.

After leaving the IBPGR in 1989, he moved to Washington DC where he advised the management of *Diversity*, a genetic resources magazine, and was a founder member of the International Centre for Underutilised Crops. He was an adviser to the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan.

He won many honours and served with the British Ecological Society, the Botanical Society of the British Isles, Warwickshire Nature Conservation and the Birmingham Natural History Society.

Dr Williams passed away at the age of 76 in March 2015.

Bangor University is very grateful for a bequest left by Dr Williams, funds from which will be used annually to support studentships, projects, programmes and equipment in the area of agricultural botany. For further details on how a legacy to Bangor University. For further details on how a legacy can be used to support the University, please contact Sheila O'Neal, Executive Director of Development, on sheila.oneal@bangor.ac.uk / 01248 382004.

PROFESSOR ROGER NEVILLE HUGHES (1944-2015)

(PhD ZOOLOGY, 1968)



Roger Hughes, who died of pulmonary fibrosis at the age of 71, was the Lloyd Roberts Professor of Zoology at Bangor University.

Roger was born in Padiham, Lancs and attended Accrington Grammar School. From there he came to University College of North Wales, Bangor, where he gained a first-class honours degree in Zoology in 1965. He completed his PhD for research into the feeding and reproduction of the bivalve *Scrobicularia plana* at the

University's Marine Laboratories in Menai Bridge in 1968.

It was there that he met Helen Holmes who was also studying for a PhD. They married in 1968 and then spent two years at Dalhousie University at Halifax in Nova Scotia, where Roger was awarded a prestigious Killam Post-Doctoral Fellowship. There he undertook research into the energetics of marine benthic communities.

In 1971 Roger was appointed a lecturer in Zoology in Bangor. Here his research into the feeding ecology of gastropod molluscs, crabs, and sticklebacks resulted in his being appointed Reader and awarded a DSc a personal Chair and the Lloyd Roberts Chair in Zoology.

Upon retiring in 2011, after 40 years of employment, he continued writing papers and editing journals. Roger wrote three influential books on marine organisms and 210 scientific papers. He was always a generous and helpful colleague, a kind and patient tutor and supervisor to his undergraduates, PhD students and postdoctoral fellows.

He is survived by Helen, their two daughters and three grandsons.

DR LLEWELYN GWYN CHAMBERS (1924-2014)

(MATHEMATICS, 1944)

Gwyn was born in Romford, Essex, and grew up in Kenton, Middlesex. At the outbreak of the war, he was sent to Criccieth as an evacuee and studied his sixth form education in Porthmadog Grammar School before going to college in Bangor to study mathematics. After graduating in 1944 he worked as a Scientific Officer for the Navy in Rosyth and later moved to Haselmere to do secret military research. He also lectured at the military college in Shrivenham.

In 1954 he was appointed lecturer at his old college at Bangor. He graduated with a DSc. in 1969 and was promoted to Reader. He married Mona (Rees Owen), a Welsh teacher at Ysgol Botwnnog, in 1955. When he retired in 1991, he said that he missed the teaching the most. He published several textbooks, and introduced elementary practical statistics through the medium of Welsh in his book *Ystadegaeth Elfennol* (1991).

From the beginning in Bangor, Wales and everything Welsh was central in his life and he worked to develop the appropriate Welsh vocabulary in mathematics and science. This led to the development of a Welsh magazine about science, *Y Gwyddonydd*, in 1963. He was on the editorial board from the beginning until 1993.

The history of mathematics, in particular Welsh mathematicians, was of great interest to Gwyn and he published several articles about them and a book, *Mathemategwyr Cymru* (1994). Anything that concerned the University of Wales was of great importance to him and he was very active with the Guild of Graduates, acting as treasurer for 27 years.

He was a man of integrity and independent opinion whose passing has left a void in the community and the world of Welsh education has lost an ardent benefactor. Llewelyn Gwyn Chambers died on December 9, 2014.

Obituary written by Alun O. Morris (Emeritus Professor of Mathematics, Aberystwyth University and former student of Gwyn Chambers at Bangor)

PROFESSOR GWYN THOMAS

When Gwyn Thomas died in April 2016, Wales lost a national treasure. For nearly forty years, he influenced generations of students as a lecturer, professor and head of Welsh at Bangor University. And for over half a century, he was one of the leading scholars of his generation and one of Wales' most prolific, significant and popular poets.

To ensure that Gwyn's legacy remains alive, Bangor University has established a memorial fund to support and reward students from the School of Welsh – the department with which he was identified as a student and scholar throughout most of his professional career – in the varied fields that interested him.

All donations will be gratefully received in memory of a man who left a lasting impression. Bangor University's Development and Alumni Relations Office has already pledged its support by committing £2.00 for every £1.00 that is raised (for the first £5,000 that is contributed). For whoever wishes to donate, the details of the "Gwyn Thomas Memorial Fund" may be found here.

"Gwyn Thomas Memorial Fund"

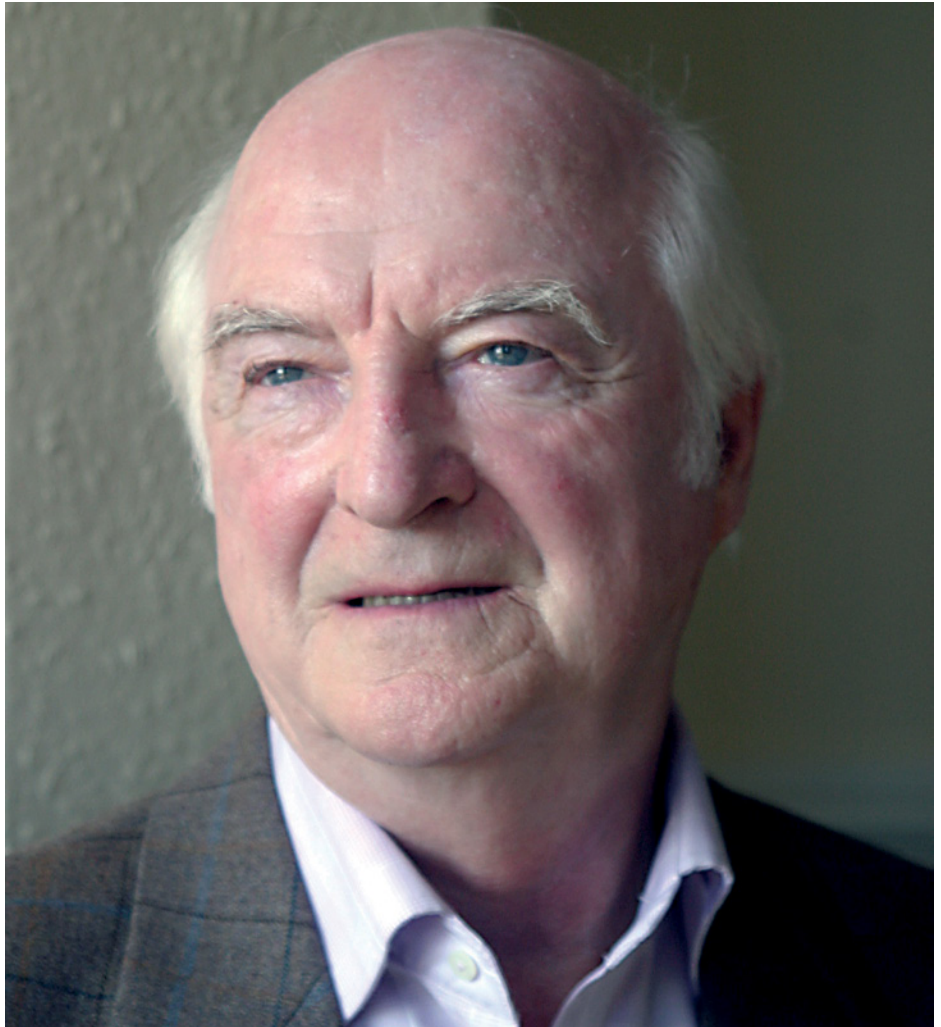
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Prof. Gwyn Thomas, © Marian Delyth

“There's an old Russian proverb that says, 'Life isn't crossing a field.' Right: it's crossing a shore.”

Gwyn Thomas, 'Crossing a Shore', trans. Joseph P. Clancy

NOTICE: BANGOR UNIVERSITY OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

At the Annual General meeting of the local Bangor Old Students' Association (OSA) held in November it was agreed that the local OSA should cease to exist at the end of December 2016. The Association's accounts will be closed and after paying all outstanding debts the monies will be passed to the Professor Gwyn Thomas Memorial Fund. In addition to contributing so much to Bangor University's School of Welsh and to Wales and its literature, Gwyn was a loyal member of the Association.

Please note that all bank arrangements (Standing Orders and Direct Debits) for membership payments to the Bangor OSA should be cancelled.



COFRESTR RHODDWYR ROLL OF DONORS

Hoffai Prifysgol Bangor gydnabod haelioni ei alumni a ffrindiau, a phawb arall a addawod eu cefnogaeth rhwng 2014-2016.

Mae'r rhestr isod yn cynnwys enwau pawb sydd wedi gwneud cyfraniad i Brifysgol Bangor rhwng 1af Awst 2014 a 31 Gorffennaf 2016. Diolch i chi.

RHODDION GAN ALUMNI

Rhestr rhoddwyr sy'n gyn-fyfywr yn ôl eu blwyddyn graddio (neu yn ôl blwyddyn y radd gyntaf, os yw hynny'n berthnasol). Mae cyn-fyfywr o Brifysgol Bangor, Prifysgol Cymru, Bangor, Coleg Santes Fair a Choleg Normal wedi'u cynnwys ar y rhestr isod.

Bangor University would like to acknowledge the generosity of its alumni and friends and all those who pledged their support during 2014-2016.

Listed below are the names of all those who have made a contribution to Bangor University between 1st August 2014 and 31st July 2016. Thank you all.

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Alumni donors are listed by year of graduation (of their first degree if applicable). Alumni from Bangor University, University of Wales, Bangor, St Mary's College and Normal College are all included in the list below.

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1948

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1949

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1950

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Diolch hefyd i bob rhoddwr sydd wedi dewis aros yn ddienw.

Thank you also to all those donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

RHODDION ODDI WRTH GYFEILLION Y BRIFYSGOL**GIFTS FROM FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

Rhoddion oddi wrth gyn-aelodau staff, aelodau staff presennol, myfyrwyr a chyfeillion eraill i'r Brifysgol.

Gifts made by former and current members of staff, students and other friends of the University.

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Hoffai Prifysgol Bangor ddiolch i'r holl fusnesau a sefydliadau a weithiodd mewn partneriaeth â'r Brifysgol rhwng mis Awst 2014 a Gorffennaf 2016, yn enwedig y rhai a gymerodd ran yn rhaglenni KTP (PartneriaethTrosglwyddo Gwybodaeth) a KESS (Ysgoloriaethau Sgiliau Economi Gwybodaeth).

Bangor University would like to thank all businesses and organisations who worked in partnership with the University between August 2014 and July 2016, particularly those who took part in the KTP (Knowledge Transfer Partnership) and KESS (Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships) programmes.

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Hoffai Prifysgol Bangor fanteisio unwaith eto ar y cyfle i ddiolch i'r holl alumni, staff a ffrindiau sydd wedi dangos eu hymrwymiad parhaol i lwyddiant Bangor yn y dyfodol trwy gynnwys y Brifysgol yn eu hewyllys a drwy wneud rhoddion er cof am anwyliad.

Bangor University would like to once again thank all alumni, staff and friends who have demonstrated their lasting commitment to the future success of Bangor by including the University in their wills and by making donations in memoriam of loved ones.

Jane Cherrett er cof / in memory of
 Dr Malcolm Cherrett
 Peter Brazier er cof / in memory of
 Dr John Brazier
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 Tendai Kariwo er cof / in memory of Philip Kariwo
 Gaynor Lewis er cof / in memory of Merfyn Lewis
 Ann Smith er cof / in memory of Herbert Rind Mothersole
 Y teulu er cof / The family in memory of Richard Bower

Mae Prifysgol Bangor yn ddiolchgar o dderbyn rhoddion o ystadau Tim Miles, Juene (née Lager) a David Jones, Gillian (née Murray) a David Williams a Hannah Mary Michael rhwng 2014 a 2016.

Bangor University gratefully received distributions from the estates of Tim Miles, Juene (née Lager) and David Jones, Gillian (née Murray) and David Williams and Hannah Mary Michael between 2014 and 2016.