



HALF-YEAR REPORT 2018

Introduction

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Academic Director, Academia
Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub



Professor Ole
Petersen

Welcome to our Half-Year Report 2018, which highlights our achievements so far this year in meeting the priorities in our Strategic Plan 2016-2019.

We have set ourselves five major objectives for this, our third and final year of the current planning cycle. The first of these is to maximise our impact in the SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies) project, funded under Horizon 2020 and supporting policymaking in Europe. Our other objectives focus on ensuring the success of the Cardiff Hub, by strengthening our marketing, running a successful programme of events and ensuring our future sustainability.

Sound progress has been made in all of these areas, most particularly in the SAPEA project. For the second half of the year, I would draw attention to the new coordination role being played by the AE Cardiff Hub in the *Making sense of science* project for the European Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM). The work starts in earnest in September. In the same month, we are also hosting a major meeting on *Science for policy*. We have assembled an outstanding panel of speakers at Swansea University's exciting new Bay Campus on 4th September.

Professor Ole Petersen

Achievements January-June 2018

Our achievements are set out in the context of the five priorities in the Strategic Plan 2016-2019.

PRIORITY 1: Establish a major role in supporting policymaking in Europe

Objective 2016-2019

Playing a full role in developing the new European Scientific Advice Mechanism, through our involvement in the SAPEA project.

Following our successful coordination of the *Food from the Oceans* evidence review, the first delivered within the SAPEA project, the focus in the first half of 2018 has been on promoting awareness and uptake of the report, together with measurement of impact. By the end of June, the report had been promoted at over 30 major international academic and policy events across the world. There has also been a high-profile campaign of engagement with the general public (reported below).

The Hub is set to coordinate a new topic, *Making sense of science under conditions of complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity*. In June, Professor Ole Petersen and Louise Edwards participated in a scoping workshop with topic experts, hosted at the European Commission.

In March, a small group of staff from the European Commission's Science Advice Mechanism (SAM) Unit paid a professional visit to Cardiff to meet with staff of the Cardiff Hub and University Library Services. In April, the Hub hosted two key meetings of the SAPEA consortium. We organised a workshop on evidence review methods, including sessions on open science, reproducibility and systematic review. Workshop attendees also had the opportunity to experience the rich cultural heritage and natural environment of Wales. A small group enjoyed a weekend social excursion to Pembrokeshire, where they visited St David's Cathedral and Skomer Island.



Puffins at Skomer Island



St David's Cathedral

PRIORITY 2: Showcase outstanding regional research

Objective 2016-2019

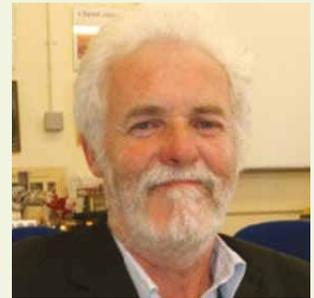
Raising the profile of outstanding research within our region and beyond, including work led by us in the SAPEA project.

In the SAPEA project, *Carbon Capture and Utilisation*, Professor Graham Hutchings MAE, Director of the Cardiff Catalysis Institute, was a member of the international working group that produced an Evidence Review Report for the European Commission. Professor Hutchings was nominated by Academia Europaea and chosen for the working group by an independent selection committee. As part of the review process, his colleague, Professor Mike Bowker, participated in an expert workshop held in January, in Brussels.

Overall, traffic to our website has remained relatively stable during this period compared to July – December 2017. We have invested more time in social media activity which has resulted in a 35% rise in the number of Twitter followers.



Professor Graham Hutchings FRS FLSW MAE



Professor Mike Bowker FLSW

PRIORITY 3: Engage with our membership

Objective 2016-2019

Reaching out and engaging our regional and AE membership with our work.

In March, the Cardiff Hub hosted a major international symposium, *Physiology and Pathophysiology 2018*, to mark the 75th birthday of Professor Ole Petersen, the Hub's Director. The event attracted 90 delegates from across the world, many of whom had worked with or been mentored by Professor Petersen. They included world leaders in the field, with 13 Members of Academia Europaea including 5 Fellows of the Royal Society and 3 Members of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, presenting recent discoveries within wide perspectives. Professor Jim Murray MAE, Head of Cardiff

University's School of Biosciences, paid tribute to Professor Petersen and emphasised his crucial roles, both nationally and internationally, as a world leader both in science and in science evaluation. All speakers congratulated Professor Petersen on his birthday, acknowledging his very considerable scientific achievements and his skill in helping to support and nurture others in developing their scientific careers. The symposium also gave the opportunity for researchers now working with Professor Petersen in Cardiff to showcase their work.

Chairs and speakers at the *Physiology and Pathophysiology 2018*, marking the 75th birthday of Professor Ole Petersen



PRIORITY 4: Engage with wider stakeholders

Objective 2016-2019

Reaching out to and engaging with a wider group of Hub stakeholders.

In May, Professor Petersen gave the opening presentation on *Food from the Oceans* at a SAPEA symposium, *Shaping European science advice: insights and experience*, held at the Bulgarian Academy in Sofia. The symposium was attended by up to 130 delegates from approximately 40 countries.

Hub Manager Louise Edwards spoke at the Lisbon Academy of Sciences in May, at a meeting which brought together a number of Portuguese experts on the topic of *Food from the Oceans*, including the MEP Ricardo Santos.

Our work on public engagement with policy development has been particularly innovative. In partnership with SAPEA, the SAM Unit and Cardiff-based agency science made simple, we designed a set of infographics for distribution across the world. With the cooperation of the European Commission, it was handed out at 21 *European Maritime Day* events in 12 countries across Europe. We also launched an electronic version of the infographic to support over 1300 events across the globe for *World Oceans Day* on 8th June.

Infographics created to engage the public



“This is how science for policy can work”

Iain Shepherd, Senior Expert at DG MARE (European Commission)



Prof Pearl Dykstra (Deputy Chair of the European Commission’s Group of Chief Scientific Advisors) and Prof Ole Petersen during the session on *Food from the Oceans* at the ALLEA Annual meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria



Louise Edwards, Hub Manager, represented SAPEA and Academia Europaea at the Lisbon Academy of Sciences in Portugal

PRIORITY 5 : Ensure future sustainability

Objective 2016-2019

Achieving ongoing sustainability of the Hub.

In March, Dr Esther Dorado-Ladera represented the Hub at a networking event organised by Vision 2020, along with Cardiff University, at Wales House in Brussels. The event facilitated consortia-building and matchmaking between academia and industry for Horizon 2020 energy calls in the 2018-2020 work programme.



Governance

The next Cardiff Hub Steering Group will be held on 12th November 2018. The following distinguished scientists and scholars serve on the Group:

Yves Barde MAE FRS
Nora de Leeuw FLSW
Dianne Edwards CBE FLSW FRS MAE
Theo D'Haen MAE
Donald Dingwell MAE
Stephen Holgate CBE FMedSci MAE
Colin Riordan FLSW
Sir John Skehel FRS FMedSci MAE (Chair)
John Tucker FLSW MAE

For the *Physiology and Pathophysiology 2018* event, we thank and acknowledge our sponsors:



The Journal of
Physiology



Resources

Staffing

Judith Lockett, the Hub's Executive Officer, retired in May. Judith worked with the Hub's Director, Professor Ole Petersen, since 2010, when he was Director of Cardiff University's School of Biosciences (2010-2015). Together, they set up the Academia Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub in 2015, ready for launch in 2016. Since then, she had ensured the success of the Hub's programme of events, as well as overseeing the smooth running of its operations.

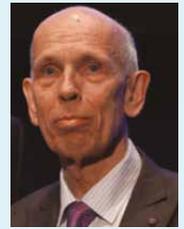


Judith Lockett receives flowers from Adrienne Evans, Executive Officer and PA to the Director, Research and Innovation Services

Juliet Davies joined the AE Cardiff Hub in June from Cardiff University's School of Medicine where she was an Executive Officer for 5 years. Juliet joins us with over 18 years' experience in the UK Higher Education sector with particular expertise in marketing, international collaborative work, event, project and office management.

Finance

In addition to covering salary costs of the Executive Officer, Cardiff University provided £10,000 for operating costs in the financial year 2017-18. The SAPEA project covered part of the salary costs of the Hub Manager and Executive Officer (Projects), in addition to associated travel costs.



Academic Director
Professor Ole Petersen



Knowledge Hub Manager
Louise Edwards



Executive Officer
Judith Lockett (to May)



Executive Officer
Juliet Davies (from June)



Executive Officer (Projects)
Dr Esther Dorado-Ladera

About Academia Europaea

Founded in 1988. Now has almost 4000 leading scientists and scholars as members, including over 70 Nobel Laureates. Operates through a network of knowledge hubs in Barcelona, Bergen, Cardiff and Wroclaw.

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