



NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2019



Professor Ole Petersen
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Director, Cardiff
Knowledge Hub
and Vice-President,
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In our last newsletter I highlighted Academia Europaea's [30th Anniversary](#). Happily, the celebrations have continued into the new year. In November we marked the occasion at AE's 30th [annual conference](#) in Barcelona, when we published our 30th anniversary [commemorative brochure](#). In January, the Cardiff Hub held a [drinks reception](#) at Cardiff University to celebrate with local MAEs and those who have supported our activities. I would like to thank everyone who attended.

A visit to Armenia in October, representing AE at the celebrations in Yerevan of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences' [75th Anniversary](#), has been a particular highlight for me over the last few months. It was a privilege to meet and discuss science policies with Armenia's Prime Minister, Nikol Pashinyan.

Early in November, we were delighted to host an [Asthma UK meeting](#), *Curing and preventing asthma; where do we go next?* I would like to

thank Professor Stephen Holgate CBE MAE for his support with this event.

We have some exciting events to look forward to in 2019. The Cardiff Hub is very pleased to be supporting the international conference [Sovereignty: a global perspective](#) which will be held at the University of St Andrews on 29th-30th April 2019 as well as a consensus workshop on definitions in Translational Medicine which will be held at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest, most likely in May. Please refer to our website for further details.

Work on our latest SAPEA project, *Making Sense of Science*, is progressing with the first draft of the report now complete. Earlier this month, I was pleased to handover a [new SAPEA review report](#), *A scientific perspective on microplastics in nature and society*, to the European Commission on behalf of the SAPEA Board.

On behalf of the Cardiff Hub, I wish you all the very best for 2019.

LATEST NEWS

MAKING SENSE OF SCIENCE UPDATE

The first draft of our latest [SAPEA](#) project [Making sense of science under conditions of complexity and uncertainty](#) is now complete. Three working group meetings took place between September and December. The *Making Sense of Science* SAPEA Working Group is formed by

16 experts from 13 countries. The Academia Europaea is the lead academy on this project, with work carried out by the Cardiff Hub. AE was represented at the meetings by Professor Ole Petersen, Louise Edwards and Dr Esther Dorado-Ladera.



Handover of the new SAPEA report to the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors

Professor Ole Petersen handed over a new SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies) report to the European Commission Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (GCSA) on behalf of the SAPEA Board. Professor Petersen was representing Professor Sierd Cloetingh, President Academia Europaea and current Chair of the SAPEA Board. This new SAPEA evidence review report, entitled [A scientific perspective on microplastics in nature and society](#), has been written by a group of world-leading experts nominated by academies across Europe, including AE, and informs the Scientific Opinion from the GCSA.

Handover of the *Microplastics* report to the GCSA. From left to right: Sabine Pahl and Bart Koelmans, Vice-Chair and Chair of the SAPEA Working Group on *Microplastics* respectively; Ole Petersen, President SAPEA; Rolf-Dieter Heuer, Chair GCSA; Elvira Fortunato, GCSA; and Nicole Grobert MAE, GCSA.



Members of the Hub's Steering Group

The Hub holds its third Steering Group meeting

The Cardiff Hub held its annual [Steering Group meeting](#) at Cardiff University on 14th January. Professor John Skehel FRS MAE chaired the meeting which was attended by Professor Yves-Alain Barde FRS MAE, Professor Theo D'haen MAE, Professor Dianne Edwards FRS MAE, Professor Genoveva Marti MAE, Professor Ole Petersen FRS MAE and Professor John V. Tucker MAE. Assistant Professor Mangala Srivinas FYAE, Chair of the [Young Academy of Europe](#), was invited as a guest. The Steering Group plays an important role in helping to shape the Hub's future priorities and activities.



ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE NOW

The Cardiff Hub's 2018 annual report is now available on our [website](#). The report sets out our key achievements in 2018 in the context of our five priorities in our Strategic Plan 2016-2019. If you would like to receive a copy of the report, please contact us.

AE's 30th Anniversary celebrations continue



Assistant Professor Mangala Srivinas FYAE, Chair of the Young Academy of Europe contributes to the debate on Plan S.



The Cardiff Hub held its own 30th Anniversary celebration on Monday 14th January. Members of the Academia Europaea along with colleagues who have generously supported the Cardiff Hub's work gathered at Cardiff University's Glamorgan Building to mark the Academia's 30th anniversary. Following a [drinks reception](#) and networking session, our guests were invited to join in a discussion on [Plan S](#), an initiative for open-access science publishing.



Drinks reception

The Armenian National Academy's 75th Anniversary

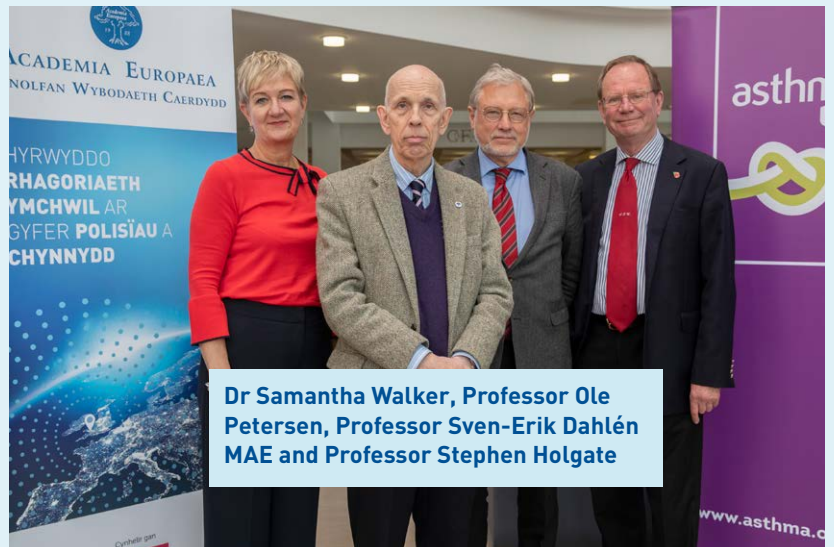
In October, Presidents and Vice-Presidents of many national academies as well as pan-European academic organisations gathered in the Armenian capital Yerevan to celebrate the National Academy of Sciences Republic of Armenia (NASRA), [75th Anniversary](#). Professor Ole Petersen and his wife were invited to attend this celebration. Professor Petersen gave a talk on Academia Europaea and its role in the European Commission's Science Advice Mechanism and participated in panel discussions with the Presidium of the Armenian Academy as well as with the new Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan.



Panel discussion with the Armenian Prime Minister. From left to right: Graham Caie (Vice-President of ALLEA), Ole Petersen (Vice-President of AE), Tadej Bajd (President of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts), Chunli Bai (President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Foreign Member of AE), Radik Martirosyan (President of NASRA) and Nikol Pashinyan (Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia) (Image courtesy of the Press Office of the Armenian Government)

CARDIFF HUB HOSTS ASTHMA UK MEETING

In November, the Cardiff Hub hosted [Asthma UK meeting](#), *Curing and preventing asthma; where do we go next?* The meeting, held at the Hadyn Ellis Building, Cardiff University, was chaired by Academia Europaea member and Founder Chair of the Clinical & Veterinary Section of Academia Europaea, Professor Stephen Holgate CBE MAE. Delegates specialising in this area of medicine attended from as far as San Francisco. Professor Petersen gave the delegates an overview of Academia Europaea and an insight into our work in the European Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) on the production of independent evidence review reports for the [European Commission](#).



Dr Samantha Walker, Professor Ole Petersen, Professor Sven-Erik Dahlén MAE and Professor Stephen Holgate

AE's 30th Annual Conference, Barcelona

Over 100 members of Academia Europaea attended Academia Europaea's 30th [Annual Conference](#), *Building Bridges*, in Barcelona which took place in November 2018. The event was held at the atmospheric Institut d'Estudis Catalans (IEC), home to the Barcelona Knowledge Hub. Professor Ole Petersen and Dr Esther Dorado-Ladera represented the Cardiff Hub at the event in Barcelona.



MAEs networking in the cloister at the IEC

CARDIFF AND BERGEN HUBS STRENGTHEN CULTURAL TIES

The Cardiff Hub was delighted to be one of the invited guests to the opening of a new art exhibition at the Norwegian Church in Cardiff Bay. [Prisoner of War](#) is the work of Bergen artist Bodil Friele and draws on wartime experiences of her father. The exhibition was opened by the Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Dianne Rees. Professor Ole Petersen was one of the invited speakers at the launch. He highlighted the deep links between Cardiff and [Bergen](#), established through the Academia Europaea hubs in both cities.



Norwegian artist Bodil Friele presents her work



An interview with Professor Christopher Smith

As part of our interview series with members of Academia Europaea, [Professor Christopher Smith](#), Professor of Ancient History at the University of St Andrews, kindly shared his professional experiences, insights into his research and told us more about the conference, [Sovereignty: a global perspective](#) which is taking place in April 2019.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Academia Europaea Cardiff Hub is very pleased to be supporting:

- International conference, [Sovereignty: a global perspective](#) to be held at the University of St Andrews on 29th-30th April 2019
- Consensus workshop on definitions in Translational Medicine to be held at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, most likely in May

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

Academia Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub. 2018. [Science for policy: a European perspective](#). Cardiff: Cardiff University.

Our 30th [anniversary commemorative brochure](#) and [poster](#) are now available, highlighting our key achievements over the last 30 years.

Our 2018 [annual report](#) is also available on our website.