

## Press release

**Date:** 7 May 2010

**Title** Membership of the Coleg Ffederal Implementation Board announced

The membership of the Coleg Ffederal Implementation Board, which will oversee the legal development of the Welsh medium higher education federal college over the coming year, has been confirmed.

HEFCW was asked to set up the Implementation Board to put in place the arrangements for the Welsh Medium Coleg Ffederal - which will maintain, develop and oversee Welsh medium higher education provision in Wales – through the Welsh Assembly Government's 21<sup>st</sup> century higher education strategy and plan, *For our Future*.

This followed the report to the Welsh Assembly Government by Professor Robin Williams in 2009 which proposed a model for the Coleg Ffederal.

In April, Geraint Talfan Davies was confirmed as Chair of the Implementation Board.

The Implementation Board, which met for the first time last week, has been formed by extending the current Welsh Medium Higher Education Sector Group, as recommended in Professor Williams's report. It brings together the membership of the Sector Group with the original Coleg Ffederal Planning Board.

The new Board will develop arrangements for handling funding, the incorporation of the Centre for Welsh Medium Higher Education, the management and staffing structure of the Coleg Ffederal and appointing and handing over to the Coleg Ffederal's new National Council.

Geraint Talfan Davies said: "The membership of the Implementation Board brings together all those needed to ensure that we can create a practical, effective and efficient framework that works for all parties as well as for students and staff, and that will enable the Coleg Ffederal to have a flying start in 2011. The Board is very much aware of the need to work quickly to allow the permanent board to take the reins as early as possible next year."

The membership of the Implementation Board is:

- Geraint Talfan Davies (Chair)
- Katie Dalton (President, NUS Wales)
- Eurig Davies (Headteacher, Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera)
- Bethan Edwards (University of Wales, Newport)
- Elinor Gwynn (Executive Adviser, Countryside Council for Wales)
- Rob Humphreys (Open University in Wales)
- Medwin Hughes (Trinity University College, Carmarthen and University of Wales, Lampeter)
- Meri Huws (Trinity University College and Chair, Welsh Language Board)
- Aled Jones (Aberystwyth University)
- Hefin Jones (Cardiff University)
- Ken Jones (Swansea Metropolitan University)
- Llion Jones (Bangor University)
- Gareth Lewis (former senior positions in the Welsh higher education sector)
- David Lloyd (Cardiff University)
- Rhys Llwyd (joint author a document on the Welsh Federal College)
- Richard Moremon (University of Wales Institute, Cardiff)
- Andrew Parry (Glyndŵr University)
- Huw Morris (Swansea University)
- Denise Williams (University of Glamorgan)
- Dafydd Johnston (Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, University of Wales)
- Ieuan Wyn (Secretary, Steering Committee, Welsh Federal College Campaign)

Observer: Amanda Wilkinson (Higher Education Wales)

- HEFCW: Celia Hunt (Head of Strategy, Learning and Funding), or Dr David Blaney (Director of Strategic Development).

## Notes

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**The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales** (HEFCW) is an Assembly Government Sponsored Body responsible for administering funds made available by the Welsh Assembly Government in support of:

- education in higher education institutions (HEIs);
- research undertaken by HEIs; and
- higher education courses at further education colleges.

HEFCW is also responsible for accrediting providers of initial teaching training for school teachers and commissioning research to improve the standards of teachers and teacher training.

In addition to its funding responsibilities, HEFCW provides advice to the Welsh Assembly Government on the funding needs, aspirations and concerns of the higher education sector in Wales.

**Geraint Talfan Davies** is Chairman of the Institute of Welsh Affairs and of Welsh National Opera. He was Controller of BBC Wales from 1990-2000. Following his retirement from the BBC he represented Wales on the Radio Authority.

He is also a former chairman of the Arts Council of Wales, and has been a Governor of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and of UWIC. In the arts sector, he has been Chairman of CBAT, the Arts and Regeneration Agency, and a board member of the Artes Mundi International Visual Arts Prize, Wales Millennium Centre Ltd, and Sgrin.

He is also a non-executive director of Glas Cymru Cyf. (Welsh Water), a Trustee of the Media Standards Trust and an honorary Fellow of UWIC and of the RIBA.

**The Coleg Ffederal** will be a new and independent legal entity with a Constitution. It will not be a single geographical entity and will not be a degree awarding body, but

will work with and through existing higher education institutions (federal). Its mission will be to maintain, develop and oversee Welsh medium provision in HE in Wales. The National Council will be the governing body of the Coleg Ffederal.

The Welsh Medium Higher Education Sector Group led the establishment of a new strategic framework and development plan for Welsh medium provision. The Group had representatives at senior level from all HE institutions. It was supported by a co-ordinating group of staff from the institutions and sub-groups which took responsibility for particular detailed areas, and network panels for a range of subjects.

**Higher Education Wales** is the representative body for heads of higher education institutions in Wales, and is a part of Universities UK.