

**University of
South Wales**
Prifysgol
De Cymru

Annual Review 2016/17



USW's multi-million-pound enhanced Cardiff Campus was officially opened by Director General of the BBC, Lord Hall of Birkenhead.

University of
South Wales
Driffrydol

The University of South Wales Group

The University of South Wales

As one of Britain's most exciting new universities and a major player in higher education, USW attracts a cosmopolitan mix of students from 120 countries.

USW is unique in combining the broadest range of provision with the widest access to education. It offers a full range of qualifications, from PhD study to foundation degrees. The breadth of courses includes the full range of STEM subjects, from aircraft engineering and mathematics to computing and surveying. The University is also an experienced provider of teacher training.

The University of South Wales is recognised as a powerhouse in applied research that is used to shape key decisions. As a public policy think-tank, the University offers independent advice to government, industry and employers across the UK on health, education, economic growth, social policy, and governance. This enables it to provide a platform for ideas and debate with bodies such as the CBI, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and NESTA.

The Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama

The Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama is the National Conservatoire of Wales and a leading UK provider of specialist practical and performance-based training in music, drama and other related professions. The College provides training that enables students to discover their own artistic individuality and helps to shape the future of their chosen careers.

The College Merthyr Tydfil

The College makes a major impact on the economy of the Heads of the Valleys region by providing access to basic and higher level skills and qualifications. The vocational nature of its courses reflects the current practices and conditions of the professional world. The new £33m College building was officially opened in October 2013.

Education with purpose

In the introduction to last year's annual review we reflected that we were beginning a new chapter for the University of South Wales. The narrative is now entirely that of USW, a story of scholarly achievement and visible impact on our communities, our economy, and the individual lives of our students.

2016-17 was a milestone year for the University. For the first time, all of our students studied on their realigned, distinctive campuses. All had begun their studies as USW students, rather than having been recruited in part by our predecessor universities. For the first time we held all of our graduation ceremonies in the heart of our local communities in the city centres of Newport and Cardiff, and in Pontypridd. If 2015-16 was the year USW came of age, 2016-17 was the year we began to mature.

At our Newport City Campus we welcomed partners from every part of local services, from the NHS and schools to the voluntary and third sectors, as we opened the Helen Kegie Centre for Therapies. Named in tribute to philanthropist and professional leader Helen Kegie, the Centre's work with service users across the communities of Gwent is a worthy testament to her intellectual and humanitarian legacy. USW therapists learn and work alongside early years specialists, social workers, and trainee teachers, gaining a breadth of understanding and relationships that fits them for their professional world. Underpinning this wider human dimension, our Initial Teacher Education students now work at Newport in an educational setting recognised by Apple as a Regional Training Centre, a community sharing best practice and supporting teachers from across Gwent to attain Apple Teacher status.

On the same campus, our National Cyber Security Academy completed a tremendously successful first full pilot year and is now oversubscribed, with plans to expand. Among its

distinguished industry visitors were Carolyn Fairbairn, the Director General of the CBI, who paid tribute to the partnership between industry and academia that is a defining feature of the NCSA in Newport.

Tony Hall, the Director General of the BBC, came to Cardiff to declare open our enhanced creative industries campus, and announced the creation of USW BBC Fellowships; individuals from the BBC's senior leadership team under his nomination as Director General, who will serve as teachers and mentors for USW students in the creative industries. In his keynote speech on being admitted as an honorary Doctor of the University, he described the University and its Cardiff campus as "a powerhouse for the arts and creative industries, not just for the UK but for the world."

The University has delivered new investment in facilities and people. We appointed new professors to Chairs in Addictions & Health Psychology, Cardiorespiratory Science, Theatre & Performance, Popular Music Analysis, Global Governance, Sport, Enterprise, and Contemporary Poetics. Research academics won grants from major funding bodies including Horizon 2020, the Leverhulme Trust, the Life Sciences Bridging Fund, Innovate UK, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the AHRC, and the EU-funded Knowledge Economy and Skills Scholarships [KESS]. The University provided consultancy support to organisations as diverse as the National Health Service, Arriva Trains, leading automotive companies, law enforcement agencies, Blackberry, the Brecon Beacons National Park, and leading financial services companies including Admiral, L&G, Principality, and Atradius.

We engaged outwards, for USW has never been an ivory tower. Civic engagement with our local communities, society, and employers is a natural extension of our sense of belonging to our region.

A university founded by business and the professions is a natural partner for entrepreneurs and leaders in the private sector. The development of the USW Exchange, a pioneering hub giving businesses of all sizes access to the knowledge and support of the University, was matched by our active participation in the business community. As well as being active members of the M4 Business Club and Cardiff Business Club, we hosted the visit to Wales of the Director General of the CBI, providing the environment for a vigorous exploration by Welsh business leaders of the issues facing their businesses and the wider economy.

Our engagement at every political level is a key feature of the University's impact on key decisions that shape people's lives through public services. USW hosted the City Deal cabinet's launch of its key economic report, demonstrating our unique role as the university for the whole of the South East Wales region. In March we welcomed the First Minister, Presiding Officer and key committees of the National Assembly for Wales as they met in our Newport Campus as part of the pioneering Senedd@Newport initiative. USW's International Centre for Policing & Security held its inaugural seminar at the House of Lords, bringing together Chief Constables, Commissioners, and parliamentarians to explore the future of a graduate only police service. Individual visits to USW campuses by key political leaders gave them insight into our modern university education, with ministers exchanging their place around the cabinet table for seats of experiential learning; landing aircraft in a simulator, investigating crime scenes in a home and laboratory, restarting a heart in a clinical simulation suite, experiencing the effects of old age through an ageing simulation suit, and being beamed up to a spacecraft by animation and visual effects students preparing for the film and

TV industry in a green-screen studio. The underlying message – USW's value in preparing students for the world of work – is clearly understood.

Our Chancellor speaks of the role of a university - its most valuable impact - as being the creation of educated citizens who are prepared to ask challenging questions and explore great issues in a spirit of respect. The University's Global Choices lecture series exposes students and school pupils to senior decision-makers whose experience of government brings unique insight into the challenges of an unstable global environment. Global Choices' keynote speakers in 2016-17 included former MI6 Director General Sir Richard Dearlove, former Foreign Ministers Jack Straw and Peter Hain, and Peter Ricketts, former Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Office. The look ahead to 2017-18 is tempered by the realism of an unprecedentedly volatile higher education environment. In assessing its estate, structure and curriculum the University has not shied from making challenging decisions, to ensure that USW remains financially stable and able to continue investing in both people and facilities. This pragmatism enables us to look to the future with both confidence and optimism.

At home, we will open a new enhancement to the USW Sport Park, with its sector-leading full-sized indoor pitch. We will continue to develop the detailed strategy for the University's desire to develop a Newport Knowledge Quarter, in partnership with Coleg Gwent and both local and Welsh government. Looking outward, we will continue to build sustainable and effective partnerships with international universities, and to recruit students to our home campuses from over 120 countries. In expanding both our reputation and our reach, in 2016-17 we signed the agreement to be the key higher education partner at



The Director General of the CBI, Carolyn Fairbairn, speaking to business Leaders at the University of South Wales.

the new city of Dubai South in the UAE, a key global aerospace and logistics hub developing around the world's biggest airport. As well as underscoring USW's credentials in a highly competitive market for aircraft maintenance education, it is a key win for Wales and the UK in demonstrating that we are open for business with the rest of the world.

By providing students with access to USW's education in their region, and opportunities for students at home to engage with one of the global aviation industry's key hubs, we add value both for the University and our key industry partners. The invitation to USW by the leadership of Dubai's aviation industry, and the significant support of both HM Government and the Welsh Government in developing this opportunity, speak to a growing international reputation for USW in the exacting world of aviation engineering.

In reflecting on 2016-17, our students' successes are too many to list in total. Examples of their achievements include engaging with Welsh Government on the national agenda for arts therapy in Wales, producing financial literacy resources for the Lloyds Banking Group, winning awards from the British Psychological Society, Cardiff Business Club and Chwarae Teg's Womenspire Learner of the Year, and being invited by Airbus to Hamburg recognising pioneering dissertation work informing a new method of airframe construction. Whether in the arts or sciences, the humanities or public services, the workplace or the library, our students are succeeding both in their professional field and on their personal journey.

Looking at 2016-17, we take pride that USW continues to be a thriving and sustainable university. We know that our vigorous academic community is making a difference, adding value to communities at home and overseas and contributing uniquely to the Welsh economy. Most fundamentally, for the individuals who study with us, we are quite literally transforming lives.



Professor Julie Lydon OBE
Vice-Chancellor



Gareth Williams
Chairman of the Board of Governors

A Year at the University



The University's Centre for Media in Small Nations, based at the Cardiff Campus, celebrated its 10th anniversary.



USW scientists Dr Jereon Nieuwland and Dr Emma Hayhurst are helping to develop a machine which will tackle the overuse of antibiotics.



Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Infrastructure, Ken Skates AM, got to see the creative industries facilities at USW's Cardiff Campus.



USW's Centre for Excellence in Mobile and Emerging Technologies (CEMET) was launched, helping businesses develop cutting-edge products in areas such as virtual reality.



Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams AM, was shown the University's simulation facilities by students.

The University has joined forces with the Celtic Manor Resort to develop the next generation of hotel and hospitality managers, and fill a growing shortage in the sector.



USW academics have been awarded £67,000 funding from the Road Safety Trust to develop an app teaching road safety to primary school children.



The Helen Kegie Centre for Therapies, a specialist centre to provide counselling services and training, has been opened at USW's Newport Campus.



USW received a silver award from the Ministry of Defence's Employer recognition scheme, for its support of former servicemen and women.



Cardiff City Football Club has joined forces with USW to develop the next generation of football experts in China.

Financial statement

Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 July 2017

Income	Notes	Year to 31 July 2017 £'000s	Year to 31 July 2016 £'000s
Tuition fees and education contracts	1	129,671	127,523
Funding body grants	2	24,856	29,827
Research grants and contracts	3	8,470	8,895
Other income	4	19,021	20,865
Investment income	5	1,035	1,223
Donations and endowments	6	1,115	2,574
Total income		184,168	190,907
Expenditure			
Staff costs	7	107,937	108,064
Other operating expenses		48,844	51,657
Depreciation and amortisation	12,13	11,572	10,734
Interest and other finance costs	8	6,329	6,751
Total expenditure	9	174,682	177,206
Surplus before other gains and losses		9,486	13,701
Exceptional Item		(3,528)	(5,223)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	10	(50)	-
Surplus before tax		5,908	8,478
Taxation	11	399	-
Surplus for the year		6,307	8,478
Actuarial loss in respect of pension schemes	26	(8,250)	(19,127)
Increase in Market Value of Endowment Asset Investments	21	193	118
Total comprehensive expense for the year		(1,750)	(10,531)
Represented by:			
Endowment comprehensive income for the year		343	1,248
Restricted comprehensive income for the year		51	95
Unrestricted comprehensive income for the year		(2,144)	(11,874)
		(1,750)	(10,531)

Our students 2016/17

Where they study (28,132 Total Students)



23,464 USW Group HE

1,937 The College Merthyr Tydfil FE

1,902 Welsh for Adults

Our HE students | How they study



74% Taught undergraduate

24% Taught postgraduate

1% Research postgraduate

1% Other

Our HE students | Where they come from



61% Wales

16% Rest of UK

6% EU non UK

16% International

Our HE students | Their age



33% Under 21

24% 21-24

14% 25-29

30% 30+