



# Advance HE working with Wales 2020-21

**AU Ymlaen**  
**AdvanceHE**

## Working with Wales

In Wales, Advance HE continues to work closely with Welsh Government, HEFCW, Universities Wales, the nine Universities, and those FE Colleges with HE provision. Advance HE has a Wales based Head of Membership, support from a Senior Advisor in Teaching and Learning and Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), and Wales and UK based Associates with expertise in leadership, governance, EDI, teaching and learning with a good understanding of the Welsh context in these disciplines.

Our formal engagement with the Welsh HE sector is through the Advance HE stakeholder group, held biannually with representation from the sector and sector bodies. The Head of Membership also engages with the sector more broadly through engaging directly with institutions and organising the Advance HE Wales network groups:

- + Advance HE WIG (Wales Institutional L&T Group)
- + Advance HE Wales EDI Liaison Group
- + OSD Cymru (organisational & staff development)

We also engage with other groups and organisations by invitation e.g. UHR Wales; Welsh Clerks & Secretaries; Joint ChUW and Welsh Clerks and Secretaries meetings; PVC Learning & Teaching Network; PVCR group; NUS Wales; Colegau Cymru and Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol.

## Working with the Welsh language

Advance HE is committed to providing a proportional response to need for resources in the Welsh language, and is engaging with the community to make key resources available bilingually. Our [bilingual webpage](#) will provide information on the 2020-21 launch of applications for Fellowships in Welsh and we will be welcoming applications to teaching awards bilingually.

# Advance HE membership in Wales

In 2019-20, we are proud that all nine Welsh Universities, the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol and seven Further Education Colleges continue to be members of Advance HE.

## Advance HE Wales Member Benefits 2020-21

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Welsh member institutions have access to the wide range of Advance HE UK member benefits detailed in our Membership 2020-21 brochure. These include **COVID-19 themed resources** (webinars, blogs and reports) and member benefit projects such as **Creating Socially Distanced Campuses and Education**.

**In addition, Welsh member institutions also have access to a suite of Wales-specific member benefits, which include:**

- + The **Nations' Strategic Organisational Response Initiative (full members)**. The aim of this Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland joint initiative is to support senior leaders to continue developing their institutional strategic response by exploring and reviewing current and future contemporary institutional strategies, given the significant environmental challenges we face as a sector.
  - These focused online, two hour lunchtime bi-weekly sessions will run from June until November 2020
  - Each session will stand alone and explore cross-cutting themes, for example:
    - Leadership of rapid pedagogic change; navigating strategic direction; organisational sustainability; leadership and organisational structural change; the evolving student partnership; impact on equality and diversity
  - Core aspects of these sessions will focus on building a network within and across nations, and sharing and reflecting on experiences and initiatives
  - The delivery elements will be recorded for later viewing but discussions will adhere to the usual Advance HE Chatham House Rule.
- + **Wales Higher Education Wellbeing Initiative (WHEWI)** – we will continue the conclusion of the WHEWI, which explored mental health and wellbeing in the curriculum. This was postponed at the request of the sector.
- + **Exploring the Attainment Gap and Retention for under-represented groups**. This series of two online webinars focussed on WIG and the Wales EDI Liaison Group members will explore this subject and include consideration of digital poverty in a time of online engagement and a potential blended learning future.

## Contact

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