

The background of the cover is a dense cluster of glowing incandescent light bulbs of various shapes and sizes, including standard A-shaped bulbs, pear-shaped bulbs, and cylindrical Edison-style bulbs. The bulbs are illuminated from within, casting a warm, golden glow against a dark background.

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

News

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A powerful vision
Creating an innovation capital for Wales

Introduction

Cardiff University is rightly recognised for its thriving innovation culture. 85 per cent of all IP income in Wales is generated by this university. More than 270 start-up companies have been established by our graduates and we are ranked in the top 5 UK Higher Education Institutes for the number of knowledge transfer programmes we have.



“In this edition of *Cardiff News* we feature some of our most inspirational student start-ups, graduate entrepreneurs, collaborators, knowledge transfer partnerships and spin-out companies, the entities that have made those figures a reality.

We also introduce our five flagship engagement projects that demonstrate Cardiff University's commitment to the communities of Cardiff, Wales and beyond.

These projects range from an award-winning collaboration that is removing surgical smoke during keyhole surgery to a knowledge transfer project that has transformed the way young homeless people receive mental health support and a community project in Grangetown that is promoting social inclusion.

These real examples of world-leading research, creativity, innovation and

curiosity in action reveal the crucial role of universities in driving change in healthcare, manufacturing, culture, society and more.

As Wales's leading university we are acutely aware of the need to reinforce our civic responsibility and to catalyse growth and prosperity in Wales.

But there is no room for complacency. We must actively demonstrate our relevance to the communities and people of Wales. We also have to do more to connect industry, business, government and charities with our academics, to nurture student entrepreneurship and champion grass-roots business development.

So, in this edition we also share with you our ambitious roadmap for the future. The Cardiff Innovation System matches a multi-million pound

investment with a vision to give our innovation activities parity of esteem with our teaching and research.

Working in partnership with key stakeholders and wider society, Cardiff University aims to become a magnet for enterprise, creativity and innovation for the City Region, gaining recognition as a powerful engine for growth and for tackling the policy, scientific and economic challenges of the future.

You'll read more about five new state-of-the-art facilities we plan to build on Maindy Road, transforming an area of the capital from a disused, former industrial space into a hub for innovation, research excellence and engagement.

Those leading projects at the heart of the communities we are working with also tell us about the value and importance of our engagement

projects. The projects – The City Region Exchange; Community Gateway; Community Journalism; Strong Communities, Healthier People; and The Phoenix Project – are tangible demonstrations of Cardiff University's long-term commitment to the communities we serve. They will leave a legacy both for the communities themselves and for the University.

I hope this edition will give you a flavour of the many ways that Cardiff University contributes to society and the economy, and that it demonstrates our commitment to make Wales an exemplar in the knowledge economy and an innovation capital for the UK and the world.”

Professor Colin Riordan
Vice-Chancellor

Smoke-free surgery



Ultravision off / Ultravision on (left/right)

An innovative new product for removing smoke created in minimally invasive surgery has been developed by Cardiff spin out company Asalus Medical Instruments.

Ultravision™ clears the operative visual field of surgical smoke rapidly, effectively and silently whilst simultaneously preventing its release into the operating theatre.

The product is the first to be launched by Asalus, which was established to commercialise the inventions of the Welsh Institute for Minimal Access Therapy

(WIMAT), a leading provider of minimal access surgery training in the UK, based at the Cardiff Medcentre.

Conceived by Dr Neil Warren, Asalus' Chief Technology Officer and Director of WIMAT, Ultravision™ is based around the proven technology of 'electrostatic precipitation', which is already widely used in industrial applications for the removal of airborne particles from waste gases.

Dr Warren said: "Surgical smoke is a significant issue during laparoscopic surgery. Smoke

rapidly builds up in the abdominal cavity, severely impairing the quality of the visual field and slowing down the procedure. The subsequent release of surgical smoke into the operating theatre is also unpleasant for the surgical team and there is a potential risk that chronic exposure may have long-term health implications.

"From research and feedback we know that the current solutions used in surgery for clearing surgical smoke are largely ineffective in meeting the needs of the surgical team. Ultravision™ silently, effortlessly and unobtrusively

clears the visual field of surgical smoke and prevents its release in to the operating theatre to allow best practice in laparoscopic surgery."

Dominic Griffiths, Managing Director of Asalus, said: "There are around six million laparoscopic procedures performed each year globally. Smoke is an issue in the vast majority of these procedures and so we are confident that we have developed a totally unique product in a huge market."

Ultravision™ is already being used at University Hospital Wales and Asalus is in the process of appointing a comprehensive network of European distributors.

The product was developed via funding received from Cardiff University's Cardiff Partnership Fund (for early proof of concept work); Fusion IP; Finance Wales and IP Group. It has been awarded the Royal College of Surgeons Cutlers' Surgical Prize and was named best New Venture in Cardiff University's annual Innovation and Impact Awards.

Saving lives and improving mental health services

A Cardiff Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) has helped a Welsh charity reform its mental health provision for homeless young people.

Working with experts in the School of Psychology, Llamau, a leading homelessness charity, has developed a new screening tool to help with the early identification of mental health issues among its service users.

New assessment techniques have also been developed for use during the psychiatric interviewing of homeless young people which has saved lives and has the potential to continue to do so.

Other outcomes from the KTP include changes to the company's assessment and monitoring procedures, staff training and

development on mental health issues and successful bids for funding from other charity organisations.

The KTP has been awarded the 'outstanding' rating by the UK's innovation agency, the Technology Strategy Board.

Dr Katherine Shelton, of the School of Psychology said: "The opportunity to translate research into practice really shows the capacity for KTP to make a difference. We were really pleased that the success of the collaboration was recognised by the Technology Strategy Board grading our project 'outstanding' and will build on this achievement with a joint funded PhD studentship commencing this September."



Sam Austin, Operational Director, Llamau added: "The KTP has been a really exciting partnership for Llamau. Working with Cardiff University has enabled us to be an integral part of innovative research looking at the needs of young people who are homeless and translate this into new ways of working with the vulnerable young

people we support. These last three years has also allowed us to build a really strong working relationship with the School of Psychology and to plan ways to continue to work together. We are very pleased that the KTP has been so successful and are delighted with the feedback we have had."

Enterprise: Making Ideas Happen



Catherine Bushell, Enterprise Manager at Cardiff University Enterprise writes about the importance of the student enterprise culture in providing skilled and work-ready graduates.

“ In a rapidly changing world most graduates are unlikely to stay in the same job or even the same career path for the whole of their working life. With portfolio careers with a mixture of employment and self-employment or freelancing becoming increasingly common – we need to prepare students for this future with the skills they need to make the most of the opportunities within any role they choose to take on.

I often hear students say that enterprise is not for them because they don't study business and don't want to be self-employed. Enterprise is not just about starting a business or even necessarily working within one. Enterprise skills give students the opportunity

to develop their confidence, knowledge and skills to enable them to spot something which needs to be changed or improved, come up with an original idea and most crucially then act upon it. Essentially, enterprise is: having an idea and making it happen.

Building enterprise skills help to make our graduates 'Opportunity Ready': ready to make the most of any opportunities, whether to create high-growth start-ups, to pursue successful careers in the private or public sector or to create social innovation, or simply to live a fulfilling life.

Cardiff University Enterprise, part of Careers and Employability, offers

all students opportunities to develop their enterprise skills whatever future they choose. In 2013-14 over 2000 students engaged in a variety of activities including interdisciplinary and inter-university events. Where possible all activity is hands-on and experiential, for example Ignite, in which students from three local Universities explore the process of taking their own ideas to action. They pitch for seed funding and try out their ideas on the unsuspecting residents of Cardiff in a 24 hour challenge. Save the Music offers a real-time immersive learning experience with students taking on the role of saving a music festival in crisis.

For those students or graduates with a business idea we offer a

safe environment to discuss and get feedback on their ideas and plans. They can also access start up workshops, opportunities for test-trading and business mentoring for those who are ready. Over 250 Cardiff graduates started their own businesses within the last three years with ideas ranging from clothing labels to software development to online publications.

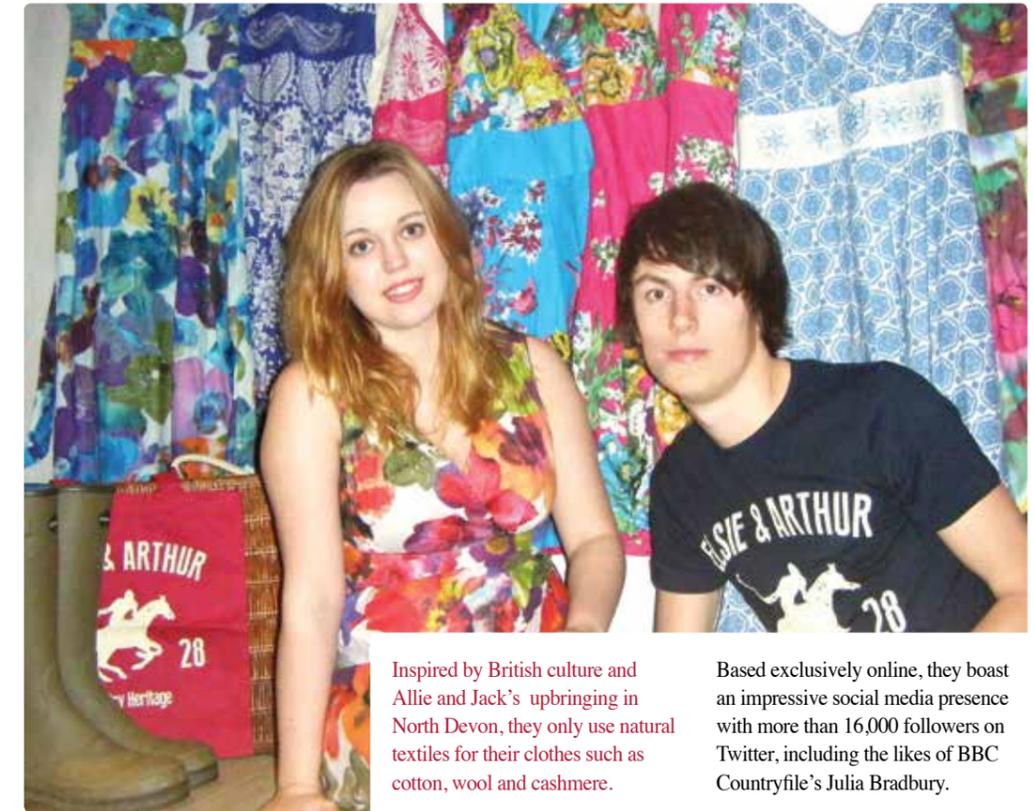
I feel very strongly that enterprise should not be seen simply as an add-on, but is made relevant to all students and their own subject discipline. The enterprise team supports academic staff to embed enterprise in ways that are meaningful, applicable and relevant to the subject taught. Over

the past year we have worked with 10 academic schools from Maths to Welsh to Biosciences and aim to expand that support across the whole University giving more students the opportunity to understand that enterprise can be for them too.

We know that not all graduates will or should be entrepreneurs, but they all should be given the opportunity to be enterprising and make a real difference to the place they work or to the wider world. We want Cardiff graduates to be inspired, self-confident, talented and enterprising; able to build dynamic new ventures or transform any organisation they join or manage.”

Elsie & Arthur

Elsie and Arthur is a country clothing brand, created by Cardiff journalism graduate Allie Lawson and her business partner Jack Williams.



Inspired by British culture and Allie and Jack's upbringing in North Devon, they only use natural textiles for their clothes such as cotton, wool and cashmere.

Based exclusively online, they boast an impressive social media presence with more than 16,000 followers on Twitter, including the likes of BBC Countryfile's Julia Bradbury.

Island Multimedia Solutions



Carey (centre) as part of the winning iSolve Team

Not just a PhD student, Carey Wallace is a prime example of one of the University's most enterprising students. On top of running his own successful business, Island Enterprise Solutions Ltd, Carey has taken part in multiple Cardiff Student Enterprise events such as Ignite, iSolve and Spark.

Island Multimedia Solutions Ltd films destination weddings live from Jamaica, Carey explains, allowing those who cannot attend to watch the wedding as it happens. For each wedding, a unique web address is created that streams the event and provides live chat facilities for those watching.

Innovation with impact



The DNA of a city

A team of researchers from the School of Geography and Planning developed a novel network model, which measures the “DNA” of a city. The tool has been used by Local Authority spatial planning departments, transport planners, urban designers

and architects to better understand the existing built environment and the likely effect of “what if” scenarios. Current research using sDNA is looking at its commercial applications, investigating built environment design impacts on health, wealth and social cohesion.



The “core” of car production

In the automotive sector, a micro-factory retailing project developed by the Centre for Automotive Industry Research helped vehicle manufacturers implement new business models

that produced economic benefits and put sustainability at the heart of production. The founder of one of the companies cited the project as being “essential, core to the growth of car manufacturing”.

Reducing city-centre violence

The multi-disciplinary Violence and Society research group, based in the School of Dentistry, has developed a new approach to identifying violence hotspots and reducing incidents of violence, with significant impacts on late-night injuries and violent behaviour in city centres. The Cardiff Model for Violence Prevention, developed by the group uses information gathered in Accident and Emergency departments to both measure violence and drive violence prevention activity. Since it

was implemented in Cardiff, overall A&E violence related attendances have reduced by 30% and hospital admissions and serious violence recorded by the police have fallen by 42% and 32% respectively relative to cities where this model has not been implemented. The model is now a Coalition Government Programme Commitment and, as a result of the Crime and Disorder Act, a core violence prevention strategy across the UK. It has been implemented in more than 100 hospitals across England and Wales.



Sustainable manufacturing

The Advanced Sustainable Manufacturing Technologies (ASTUTE) project, located in Cardiff Business School and the School of Engineering, is helping the manufacturing industry in West Wales and the Valleys to grow by adopting

more advanced technologies, and improve its sustainability by reducing its environmental impact. To date, 83 enterprises have been assisted and 30 new collaborative R&D projects have developed through Cardiff.



Analysing social media

New tools to analyse social media, harvesting freely available data from blogs, RSS feeds and micro blog sites such as Twitter are being developed by the Collaborative Online Social Media Observatory (COSMOS). These tools create innovative new approaches and ways of doing business for companies by, for

example, providing new insights into online conversations regarding their brand or products and services. Social media companies can benefit from the implementation of these leading-edge innovative tools into the services that they provide, creating potential for increases in their employment and turnover.



The Cardiff Innovation System

A powerful vision for innovation-led social, health and economic prosperity in Wales is at the heart of the University’s new Cardiff Innovation System. Professor Hywel Thomas, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research, Innovation and Enterprise who is overseeing the project, explains more.

“The Cardiff Innovation System is a road map for the University’s future, combining a multi-million pound capital investment plan with a commitment to facilitate innovation with the aim of becoming global leaders in innovation-led higher education. The Innovation System will promote innovation throughout all of the activities of the University, resulting in benefit across all areas of society in Wales and beyond.

This strategic shift towards a culture of innovation and enterprise at Cardiff University will take the strengths the University has and effect a change such that Cardiff Capital Region becomes an exemplar of the knowledge economy.

The aim is to cultivate an innovation capital for the country that operates right across the region and in all spectrums of the economy including the private, public and third sectors.

The Cardiff Innovation System will unlock the impact of University research, ensure graduates are best prepared for their future career and better connect businesses with academics and accelerate the translation of innovations into new products and technologies, new services and practices, in Wales and globally. Our plans will also include a focus on social innovation. We will work closely with the public sector to make Wales a healthier, better educated and more prosperous society.

Emerging as the result of a partnership between Cardiff University and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, a new Centre for Clinical Innovation at the Heath Park Campus will provide a single point of contact for clinicians, academics, industry and other collaborators to develop, test and translate world-leading ideas into improvements in care, quality and service for patients in Wales.

A focus on enterprise education, work or placement based experience,

innovation and industry-focused degree programmes and management and executive education will make Cardiff students more forward looking, entrepreneurial and work-ready.

Across all of the University’s campuses, staff and students will benefit from new infrastructure, networking, sandpit and other opportunities to channel their creativity, develop new ideas, products or services.

Most visibly, through the Cardiff Innovation System, Cardiff University will invest in South Wales and make the region a hub for innovation.

A suite of multi-million pound new buildings are planned as the first phase of the capital investment plan to provide the facilities needed to stimulate, support and exploit University research, raising the profile of the University, city and wider city-region as a location for successful innovation in new technologies,

products, services and public policy.

Together these new buildings, totalling c£300M, will provide the facilities needed to foster engagement with business, government, the voluntary sector and civic society in all arenas including the life sciences, engineering, information technologies, and the creative and digital economies.

In order to achieve the vision for the Innovation System, working together with our partners both in Wales and further afield internationally will be of critical importance. We will establish key relationships with such stakeholders to establish the University, the City and Wales as a powerful engine for growth, promoting Wales as a centre for job creation, a source of highly skilled-graduates and a thriving hub for innovation and commercialisation.”

Accelerating ‘bench to bedside’

Patients in Wales will benefit from improvements in care, quality and service thanks to a new centre for clinical innovation.

Emerging as the result of a partnership between Cardiff University and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, the new centre will provide a single point of contact for clinicians, academics, industry and other collaborators to develop, test and translate world-leading ideas into clinical practice.

From new medical devices to treatments and the development of novel methods of training and education, the centre will be at the forefront of clinical innovation in Wales.

Professor Keith Harding, Dean of Clinical Innovation who will lead the centre said: “The clinical innovation

centre will enable the translation of pioneering research into advances in healthcare, science and clinical teaching, delivering considerable benefits for patients.

“Acting as an incubator at the interface between clinical, academic and industry stakeholders, it will also create jobs, spin out companies

and provide a skilled healthcare workforce for Wales.

“Developing a partnership with the NHS in this way allows both organisations to achieve a shared ambition of delivering better standards of care for patients.” The new centre will be based on the University’s Heath Park campus.



Our vision for Maindy Road

The first phase of the Cardiff Innovation System will regenerate an area of the capital from a disused, former industrial space into a range of state-of-the-art facilities to support and inspire innovation and foster engagement with business, government, the voluntary sector and civic society. Alongside the new Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre (CUBRIC) four new cutting-edge buildings are planned.

The Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre (CUBRIC)



CUBRIC is the first milestone in Cardiff University's ambitious research and innovation capital development plan. CUBRIC will be a state-of-the-art brain research imaging centre that will become one of Europe's flagship facilities.

Home to some of the latest MRI and Magnetoencephalography (MEG) technology as well as laboratories, office accommodation and seminar facilities, the new £44M CUBRIC will be four times larger than the University's existing facilities.

Facilitating cross-disciplinary research

Cardiff University's Research Institutes are transforming the way that global challenges are tackled.

By combining talents from a range of disciplines, the Sustainable Places Research Institute, the Neuroscience and Mental Health Research Institute, the Cardiff Catalysis Institute and the European Cancer Stem Cell Research Institute are helping to create a stronger, healthier and more sustainable world.

Testament to their world-leading expertise and the benefit of this approach, they have already

discovered over a hundred genetic risk factors linked to schizophrenia, pioneered the use of gold as a catalyst for a wide range of chemical applications, created software to make our future cities more efficient and developed a novel compound known to reverse the spread of malignant breast cancer cells.

Now, the plans for the University's Mandy Road site will provide a platform for the research institutes to evolve and expand.

Of the existing Research Institutes, the Cardiff Catalysis Institute (CCI) will be the first to relocate to the proposed new Translational Research Facility. Established in 2008 the CCI has become the premiere catalysis facility in the UK and one of the top five such facilities in the world. Its staff have brought in over £23M in research income over the past five years from a wide range of funding bodies.

Cardiff is also committed to developing new University Research

Institutes, focussing on significant global challenges. By co-locating innovative University Research Institutes and bringing together both existing and newly recruited cross-disciplinary research talent, the Translation Research Facility will help unlock more of the Research Institutes' world-leading research and apply it to real-world problems.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/research

The Social Science Research Park (SPARK)

Cardiff University aims to build the world's first Social Science Research Park to bring together our world-leading researchers with practitioners, policy makers and other research stakeholders to design and conduct research that will produce innovative and effective solutions to pressing, global, societal problems.

Building on established research strengths, SPARK is designed to be a bridge between sectors and disciplines, a testing-ground for new ideas and solutions, an arena for collaborative action. It will act as a magnet for national and international research leaders, increasing capacity for postgraduate research opportunities and fostering a collaborative learning and working environment for co-creating, sharing and applying new knowledge.

SPARK will:

- Bring together existing centres of research excellence to work alongside other disciplines, businesses and the third sector to generate new ideas which are tested and evaluated over time and in situ.
- Establish the University, the City and Wales as international leaders in the design, development and delivery of innovative, impactful, evidence-based social science research.
- Strengthen the Welsh economy through increasing the role of Research and Development, boosting entrepreneurship and innovation across all sectors.
- Create new employment opportunities in the private and third sectors.

The Translational Research Facility

The Translational Research Facility will be a multidisciplinary research facility that will support the translation of excellent academic research and maximise opportunities for industry engagement.

The facility will:

- Offer laboratory and office space to create a critical mass of researchers with a strong track record in translational research, positioning Cardiff as a leading UK centre for activity of this kind.
- Enrich the academic environment through innovative research.
- Allow development of enhanced training opportunities at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

The Innovation Centre

The Innovation Centre will offer start-up companies high quality, affordable space, advice and support on flexible terms so that their companies can grow and become independent.

University spin-outs, staff and graduate entrepreneurs or local people with bright business ideas will all be able to access the Innovation Centre and benefit from its demanding, yet supportive entrepreneurial environment.

The Innovation Centre will:

- Span the full breadth of innovation activities across all sectors.
- Provide opportunities for students to embrace the innovation and enterprise culture as part of their educational experience.
- House innovation and enterprise initiatives, events and workshops which showcase the inspirational, enterprising students and staff from across the University.
- Offer our partners and collaborators the opportunity to co-locate with our researchers whilst developing their projects.
- Facilitate inward investment in the City region by providing a 'landing' space for businesses whilst they explore opportunities in the area and look for suitable long-term premises.
- Stimulate, support and exploit University research, raising the profile of the University, city and wider city-region internationally as a location for successful technology innovation.

The Research Institute for Compound Semiconductor Technology

Compound Semiconductor Technology has underpinned the operation of the internet and enabled emerging megatrends such as Smart Phone and Tablet usage, satellite communications/GPS, Direct Broadcast TV, efficient solar power generation, advanced healthcare and ground-breaking biotechnology.

Cardiff University's proposed Research Institute for Compound Semiconductor Technology will:

- Be a unique facility in the United Kingdom to demonstrate and test the technology in realistic environments.
- Provide cutting-edge facilities that allow for greater engagement with industry and excellent research and development
- Strongly position Cardiff to become the UK and European leader in translational research in this area.

Transforming our communities

Cardiff University is unveiling five flagship engagement projects which are ambitious in scope and varied in nature.

The project with the Cardiff Capital Region, called City Region Exchange will help shape changes that could be transformative for the economy and governance of south-east Wales, while the

Community Journalism scheme nurtures connected communities through technology by supporting hyperlocal websites. Two of the projects (Community Gateway and Strong Communities, Healthier

People) will help build community engagement models that are transferrable and able to boost health, education, well-being and engagement with the University. The Phoenix Project takes a more global outlook that has seen

the University team up with the University of Namibia. The work is expected to include everything from training medical staff and improving communications, to strengthening local languages and increasing maths skills among students.

Helping communities find a voice

By Sara Moseley



It is widely acknowledged that a vibrant, comprehensive and independent media is an essential component of a healthy democratic society.

However, the appetite remains for news and for sustaining community connections.

We are seeing the emergence of hyperlocal news, often created using low-cost digital platforms and powered by people who are embedded in and care about their community.

There is tremendous potential for transforming the landscape of local news and for becoming part of the fabric of life here in Wales.

Cardiff University's School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies, so long at the forefront of research and professional teaching, is well placed to understand and support these changes.

The Centre for Community Journalism was established to work alongside community news ventures transferring skills; conducting

research; and offering networking, information and support.

Over the five years of this project we will:

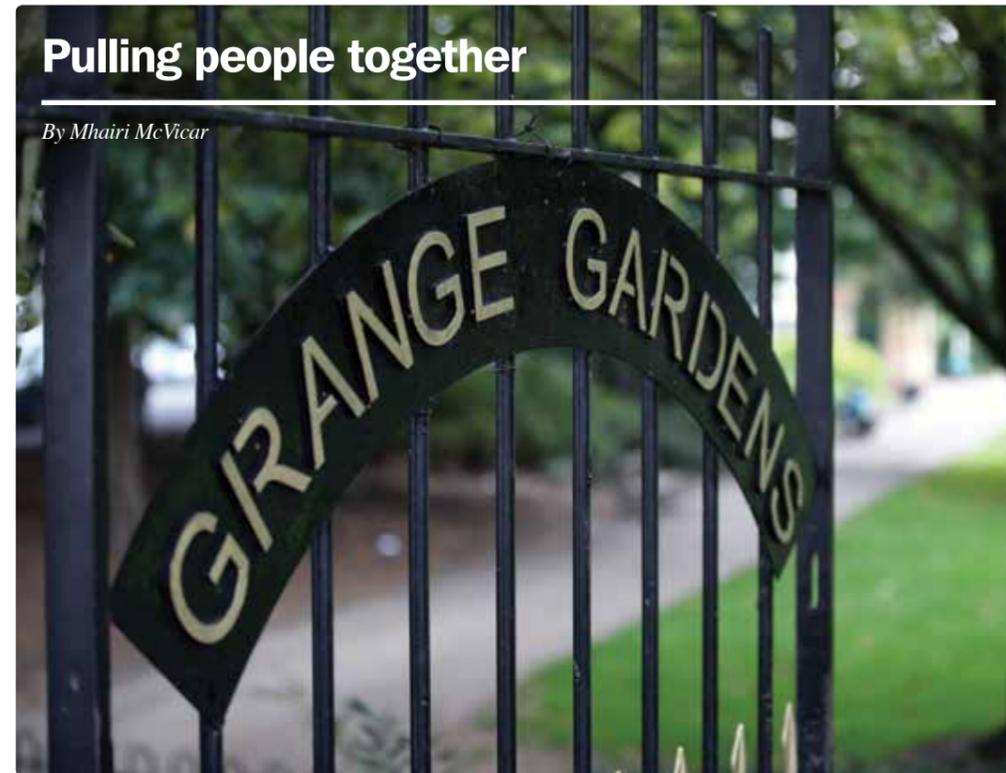
- Work in depth within at least ten communities throughout Wales to create or improve community news in English and Welsh
- Develop and deliver specialist face-to-face training and digital interactive resources
- Work in partnership with key organisations in Wales and within the University to meet need
- Create online teaching with international impact
- Develop and support a wide network of community journalists
- Conduct research into and publish learning on this area.

It is clear that there is tremendous demand in Wales and beyond for the support we offer. To date, we have:

- Worked with the Welsh-speaking community in Cardiff to create Pobl Caerdydd, the capital's first news and information service in Welsh. 11,000 individuals have used this service. Over 2,000 people follow us on Twitter and we have a dedicated team of volunteer contributors. With such potential we hope to establish a social enterprise and independent board to reach full potential.
 - Established Rhondda People with a dedicated and vibrant local team including a School graduate, an Age Concern worker, lead of the town traders' association and with the support of National Theatre Wales and local Assembly Member Leighton Andrews.
 - In a three-year partnership with the National Eisteddfod, set up Llais Y Maes an innovative and engaging alternative digital news and magazine service run by Cardiff University students.
 - Delivered a MOOC (massive open online course) with FutureLearn on Community Journalism to 9,000 people in 113 countries.
 - Created a Community Journalism web resource with regular updates and guides, along with a network of 244 community news hubs.
- Our work has touched a chord. It has shown how the expertise and knowledge within Cardiff University can be unlocked to meet community need and enthusiasm.
- It is a privilege to be able to lead this project with my colleagues Emma Meese and Hannah Scarbrough.

Pulling people together

By Mhairi McVicar



Cardiff University's leadership and development programme Cardiff Futures brought together eight research and senior professional staff from a wide range of backgrounds, back in 2012.

From this cross-School collaboration, ranging from architecture to engineering and planning to healthcare sciences and pharmacy, emerged a common interest: to develop a meaningful and long-term relationship with local communities, enabling the sharing of community and University expertise to achieve common goals.

Community Gateway was born as a platform for developing such a relationship, with an initial pilot set up in Grangetown, one of the most culturally diverse and largest wards in Cardiff.

The platform's format emerged from community consultations and events in Grangetown organised between 2012 and 2014.

Through several public open evenings in the Grangetown Salvation Army, a networking event at Cardiff University, a stand at two Grangetown Festivals in 2013 and 2014, and an ideas picnic in the Grange Gardens Bowls Pavilion in May 2014, we asked you - University staff and the

Grangetown communities - what would make a difference?

You told us you would like to see the University working with, and in, the community, celebrating and supporting existing initiatives, offering expertise, as well as generating new projects to foster social and economic developments, focusing on health, sustainability and the environment.

As we launch this platform, our aims are clear:

- We will work with the communities of Grangetown, responding to Grangetown's concerns and needs, as equal partners.
- We will develop a long-term community partnership which can support a range of projects over a significant length of time.
- We will aim to achieve visible, appropriate and mutually beneficial impact.
- We will develop partnership opportunities between Grangetown and Cardiff University to share our mutual and diverse expertise, passions and visions.

Our first step will be the formation of a steering group composed equally of community

What do we offer potential partners? Our aim is to make meaningful engagement happen in an equitable, responsive and respectful way.

We will support projects from emerging partnerships across the community and University, and we will help out with the pragmatics of developing a community project by helping access the wide expertise available both in the community and the University.

We will communicate the vision and the impact of your projects across the community and University and beyond, and support sustainable, long-term impacts through the oversight of the steering group framework.

What's next? We invite you to bring forward potential projects for the Grangetown area.

We will set up a physical base in Grangetown, bringing the University to the community.

We will communicate with you via a regular newsletter.

Longer term, we will expand the model to other communities in Cardiff and Wales, aiming for the establishment of a Wales Centre for the Development of Community Engagement.

The success of this project will depend on you and your ideas, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact us on communitygateway@cardiff.ac.uk



Shaping a city-region

By Professor Gillian Bristow



The Welsh Government has established two new city-regions in Wales, one of which covers Cardiff and south-east Wales. This is now known as the Cardiff Capital Region.

The city-region is the name for the functional economic region around the city – the local economy of the city and its hinterland effectively.

The Cardiff Capital Region is intended to encourage the ten local authorities and other key actors in its boundaries to work together and collaborate on projects and plans for the area.

The main thinking is that this will enhance the potential for economic development success and job creation opportunities across the area.

This follows the experience of other city-regions across the UK and beyond which have built upon the opportunities and potential provided by having strong metropolitan networks and plans.

The city-region engagement project, called City Region Exchange, is intended to both study and participate in this ongoing development.



The project intends to engage with the communities that are a critical part of the local economy and also with those who are helping to shape the city-region development.

These include communities of policy makers such as the various local governments and the new Cardiff Capital Region board, as well as with businesses and employers and their representative groups.

It will also seek to engage with groups representing some of the many different place-based communities that form the Cardiff city-region.

The aim of the project is to help inform and shape the development of the city-region.

It will aim to better understand and provide the knowledge and evidence base that is needed by these different communities to help the city-region to function effectively.

So as well as providing knowledge of what has worked well in other city-regions, for example, it will engage with the different

communities of interest and place to explore what might help them address the particular issues and challenges that confront the development of the Cardiff city-region.

It will then draw upon the different skills and knowledge available across the University to develop a set of projects which are intended to help the city-region's development to be transformative for people living and working here.

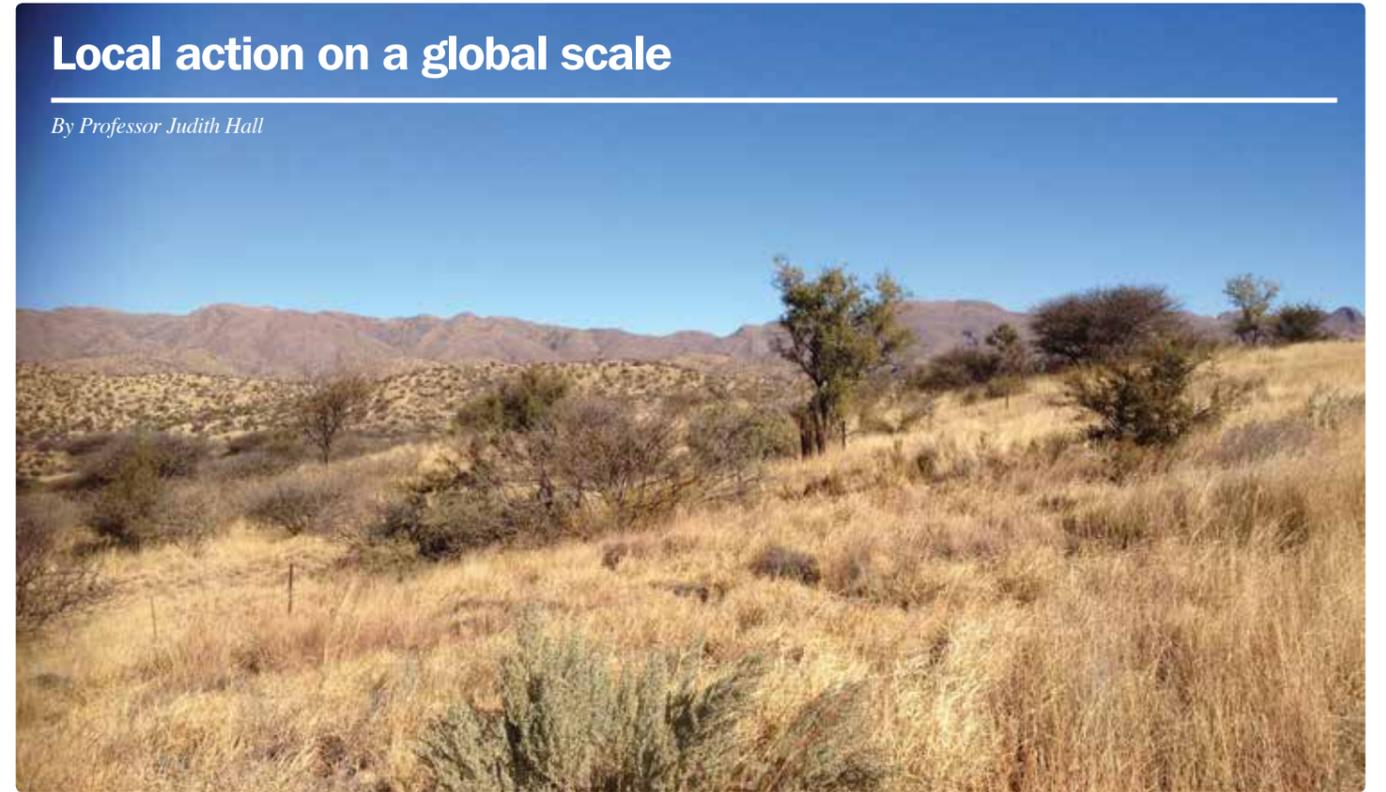
In other words, how will the city-region improve economic opportunities such as better connections between businesses and place, but also help tackle critical social issues such as deprivation, exclusion and poor skill levels.

It will also facilitate the development of key networks and alliances that will be so important to the development of the city-region.

In so doing, it is hoped that it will help strengthen and deepen the University's role in and engagement with key actors and issues in the local economy.

Local action on a global scale

By Professor Judith Hall



In launching The Phoenix Project, Cardiff University wishes to build a long-lasting, mutually beneficial partnership with the University of Namibia in southern Africa.

Working in line with the Welsh Government's Wales for Africa programme, we aim to strengthen the capacity of the University of Namibia, providing opportunities for shared learning and development across as many Cardiff University departments as possible.

We will achieve this by training, sharing educational resources, supporting staff, making student exchanges and providing information technology support.

All activities will be very fundamentally based on the needs of the University of Namibia and fall into three broad categories:

- communication
- science learning
- women, children and infectious diseases

For example, under science we are exploring a mathematics teaching project, and under communications we are looking at a community health journalism project.

The Welsh Government's Wales for Africa programme focuses its efforts in delivering the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to halve global poverty by 2015.

In addition, we support the Welsh Government's view that international development activity must also benefit the people of Wales.

Consequently this project merges the Welsh Government's aims in sub-Saharan Africa and Cardiff University's international aspirations by creating The Phoenix Project.

To ensure maximum outputs for all concerned, we have adopted a strategic and co-ordinated approach in developing this focused sub-Saharan Africa link.

Cardiff University is hugely committed to this project, and The Phoenix Project has found an equally committed partner in the University of Namibia.

This collaboration will provide many new international opportunities and experiences for staff and students in Cardiff, Wales and Namibia.

In addition, it provides a gateway to international development opportunities that may influence other universities, communities and even governments.

Students and staff from the Universities of Namibia and Cardiff will benefit most from The Phoenix Project, each gaining hugely from exposure to different cultures.

They will challenge themselves by engaging in international development work, each according to area of expertise and the needs of our universities.

The project also aims to raise awareness of the importance of

education in the delivery of the MDGs in the wider communities in Wales and Namibia.

A Memorandum of Understanding between Cardiff University and the University of Namibia was signed on 31 July 2014.

This has cemented an already strong and developing relationship between the partners.

The University of Namibia is highly motivated to engage with Cardiff University and it is hoped that this will be the start of a long-lasting mutual friendship.



Building healthy communities



Strong Communities, Healthier People will build on a legacy of social science-informed community-based research over the last ten years in two of the Welsh Government's Communities First clusters.

The aim is to develop and pilot a sustainable model of collaborative research, education, engagement, knowledge exchange and impact between the University and local communities.

Nationally, the project will work with Welsh Government (the Communities and Health and Social Services Directorates in particular), the NHS in Wales (in the first instance Cwm Taf and Cardiff and Vale University Health Boards and Public Health Wales), as well as the Communities First network and the Wales Council for Voluntary Action.

Developing a model within two Communities First clusters (one in Merthyr Tydfil and the other in Cardiff) will be followed up by a period of evaluation before it is rolled out to the remaining Communities First clusters within the two University Health Board areas.

The Welsh Government's clusters exist to narrow the economic; education and skills; and health gaps between Wales's most deprived and more affluent areas.

In the first instance Strong Communities, Healthier People will pilot this partnership approach in Butetown, Riverside and Grangetown (BRG) in Cardiff and in North Merthyr Tydfil.

We will utilise and contribute to their long-established partnership and governance structures developed under the Communities First cluster model as a mechanism to establish sustainable university/community links.

Each of the two areas has its own distinct history, geography, economy and identity, but they share similar levels of poverty and social and economic exclusion.

This project will be a flagship in terms of co-production values and processes which will benefit the communities who live there and the people who provide services that support health and well-being.

By Professor Gareth Williams

This will counter any claims of "over-research" on these communities.

In addition to a more engaged approach to research, the project will utilise the full assets of communities and universities to improve the circumstances and opportunities for people living in Cardiff's city-region as well as for University staff and students.

These will include:

- Opportunities to develop new interdisciplinary courses generated through new ways of working across University Colleges and Schools.
- Routes into undergraduate and postgraduate programmes for members of communities normally under-represented in higher education and for public sector staff in Masters and Professional Doctorate programmes.
- Development of the revised undergraduate C21 programme for medical students, particularly through their training placements at the Keir Hardie Health Park, as well as opportunities for other students through placements in community settings.
- Development of research which allows for the testing of innovative forms of engagement, data collection, analysis and interpretation, creating a civic space for continuing knowledge generation, learning and impact.
- Opportunities for the University to identify ways in which it can best utilise the existing skills of local communities in terms of its employment and training practices.

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- Opportunities to develop sustainable, reciprocal relationships with local communities in which benefits are understood by all participants and which avoids the feeling that experts are being parachuted in.

As there are already good community links established in both areas, many community members and representatives have welcomed this opportunity to continue and build on this legacy of community engagement, and are keen to engage in further collaboration.

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