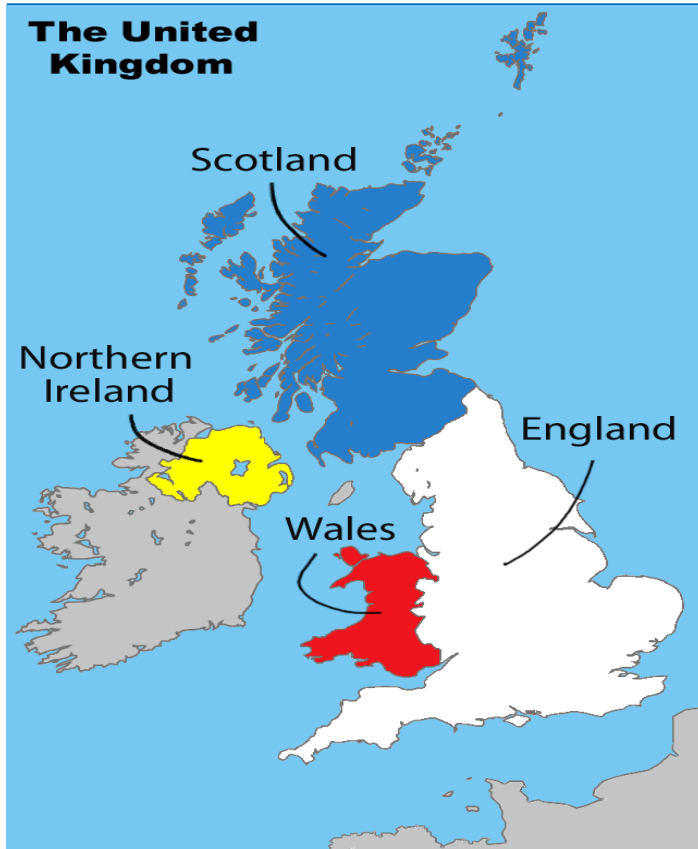


Internationalising higher education in a small country: the experience of Wales, 1999-2010

Maurice Whitehead
Associate Dean (Internationalisation)
Postgraduate Research Faculty
Swansea University (GB)



Wales – some basic facts



- A Celtic country (continental European roots)
- A bilingual nation (Welsh and English)
- 3 million people (UK total = 60 million)
- Capital city – Cardiff
- 1536-1999 – governed from London
- Since 1999 – National Assembly for Wales
- Still part of United Kingdom, but developing distinctive policies, not least in higher education

Wales and its educational infrastructure



10 institutions of higher education in Wales

- Aberystwyth University
- Bangor University
- Cardiff University
- Glyndwr University
- Swansea Metropolitan University
- Swansea University
- University of Glamorgan
- University of Wales Institute Cardiff
- University of Wales Newport
- University of Wales Trinity St David

Wales and its educational infrastructure

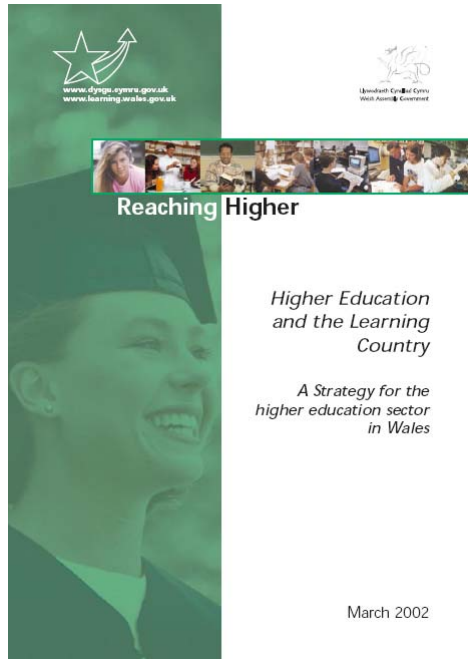


- 125,000 students in Wales (28% part-time)
- Wales welcomes more than 12,000 overseas students annually
- 57% of students who study in Wales are from Wales
- Around 1 in 20 students in Wales takes some element of their course through the medium of Welsh

Welsh higher education

- contributes more than €1 billion annually to the Welsh economy
- is a major employer in Wales
- attracts €160 million of research investment into Wales from wider UK public and private sources, and from the European Union

Wales and its educational infrastructure



www.dysgu.gov.uk
www.learning.wales.gov.uk

Uywadaeth Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Reaching Higher

Higher Education
and the Learning
Country

A Strategy for the
higher education sector
in Wales

March 2002

A Welsh national strategy for higher education



Yr Adran Plant, Addysg, Dysgu Gydol Oes a Sgiliau
Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills

Uywadaeth Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

For Our Future
The 21st Century Higher Education Strategy and Plan for Wales



SWANSEA UNIVERSITY
PRIFYSGOL ABERTAWE



www.swansea.ac.uk

A matrix for developing higher education in Wales



From *For Our Future* (2009), p.10

Wales and its educational infrastructure

Support for development
at the international level



European Commission
in Wales



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Wales and its educational infrastructure

- Bologna Promoter for Wales
- Engagement of the Welsh Minister of Education in internationalisation
- Wales as host of the official Bologna Follow-up Group conference *Enhancing European Employability* (July 2006)



The institutional perspective: Swansea University

- Diploma Supplement and award of *Diploma Supplement Label*, 2009
- Joint PhDs – mobility and employability at doctoral level
- Joint Masters degrees (overseas students and opportunities for mobility)
- Engagement at the diplomatic level (French Embassy in London)
- Inter-sector mobility (Chambers of commerce)
- Staff and student mobility and joint research collaboration
- European Credit Transfer System – enhancing inward and outward mobility
- Reviewing mobility at undergraduate and Masters level
- Full engagement with the European University Association Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) at the policy-making level

Some useful web sites

- *For Our Future: The 21st Century Higher Education Strategy and Plan for Wales* (November 2009)

(<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/publications/091125hedocen.pdf>)

- The Swansea Recommendations on *Enhancing European Mobility* (<http://www.bolognaconference.swansea.ac.uk/recommendations.html>)

- EUA-CDE

(<http://www.eua.be/events/eua-council-for-doctoral-education/>)