



# ACADEMIA EUROPAEA CARDIFF KNOWLEDGE HUB

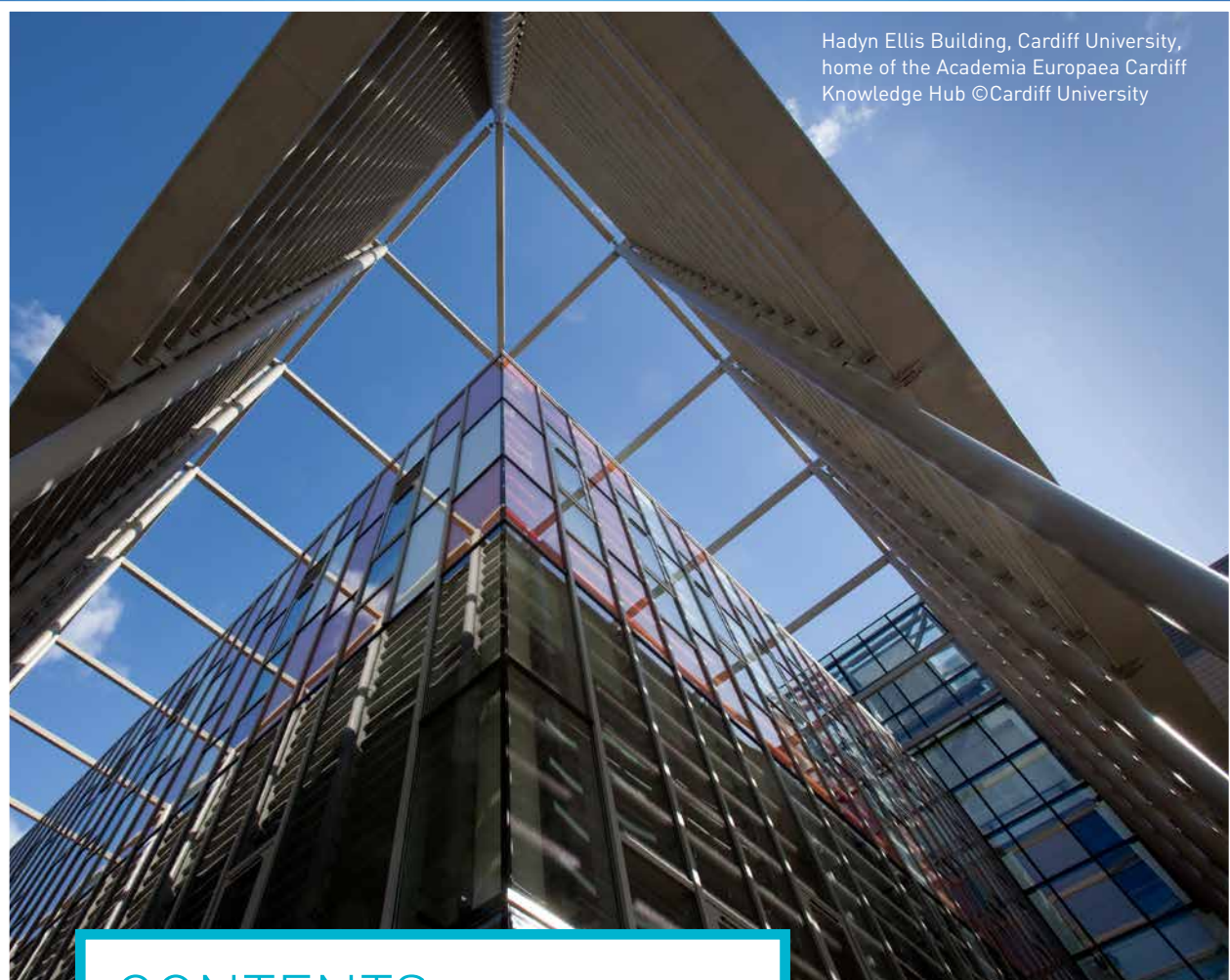
## STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2019

PROMOTING **RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**  
FOR **POLICY AND PROGRESS**



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2019

Hadyn Ellis Building, Cardiff University,  
home of the Academia Europaea Cardiff  
Knowledge Hub ©Cardiff University



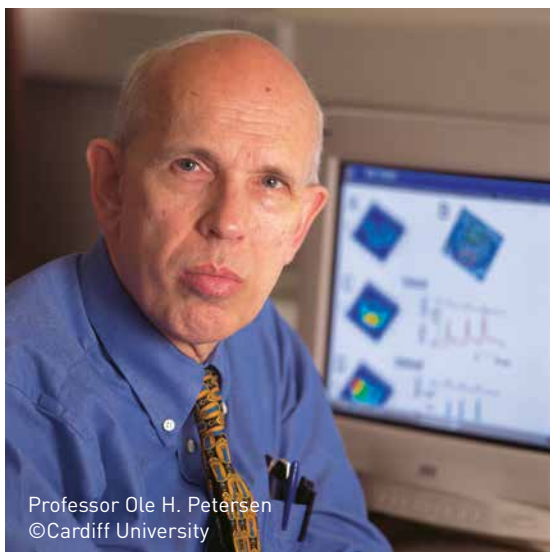
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Professor Ole H. Petersen  
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## Introduction

### By Professor Ole Petersen

CBE FMedSci FLSW MAE ML FRS

Honorary Academic Director,  
*Academia Europaea Cardiff Knowledge Hub*

*Academia Europaea* is a non-governmental association, acting as a pan-European academy. Our members are leading scientists and scholars, who collectively promote research, learning and education. Founded in 1988, *Academia Europaea* now numbers over 3000 members, including more than 50 Nobel Laureates.

*Academia Europaea* operates through a network of regional knowledge hubs in Barcelona, Wroclaw and Bergen. A new hub, launched in 2016, is hosted by Cardiff University, Wales.

*This strategic plan is our first, spanning the four years from the beginning of 2016 to the end of 2019.*

We have an ambitious programme of work, through which we intend to strengthen pan-European scientific collaboration and infrastructure across all disciplines. For example, within the new Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) and its supporting project SAPEA (Scientific Advice for Policy by European Academies), we will have a significant stake in providing evidence-based scientific advice to European policymakers.

We are also placing special emphasis on building our network and raising our regional profile. We will develop new relationships within North-Western Europe, including the Celtic nations, as well as the wider Anglophone world, and do so in a way that complements the role and activities of the other *Academia Europaea* hubs.

We operate in a global ecosystem of research and scholarship and it is therefore vital that we establish high-quality infrastructure, with web-based services that are accessible worldwide.

Cardiff is delighted to host the *Academia Europaea* Conference in 2016, when we welcome everyone to our new Knowledge Hub.

Professor Ole H. Petersen

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2019

## PURPOSE

*Academia Europaea* promotes excellence across all fields of scholarship. It exists for the public benefit, highlighting the value of scholarship and scientific evidence.

The vision for the **Cardiff Knowledge Hub** is to act as a catalyst for knowledge exchange, collaboration and ideas. We also mean to be recognised for our role in providing excellent scientific advice for policymaking and the progress of society.

## MISSION

*Academia Europaea* promotes scholarship and research through its programme of events and publications. It is involved in policymaking in Europe, working with governments and international agencies on issues of science and academic life. It encourages inter-disciplinary dialogue, as well as a focus on European topics.

The mission of the **Cardiff Knowledge Hub** is to:

1. Connect research and scholarship with policymaking in Europe, on behalf of *Academia Europaea* and in close collaboration with other pan-European academies.
2. Promote our region's research of outstanding quality to Europe and the rest of the world, supported by a high-quality set of infrastructure services and an exciting programme of workshops and events.
3. Demonstrate our impact and maximise engagement with our membership, political and research institutions, and the wider public.

## VALUES

*Academia Europaea* encourages the highest possible standards in scholarship, research and education. It promotes public understanding of the benefits of knowledge and learning and of issues that affect society and the quality of life.

The **Cardiff Knowledge Hub** will promote these standards throughout our work.

## Context

### The wider Europe and the global context

*Academia Europaea's* membership spans the Council of Europe, 47 countries in total. It also has membership connections across the world, including the Americas, Australasia and the BRIC nations. Its reach is therefore global and the **Cardiff Knowledge Hub** will aim to leverage these associations, initially through our work in the SAPEA Project. The Cardiff Hub will develop an arc of collaborative links within North-Western Europe, the Celtic nations and the Anglophone world. We intend to complement and support the role and activities of the existing *Academia Europaea* hubs.

## European Commission

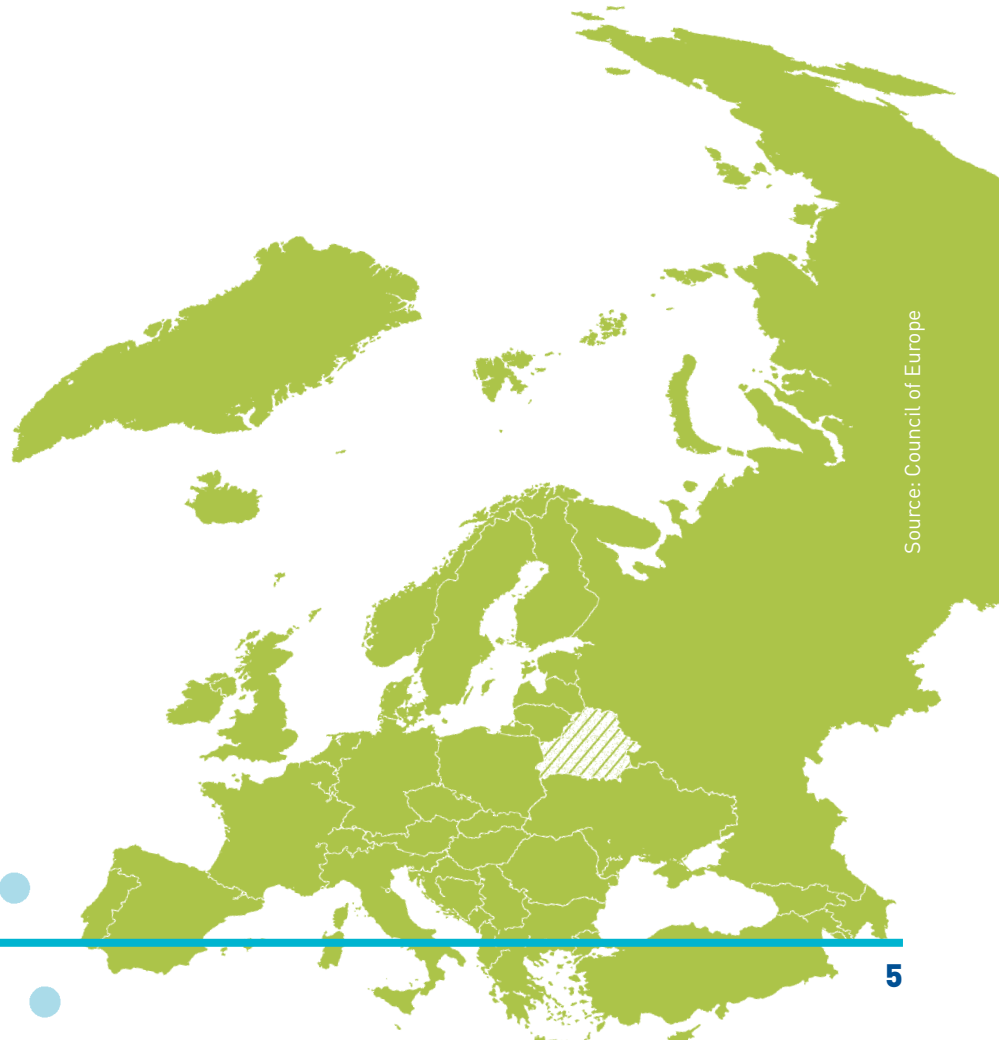


Commissioner Moedas  
(Source: Wikipedia Commons)

In the SAPEA project, *Academia Europaea* will be part of a consortium that liaises closely with the Directorate for Research, Science and Innovation, currently headed up by Commissioner Carlos Moedas.

Carlos Moedas' priorities focus on **openness**. Through open innovation, open science, open knowledge systems and well-funded research infrastructures, his aim is to establish a European knowledge space that is open to all for analysis, debate and sharing.

This fits well with our vision for the **Cardiff Knowledge Hub**.



Source: Council of Europe

## Scientific Advice Mechanism

In 2015, the European Commission set up a new Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM), to support the Commission with high-quality, timely and independent scientific advice for policymaking. It draws on a wide range of scientific expertise, including a High-Level Group of independent scientific advisors. The SAM Unit in the Commission has also sought a closer relationship with European academies and is keen for improved networking and coordination between them. It issued a funding call in 2015, under the Horizon 2020 programme, for five named European academies to engage in a four-year project, worth up to a total 6 million EUR. The consortium will partner on joint position papers, events and will establish shared knowledge resources. It will also create a platform through which to address key policy challenges and engage with core groups, such as the scientific community, civil society organisations, policymakers and the broader public.

*Academia Europaea* is one of the consortium partners in the SAPEA (Scientific Advice for Policy by European Academies) project. The Cardiff Knowledge Hub will deliver most of the required work on its behalf, as a Linked Third Party. SAPEA is expected to start in the autumn of 2016.



## European academies

Through the SAPEA Project, collaboration between the main European academies will grow and develop to 2020 and beyond. In addition to *Academia Europaea*, the consortium comprises:

**ALLEA** is the federation of All European Academies, which brings together 57 national academies in more than 40 countries from the Council of Europe region.

**EASAC**, the European Academies Science Advisory Council, is formed by the national science academies of the EU member states.

**Euro-CASE**, the European Council of Academies of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering, is an organisation of national academies of engineering, applied science and technology from 22 European countries

**FEAM** is the Federation of European Academies of Medicine.

**acatech**, the German academy of science and engineering, is the project coordinator.

## Regional stakeholders

The Cardiff Knowledge Hub will develop close links with regional stakeholders, initially in the context of the SAPEA project. Practical activities will include the hosting of events, the involvement of experts in working groups and other forums, and promotion of the work of the SAM.

The Cardiff Hub's **initial stakeholders** within its regional context could include Cardiff University (host of the *Academia Europaea* Knowledge Hub in Wales), the Royal Irish Academy, the Royal Society, the Learned Society of Wales, the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the GW4 Alliance of the universities of Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter.

## Forging new international links

Over the course of this strategic cycle, we will seek to develop **wider links** within North-Western Europe (for example, France and the Benelux countries), the Celtic nations and the Anglophone world, as opportunities arise for projects and events.

## Challenges

Following the referendum on UK membership of the European Union in June 2016, negotiations will be taking place on the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. The Cardiff Hub will advocate for the UK's continuing participation in European projects and we are fully committed to the SAPEA project. However, we will continue to monitor the situation actively and make adjustments in strategy, as required.



Delegates at the Academia Europaea Conference 2016, Cardiff  
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*“The Cardiff Knowledge Hub will stimulate new links and networks across our region and beyond”*

Professor Nora de Leeuw,  
Pro Vice-Chancellor International and Europe,  
Cardiff University

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



1. Establish a major role in developing the Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM)
2. Showcase outstanding regional research to the rest of Europe and the world
3. Engage with regionally-based members, both existing and new
4. Build connections with the wider group of stakeholders, including higher education and research, political institutions and the general public
5. Ensure future sustainability

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:

### Establish a major role in supporting policymaking in Europe

#### Objective

We aim to play a full role in developing the new European Scientific Advisory Mechanism, through our involvement in the SAPEA project.

#### Actions

We will deliver on our commitment in the SAPEA project on-time and to-budget, over the next four years, 2016-2020.

#### Outcome

Successful participation by the Cardiff Knowledge Hub in the SAPEA project, resulting in a raised profile for the Hub and a lasting contribution to our future sustainability.

#### Performance indicators

100% of deliverables in the SAPEA project that are under the Cardiff Hub's responsibility, delivered on-time and within the agreed budget.





## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:

### Showcase outstanding regional research

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#### Objective

We aim to raise the profile of outstanding research within our region, particularly by *Academia Europaea* members, as well as work led by us in the SAPEA project.

#### Actions

We will redesign and relaunch our Hub website to provide an attractive showcase, with a searchable database of publications and reports, profiles of research leaders, news and events. We will provide professional advice and input to the design and running of the SAPEA website.

#### Outcome

A new Cardiff Hub website in place by 2017, providing a good user experience. A raised public profile for the outputs of the SAPEA project, particularly those led by Cardiff.

#### Performance indicators

Demonstrable increased use of the Hub website, including a sustained increase in the number of visits, time spent on the website etc.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3:

### Engage with our membership

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#### Objective

We aim to reach out to and engage our regional membership with our work, initially through the SAPEA project.

#### Actions

We will create and implement a marketing and communications strategy that targets our core academic audiences – current *Academia Europaea* members, potential new members and the Young Academy of Europe. We will organise and publicise an annual programme of activities and events, including workshops, symposia and conferences, linked to our work in SAPEA and other projects.

#### Outcome

A marketing and communications strategy and work plan in place in 2016, implemented effectively to the end of 2019.

#### Performance indicators

Demonstrable increased year-on-year engagement with our regional membership, including increasing use of the website, increasing participation in Hub events and project-related activities, including SAPEA.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4:

### Engage with wider stakeholders

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#### Objective

We aim to reach out to and engage with a wider group of Hub stakeholders, including higher education and research institutions, political bodies, academies and the general public.

#### Actions

We will create and implement a marketing and communications strategy that addresses the wider stakeholder groups, including those in our region. We will use the most appropriate channels and methods of engagement, including events and SAPEA-related activities, social media and the relaunched Hub website.

#### Outcome

A marketing and communications strategy and plan in place in 2016, implemented effectively to the end of 2019.

#### Performance indicators

Demonstrable increased year-on-year engagement with the wider stakeholder groups, including increasing use of the Hub website, participation in social media and other dissemination activities, such as news articles etc.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5:

### Ensure future sustainability

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#### Objective

We aim to achieve ongoing sustainability of the Cardiff Knowledge Hub, beyond its initial funding period of four years.

#### Actions

We will produce a sustainability plan, which will include opportunities for participation in other externally-funded projects in addition to SAPEA, and pursuing sponsorship and other forms of support for events and activities.

#### Outcome

A sustainability plan that is implemented over the course of the current strategy period.

#### Performance indicators

Amount of externally-sourced income raised annually

## Governance

The Cardiff Knowledge Hub has been fully operational since 1st February 2016, based on a four-year Collaboration Agreement between *Academia Europaea* and Cardiff University. The Hub will be formally launched in June 2016, at the *Academia Europaea* Annual Conference 2016.

Cardiff Knowledge Hub activities are overseen by an international Steering Group, appointed by the *Academia Europaea* Board. Membership comprises:

- Yves Barde MAE
- Nora de Leeuw FLSW
- Dianne Edwards CBE FLSW FRS MAE
- Theo D’Haen MAE
- Donald Dingwell MAE
- Stephen Holgate CBE FMedSci MAE
- Colin Riordan FLSW
- Irene Schulz-Hofer ML MAE
- Sir John Skehel FRS FMedSci MAE
- John Tucker FLSW MAE

## Management

The Cardiff Knowledge Hub’s Honorary Academic Director is Professor Ole Petersen, who is Treasurer and a Vice-President of *Academia Europaea*. He and the Hub Manager work closely together on strategic and operational planning.

## Resources

### Staffing



Honorary Academic Director  
*Professor Ole Petersen*



Cardiff Knowledge Hub Manager  
*Louise Edwards*



Executive Officer  
*Judith Lockett*



SAPEA Project Officer (0.5 FTE)  
*To be appointed*

## Hub Offices

The Cardiff Knowledge Hub has a dedicated space within the Hadyn Ellis Building at Cardiff University.



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