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| Anrhydeddus Gymdeithas  Y Cymmrodorion | Badge.jpg | The Honourable Society  Of Cymmrodorion |
| Sefydlwyd 1751 | Founded 1751 |
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| **NODDWR/PATRON: EI UCHELDER BRENHINOL TYWYSOG CYMRU / HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES** | | |

Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held at the Medical Society of London at 6 p.m. on Thursday 25 May, 2023.

1. **Election of Chair**

The President, Deian Hopkin, was elected as Chair on the proposal of Ceridwen Roberts, Chair of Council and seconded by Sian Reid, Honorary Secretary.

1. **Apologies for absence**

None

1. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24 May 2022.**

On the proposal of Stuart Cole and seconded by Huw Wynne-Griffith, these were approved. It was agreed to amend the name South Bank University to London South Bank University and similarly to Prifysgol South Bank Llundain.

**4.** **The Trustees’ Annual Report and Accounts for 2022**

It was noted that the accounts have not yet been examined by the Independent Examiner. If there are any changes to the accounts as a result of this examination, they will be notified to the members. On the proposal of Huw Wynne-Griffith and seconded by Rhys David, the Trustees’ Annual Report and Accounts were received by the meeting.

Ceridwen Roberts explained that Council wished to continue with online lectures as they offer the opportunity for member engagement from a wide area and without travel but it has been costly to video live lectures. Over time the Society will try to achieve a good balance of online only lectures and live plus online lectures, as online only costs less.

Huw Wynne-Griffith asked if the Council had considered putting the subscription up to £40 and Ceridwen Roberts said that the Council would consider this.

**5. Elections**

***5.1. President***

On the proposal of Ceridwen Roberts and seconded by Janet Owen Sir Deian Hopkin was re-elected President of the Society for the forthcoming year.

***5.2. Vice-Presidents***

Eight Vice-Presidents were elected or re-elected in 2022. Following a review by the Awards and Medals Committee, chaired by the President, the Council agreed that this should be increased both to improve diversity and to engage with a wider range of experience and skills. In particular, it was noted that the proportion of women who have been elected as Vice-Presidents has been extremely low, with only four over the years, and this needed to be addressed.

Three new Vice Presidents have agreed to serve if elected. On the proposal of Huw Wynne-Griffith and seconded by Elinor Talfan Delaney, the following were elected as Vice-Presidents; Elinor Bennett OBE, Professor Laura McAllister CBE and Dame Elan Closs Stephens DBE.

The current Vice-Presidents have all indicated their wish to be re-elected. On the proposal of Stuart Cole and seconded by Liz Siberry the following were re-elected as Vice-Presidents; Sir Anthony Evans, Alun Michael, Lord Morris of Aberavon, Lord Murphy of Torfaen, Sir Keith Thomas, Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Wigley of Caernarfon, and Dr. Carol Bell.

In the past there have been as many as 70 Vice-Presidents at any one time. Council now consider that the current number could, over time, be increased to a maximum of 20.

***5.3. Council Members***

Tomos Packer the Honorary Treasurer is standing down as Treasurer and Council member, and Professor Thomas Charles-Edwards is not restanding for election. Both were warmly thanked by the meeting for their service.

Professor Helen Fulton and Professor Stuart Cole wish to stand for re-election for a further three years from 2023-2026. On the proposal of Ceridwen Roberts and seconded by Elinor Talfan Delaney they were re-elected.

The Chair proposed that Dafydd Lewis be appointed as the interim Treasurer,to allow a handover with the outgoing Treasurer and with the aim of confirming his appointment at the 2024 AGM. Mr Lewis has a wide experience of voluntary and charitable organisations. On the proposal of Ceridwen Roberts and seconded by Sian Reid Dafydd Lewis was elected to council as interim Treasurer.

**6. Independent Examiner**

Ceridwen Roberts thanked the outgoing Independent Examiner and confirmed that she is seeking a new Independent Examiner. This appointment will be reported to members by email, for their confirmation.

**7.** **Any Other Business**

The President Sir Deian Hopkin reported that the Awards and Medals Committee is also considering nominations for the Cymmrodorion Medal to ensure that there is greater diversity and a wider range of fields of achievement. It was noted that the ceremony to award the medal to Peter Lord was cancelled in 2022 due to train strikes and is being reorganised for Autumn 2023 at the National Library.

Ceridwen Roberts reported that the Events programme for 2023/2024 is progressing well. Among others Mark Drakeford has accepted the Society’s invitation to speak. The Society is also working with the London Welsh Centre to run a series of discussion events related to the current situation in Wales.

The meeting closed at 18.20.