



ACADEMIA EUROPAEA

CARDIFF KNOWLEDGE HUB

<http://www.aecardiffknowledgehub.wales/home>

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

Christmas 2015



Stefan Lochner
(c1410 – 1451)

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Following the successful visit of Sierd Cloetingh (President of Academia Europaea [AE]) to Cardiff University in January this year, Cardiff University and AE decided to establish an AE Cardiff University Knowledge Hub. A formal collaboration agreement has recently been signed by Sierd Cloetingh and Colin Riordan (President and Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff University). The AE Cardiff Knowledge Hub office is located in the University's new Hadyn Ellis building and an Executive Officer (Judith Lockett) has already been appointed. A further appointment (Hub Manager) is in progress.

AE's next Annual Meeting, and the official launch of the AE Cardiff Hub (*Cardiff 2016*) will take place at Cardiff University (26 – 29 June 2016) and we are now making good progress with the programming (<http://www.aecardiffknowledgehub.wales/annual-meeting-2016>).

AE will be centrally involved in the European Commission's new Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM), together with 4 other European Academy Networks (ALLEA, EASAC, Euro-CASE and FEAM) and this has important and positive consequences for the Cardiff Hub. This will be reflected in the programme for *Cardiff 2016*.

As Vice-President of both AE and the Learned Society of Wales, and also in my role as the Academy of Medical Sciences' Champion for Wales, it is my aim to create synergy between these academic organisations. This will also be a feature of *Cardiff 2016*.

These very positive developments provide significant opportunities for European academics to influence policy making at the European level. As scientists and scholars in Wales, we shall also have further opportunities to signpost the excellence of the work done here.

With my best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ole

MRC Professor Ole Petersen CBE ML FRS
School of Biosciences, Cardiff University

