



Sent on behalf of Professor Perumal Nithiarasu, Associate Dean for Research, Innovation and Impact

Dear Colleagues,

Please read below about some of the Faculty's most recent success stories. We would particularly like to see more from our Professional Services staff for the next email!

Staff News

Sharing Insight - Parliamentary feedback



Hydrogen has the potential to accelerate growth and secure prosperity, with our region uniquely positioned to take full advantage of the opportunity. This was the important

message delivered to both Westminster and the Senedd as Dr James M. Courtney was invited to demonstrate our work with the GW-SHIFT project flying the flag for Wales, our region and the University.

On the 29th of October, the GW4 alliance, organised an innovation showcase in Westminster, sponsored by Claire Hazlegrove MP. James was invited to take the Hydrogen Bike into Parliament, through all the security and demonstrate directly why Wales and the Southwest of England is perfect for investment, ready to unleash the full power of the Celtic sea through Hydrogen. Engaging with Dame Chi Onwurah, Chair of the science, innovation and technology select committee and even getting Baroness Morgan of Drefelin on the bike and making Hydrogen.

The highlight of this recent activity was the opportunity to exhibit at Y-Farchnad within the Senedd on the 18th of November, sponsored by Natasha Ashghar MS, where James was accompanied by one of our Undergraduate students Miss Sar Sainbayer. Having the opportunity to meet the First Minister, Eluned Morgan, and engage with 19 Members of the Senedd individually. Demonstrating the investment opportunity of our region in Hydrogen, the amazing expertise the University has in Energy technology, our amazing undergraduate community and changing the language around the opportunity Swansea and Wales has.

To find out more about the GW-SHIFT PBIAA please contact Dr Courtney, J.M.Courtney@swansea.ac.uk

Story originally shared by Swansea University Press Office – Delyth Purchase

Irish and Welsh delegation celebrate cross-border collaborations



Swansea University has welcomed the Tánaiste Simon Harris TD and First Minister of Wales Eluned Morgan MS, to the Bay Campus for a special showcase of pioneering research projects that highlight the strength of collaboration between Ireland and Wales.

The guests were welcomed by [Professor Helen Griffiths](#), Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation at Swansea University.

The visit included a tour of the Energy Safety Research Institute (ESRI), where the guests were introduced to groundbreaking work by [Professor Serena Margadonna](#) whose research focusses on energy storage and [Professor Ian Masters](#) who leads on marine renewable research.

Professor Margadonna's work at the Energy Storage Laboratory is heading the development of next-generation sodium-ion battery technologies, aimed at delivering low-cost, sustainable energy solutions. In partnership with the University of Limerick and supported by the Wales Innovation Network, the team is advancing its flagship anode-free sodium metal battery technology, combining Swansea's engineering expertise with Limerick's innovation in materials design to strengthen regional supply chains across both nations.

Professor Masters at the Marine Energy Laboratory leads on offshore renewable energy, with research spanning wind, wave, and tidal power. Working with University College Cork on the Selkie Interreg Ireland Wales project has enabled cross-border cooperation and commercialisation of ocean energy technologies in Welsh and Irish waters in and around the Irish Sea. Over 100 organisations participated in knowledge transfer to industrial stakeholders and assisting ocean energy Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) towards commercialisation.

To read more on this story, check out [Swansea University's News Page](#) or [Linkedin](#)

Ambassador Wales

Congratulations to [Dr Daniele Cafolla](#) for being recognised as a member of [Ambassador Wales | Llysgennad Cymru](#).

This recognition acknowledges the ongoing efforts in the Intelligent Robotics group thanks to the environment and connection created between to position Wales as a focal point for global collaboration in core and field robotics and automation.

One of the key contributors is the incredible environment fostered within the Computational Foundry.

One particular highlight contributing to this recognition has been the successful hosting of high-profile initiatives, including the Continuum Robotics Workshop, which brought together leading experts in the dynamic and rapidly evolving field of continuum robotics. These efforts play a key role in reinvigorating IFToMM UK through the creation of vibrant scientific events and workshops that foster collaboration in the mechanisms and robotics community.

Daniele and colleagues have also been working tirelessly together with Xianghua since 2024 to attract and organise major international conferences in Wales AliH as first putting a dash of robotics.

Dr Cafolla said: "I'm proud to announce that these efforts are progressing well, especially with plans to host the prestigious MESROB 2027 (a flagship IFToMM conference dedicated to robotics in medicine and healthcare) and other significant events, including the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (IEEE RAS) UK meeting. Hosting these events will not only further enhance Swansea's reputation as a hub for robotics innovation but also strengthen Wales's connection to IFToMM and IEEE RAS."

I'm incredibly proud of our collective achievements, so I must thank all the group that all days remember me why I chose Swansea and look forward to working together as we continue to place Wales and CoFo at the forefront of cutting-edge robotics research and collaboration."

Research Wales Innovation Fund (RWIF)

Congratulations to [Dr Daniele Cafolla](#) on his Impact Fellowship, Funded by the Research Wales Innovation Fund.

Dr Cafolla is currently working on taking the REMOTE telemonitoring system to the next level—wearable sensors, AI magic, and a dash of innovation to help patients avoid hospitals.

IChemE president prof. Raffaella Ocone visit



The IChemE President prof. Raffaella Ocone visited the Department of Chemical Engineering at Swansea University on October 23rd. The president was astonished by the depth and breadth of the departmental research, by the quality of our Pilot Plant, and by our students. She also praised the department effort in taking the research from a fundamental level all the way towards commercialisation.

Self-Healing Asphalt Research Shortlisted for C2I Awards 2025



The research project “**AI-Driven Self-Healing Asphalt for Net-Zero Roads**”, led by [Dr Jose Norambuena-Contreras](#), Senior Lecturer in the Department of Civil Engineering at the Faculty of Science and Engineering, has been shortlisted for [The Engineer's Collaborate to Innovate \(C2I\) Awards](#).

This innovative research, led by **Swansea University** and co-led by King's College London, in collaboration with Google Cloud (UK), the Technological Development Unit (UDT-Chile), and the University of Bío-Bío (Chile), has been selected for the “*Wild Card*” category, alongside other leading companies, universities, and research institutions.

The **Collaborate to Innovate (C2I) Awards**, run by **The Engineer magazine**, celebrate and recognise innovative engineering projects in the UK that are based on collaboration between different organisations.

Further details about this exciting collaborative project can be found [here](#).

The Snakebite Uganda Network initiated by Swansea University Bioscience Team



Associate Professors Kevin Arbuckle, Hazel Nichols and PhD student Megan Nicholl ran a 'Snakebite Uganda Collaboration Meeting' in Entebbe, Uganda. This comprised of a full day workshop attended by 12 participants from five organisations including Makerere University, Herp Fauna Foundation, and Dumaic Global Health. Eight attendees gave presentations covering diverse topics from snakebite prevention, treatment options and availability, through to snake conservation and biodiversity. We also held discussions on how we could work together to reduce human-snake conflict and boost health outcomes from bites.

The full day event was followed by smaller meetings with key participants. The meeting, which was funded by Taith, has led to the establishment of a 'Snakebite Uganda Research Group' comprising 14 members from seven institutions in the UK and Uganda and will lead to enhanced collaboration and grant applications. Together, we hope to substantially reduce the burden of snakebite in Uganda to the benefit of people and snakes.

Dr Jackie Rosette invited member of the Royal Society Physical Sciences Awards and Medals Panel

Dr Jackie Rosette has been invited as a member of the Royal Society Physical Sciences Awards and Medals panel. Jackie will serve on the panel for the next three years and her role is to identify and recommend recipients of the Royal Society's prestigious medals and awards for the physical sciences. Congratulations Jackie!

Student News

Prestigious BSR Vernon Harrison Award for Swansea PhD Graduate

Dr **Peter Angerman**, who recently completed his PhD in the **Complex Fluids Research Group - Centre of Expertise** at Swansea University, has been awarded the **British Society of Rheology's Vernon Harrison Award** for the most distinguished PhD thesis in rheology.

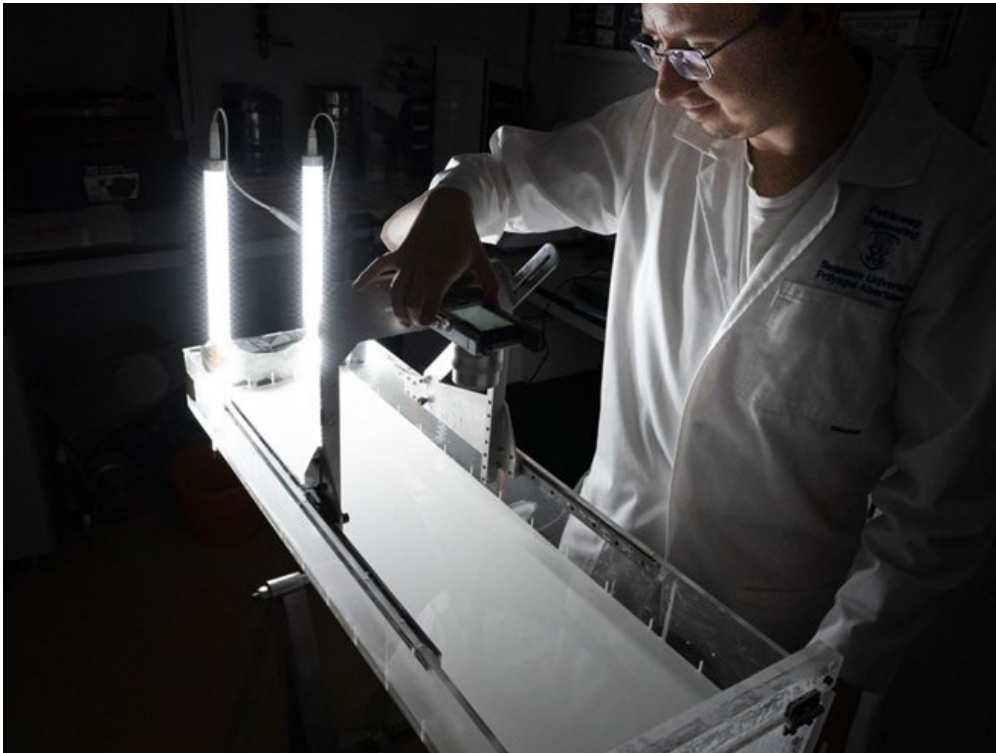
The adjudicating committee wrote:

"We were very impressed with the nomination of your outstanding thesis, and I am pleased to inform you that we would like (in the face of strong competition) to award you this year's Vernon Harrison Award. Many congratulations on this fantastic achievement!"

The award recognises excellence, creativity, and originality in rheological research. As part of the prize, Peter has been invited to deliver an **award lecture at the BSR Mid-Winter Meeting in Edinburgh (15–17 December 2025)**, where his achievement will be celebrated.

Peter's thesis, co-supervised by [Dr Bjørnar Sandnes](#) (Swansea University) and **Professor Marco Ellero** (Basque Center for Applied Mathematics, Bilbao), explores the complex flow behaviour of **discontinuous shear-thickening (DST) fluids** through experiments and advanced smoothed-particle hydrodynamics simulations. His work has already led to **three peer-reviewed publications**, including papers in *Physics of Fluids* (2024) and *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* (2025).

The photograph shows Peter conducting an experiment on a **tilted-table shear-thickening setup** in Swansea's Complex Fluids Laboratory.



Announcing second issue of Agoriad: A Journal of Spatial Theory, on 'Thinking with Fragments'.

We are delighted to announce the second issue of Agoriad: A Journal of Spatial Theory, published by Cardiff University Press. The second issue focuses on 'Thinking with Fragments'.

It is edited by Emanuele Amo, Emily Holmes, Ben Walkling, James Weldon. Emily is a PhD student at Swansea University Geography Department and Ben has just graduated with his PhD in Geography.

This issue presents an interview with Colin McFarlane, seven research articles and creative interventions, including one by Geography PhD student Tatiana Bodnar. It also includes book reviews and guided readings.

All articles are open access and available at
<https://agoriad.cardiffuniversitypress.org/2/volume/2/issue/1>

Chemical Engineering student and staff delivered outreach activities at the IChemE headquarters



Chemical engineering students accompanied by [Dr. Francesco Del Giudice](#) and Dr. James Courtney were invited to deliver outreach activities to around 400 pupils from local school. The organisers were incredibly pleased with the activities we offered.

'Exceptional' Swansea teen who fled war follows in footsteps of Einstein

The Physics department are proud to share the story of Kateryna, a 16-year-old who came to Wales from Ukraine when she was 13 and who was [recently featured by the BBC](#) for her hard work and determination after completing CISM's first ever student summer internship.

Kateryna first got to know the Physics department by coming along to the UCAS Open Days where her enthusiasm for science stood out straight away. She joined the department for a week of work experience in the summer, getting involved in lab activities and meeting researchers across the department. During that week, she visited the Centre for Integrative Semiconductor Materials (CISM), where she spent time with Dr Greg Burwell and Prof Paul Meredith. They were so impressed by her questions, ideas, and confidence that they invited her back for an Excellence Summer Internship — an amazing opportunity for someone still in school.

Since then, Kateryna has taken part in exciting work on semiconductor materials, including projects linked to space technology and sustainability. What makes her journey even more inspiring is how she's pushed forward with her passion for science despite the huge upheaval of moving countries and starting again.

Kateryna's journey highlights how a supportive academic community can help young scientists grow - her passion for physics is clear, and her future in the field looks exceptionally promising.

REF2029 Canvas Hub

A reminder that a new Canvas hub has been published. Developed by the REF Officers team, this is a central repository for the REF2029 documentation, guidance, resources and news.

The joining link is <https://canvas.swansea.ac.uk/enroll/BDY36G>. Please enable notifications as this site will be updated with guidance, news, consultations etc as they are received.

Keep in Touch!

If you are aware of any recent achievements to share, either for yourself or for any members of your team, we would love to hear about them! We're interested in stories from academic and professional services communities. Please email any news to **FSE Research** (fse-research@swansea.ac.uk). **Deadline for submissions: 20th of each month.**

If you would like to promote a research event on the FSE Events webpage, please contact fse-research@swansea.ac.uk

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