University agreement designed to boot education and research between Wales and Canada signed

Universities Wales, the membership body representing the interests of Wales' nine universities, has made an agreement with Universities Canada to boost educational cooperation between the two countries.

Through the Global Wales partnership, the two bodies have signed a memorandum of understanding committing to developing collaboration in education and research across the two countries.

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Key objectives of the MoU include:

- Increasing short-term staff and student mobilities
- Enhancing research and development collaboration in key shared areas of interest such as green energy and technology, health and well-being, creative industries, digital advancements, and manufacturing and materials
- Fostering sector partnerships to support staff and student mobility
- Solidifying bilateral relationships between Wales and Canada in the education sector

Kieron Rees, assistant director of Universities Wales, said: "A vibrant, knowledge-based economy relies on having a well-

educated population, and collaboration is key to developing education and research systems that deliver for society.

"This Memorandum of Understanding will open doors to collaborative activities that will mutually benefit both our countries and advance our shared excellence. It represents another step in our positive relationship with our Canadian partners, and we look forward to working with Universities Canada for the benefit of our two countries."

President of Universities Canada Paul Davidson said: "In today's increasingly interconnected world, it's more important than ever to cultivate long-term relationships between peoples, cultures and societies.

"Universities Canada is proud to sign this Memorandum of Understanding with Universities Wales to increase opportunities for collaboration between our two countries and support continued excellence in higher education and research."

The Global Wales programme is a partnership between Universities Wales, ColegauCymru, Welsh Government, British Council Wales, and the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.

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