

Abstract for Conference Paper - bi and multilingual universities: challenges and future prospects.

Challenges in teaching law through the medium of Welsh in higher education

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Three factors have contributed to the creation of new challenges for the Welsh language in higher education. Firstly, there has been an increase in the provision and uptake of Welsh medium primary and secondary education. Secondly, court users have been granted the right to use Welsh or English according to their preference in the context of legal proceedings. The creation of the National Assembly for Wales has also meant that there are new employment opportunities for Welsh-speakers where they are at the forefront of a legal system that is gradually becoming bilingual. The combination of these factors means that there is a new impetus for the providers of legal education and training to be able to offer bilingual courses to students and legal professionals. Accordingly, this conference paper seeks to address the challenges posed by bilingualism in legal Higher Education in Wales. The discussion will seek encompass the problems that are encountered, and how these may be resolved. While the focus of the paper will centre on Wales, the issues are no less relevant to other bilingual jurisdictions.