

## Low carbon

# New director takes up post at LCRI

LCRI director Professor Peter Pearson started his new role on January 5. Professor Pearson joins LCRI from Imperial College, where he was director of the Centre for Energy Policy & Technology (ICEPT).

Prof Pearson said: "It's an honour to lead an outstanding team of researchers across the Welsh universities, committed to playing our part in moves to a low carbon society.

Working with national and international research partners, local industries and communities, we aim to deliver outputs of value to the economy and competitiveness of Wales."

Since its launch in April 2008 the LCRI energy programme has secured around £50m to support research in Welsh universities to help industry develop new products, technologies and services.

The LCRI is aiming for longer-term economic growth and job creation to enable Welsh businesses to develop a new low carbon industry infrastructure in Wales.

It is also establishing its international reputation with links being developed with China and India.

Prof Phil Jones, head of Cardiff University's Welsh School of Architecture and chair of LCRI, said: "Professor Pearson's appointment is an exciting development for LCRI. He brings with him a wealth of experience and networking in the low carbon subject area



The photovoltaic wall at the OpTic Technium building in St Asaph

and is held in high regard by the research community. He is the ideal appointment to take LCRI's growing research agenda forward."

LCRI's research covers a range of activities across the low carbon sector, including developing renewable energy supply systems from marine energy generation development, hydrogen technologies, large scale power generation and photovoltaic

(PV) electricity generation.

It also aims to reduce energy demand through achieving a low carbon built environment, including zero carbon new build, reducing energy demand from existing buildings, efficient heating and ventilation, low energy lighting and consumer goods

and developing renewable energy systems for buildings and communities.

It contributes to Welsh Assembly aspirations of ensuring that all new buildings are zero carbon in the near future, that Wales reduces its carbon dioxide emissions by 3% per annum from 2011, and that Wales is self-sufficient in renewable energy – electrical power – by 2025.

The LCRI consists of a consortium of universities in Wales led by the Welsh School of Architecture at Cardiff University in partnership with Cardiff's Engineering School and research groups from Universities of Aberystwyth, Bangor, Glamorgan, Glyndwr and Swansea.

It recently secured £15m from the Wales Euro Funding Office (WEFO) as a contribution to a £34m programme of research with Welsh industry.

Businesses in Wales who are keen to move into the low carbon economy are encouraged to contact the LCRI to ensure that they can use the research outputs to the best advantage, and help shape future research programmes.

**If you are interested in finding out how your business could be supported by the LCRI, then contact Helen John on 029 2087 0003, or email [johnhr@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:johnhr@cardiff.ac.uk)**

LCRI

Low Carbon Research Institute

