



INDEPENDENT PROJECT BMTP6015

Element 3

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to evaluate the outcomes and impact of the project “Leading Beyond Borders: People, Place & Purpose,” a leadership conference organised in collaboration with the Commonwealth Leadership Institute (CLI) at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. The project aimed to create a platform that brought together students, professionals, and leadership practitioners to explore leadership development, share professional experiences, and encourage networking and collaboration.

The conference featured eleven speakers from diverse professional backgrounds including healthcare leadership, academia, and representatives of the Commonwealth Leadership Institute. The event attracted sixty-seven registered participants in addition to invited guests and speakers, creating a mixed audience of students and professionals. The event programme included a series of leadership talks, networking opportunities, and an immersive experiential activity designed to strengthen connections between CLI leaders.

Leadership development initiatives such as conferences play an important role in fostering professional learning, networking, and knowledge exchange across sectors (Getz and Page, 2016). Events of this type are increasingly recognised as effective platforms for knowledge sharing and collaboration between practitioners and emerging leaders (Bowdin et al., 2011).

This section of the report critically evaluates the outcomes of the project by analysing the key findings generated through the delivery of the conference. The analysis focuses on three main themes: leadership development and personal growth, professional networking and collaboration, and participant engagement through event design and experience. The findings are evaluated in relation to the project’s original objectives and supported by relevant academic literature on leadership development, event management, and stakeholder engagement.

The report also reflects on the overall success of the project, identifies challenges encountered during implementation, and proposes recommendations for improving future leadership initiatives and professional events.

Key Findings / Results

Theme 1: Leadership Development and Personal Growth

One of the most significant findings from the project was the role the conference played in promoting leadership development among participants (see Appendix E). Leadership development is widely understood as a process that occurs through experience, reflection, and interaction with others rather than solely through formal instruction (Day et al., 2014). Events that bring together practitioners and emerging leaders can therefore serve as valuable environments for leadership learning.

The conference programme included eleven speakers representing diverse professional sectors including healthcare leadership, academia, and leadership development organisations. (see Appendix D) This variety provided participants with multiple perspectives on leadership, enabling them to explore how leadership is applied in different professional contexts. According to Northouse (2022), exposure to different leadership styles and experiences helps individuals develop a broader understanding of leadership practices and challenges.

A particularly notable component of the conference was the personal leadership speech delivered as part of the programme. (see Appendix A) The speech reflected on the experience of navigating leadership as an international student, emphasising that leadership is not defined by confidence or status but by the willingness to take action despite uncertainty. The message highlighted themes of resilience, identity, and personal growth, which are commonly recognised elements of authentic leadership development (Avolio and Gardner, 2005).

The speech also explored the idea that leadership often begins when individuals step outside their comfort zones. This perspective aligns with experiential leadership learning theories, which emphasise the importance of challenging experiences in developing leadership capabilities (Kolb, 2015). Participants responded positively to the speech, particularly international students who identified with the challenges associated with cultural adaptation and language barriers.

An additional outcome linked to leadership development was the recognition received through the Commonwealth Leadership Institute network. As a result of involvement in the event and broader leadership activities, the organiser was invited to attend leadership workshops at Windsor Castle (see Appendix C). This outcome illustrates how leadership initiatives and professional networks can create opportunities for further development and engagement within international leadership communities.

The conference successfully created an environment that supported leadership learning, reflection, and inspiration for participants. This finding supports research suggesting that leadership development is strengthened through interactive learning environments that combine practical experiences with reflective discussion (Mumford et al., 2007).

Theme 2: Professional Networking and Collaboration

A second key finding was the importance of networking and professional relationship building facilitated by the conference. Networking is widely recognised as one of the most valuable outcomes of professional events, as it enables participants to establish connections, exchange knowledge, and explore potential collaborations (Getz and Page, 2016).

The conference attracted a mixed audience of students, professionals, and invited guests, creating opportunities for interaction between individuals at different stages of their professional careers. Networking occurred both during formal sessions and

during informal interactions such as coffee breaks and the evening experiential activity (see Appendix F). According to Allen et al. (2011), structured networking opportunities during events significantly enhance participant engagement and satisfaction.

Evidence of successful networking outcomes was visible through professional connections formed after the event. Many participants connected through professional platforms such as LinkedIn following the conference, indicating that the event successfully facilitated professional relationship building. Some speakers were also invited to participate in future leadership events, demonstrating that the conference contributed to ongoing professional collaboration (see Appendix G).

The event also strengthened connections between the organiser and the invited speakers. These relationships developed through communication during the planning process and continued after the conference. Stakeholder theory emphasises that successful projects depend on building and maintaining relationships with individuals who influence project outcomes (Freeman, 1984). The networking outcomes of the conference therefore illustrate the importance of stakeholder engagement in both project success and long-term professional development.

Professional networking opportunities are particularly valuable for students who may have limited access to industry professionals (Benson et al., 2014). By bringing together students and experienced practitioners, the conference created a bridge between academic learning and professional practice. This interaction supports the development of social capital, which plays a key role in career development and professional advancement (Bourdieu, 1986).

The findings indicate that the conference successfully achieved its objective of facilitating professional networking and collaboration. The connections established during the event have the potential to contribute to future leadership initiatives and professional partnerships.

Participants responded positively to the personal leadership narrative presented during the conference. Several attendees commented that the speech resonated with their own experiences as international students navigating cultural and professional transitions (see Appendix B).

Theme 3: Event Design and Participant Experience

A third key finding relates to the design of the event and its impact on participant engagement and experience. Event design plays a crucial role in shaping participant satisfaction and overall event success (Bowdin et al., 2011). The structure of the conference combined formal presentations with networking opportunities and experiential activities, creating a varied and engaging programme.

The conference programme included a series of leadership talks followed by networking breaks and a closing experiential activity in the immersive room. This

approach aligns with contemporary event management practices that emphasise the importance of combining educational and experiential elements within professional events (Getz and Page, 2016).

Participant feedback indicated that the event atmosphere was positive and engaging. Attendees expressed appreciation for the quality of the speakers, the opportunity to interact with professionals, and the welcoming environment created during the event. The event participants also commented on the event as a 'tremendous' and 'inspirational' event. Research on event experience suggests that emotional engagement and social interaction are key factors influencing participant satisfaction (Pine and Gilmore, 2011).

The evening experiential activity also contributed to the uniqueness of the event. Experiential activities encourage collaboration and interaction between participants, strengthening networking outcomes and creating memorable experiences (Morgan et al., 2010). By incorporating such activities into the programme, the conference provided opportunities for participants to engage with one another in a less formal setting.

Despite these positive outcomes, several logistical challenges were encountered during the event. The lecture theatre became available only approximately twenty minutes before the conference began, which created time pressure for setting up presentation equipment, lighting, and banners. Technical issues such as microphone battery failure and the absence of a presentation clicker also occurred during the event.

While these issues created minor disruptions, they were resolved quickly and did not significantly affect the overall participant experience. Effective problem solving and adaptability are essential competencies in event management, particularly when unexpected issues arise (Goldblatt, 2014).

The findings suggest that the design of the conference successfully supported participant engagement and contributed to a positive event experience.

Evaluation of Project Success

While the project achieved its primary objectives, several areas for improvement were identified. One of the main challenges was the limited planning timeframe, which resulted in increased pressure during the final stages of preparation. A longer planning period would have allowed for more structured coordination and reduced last-minute challenges.

In addition, marketing activities were less effective than anticipated due to limited coordination with designated marketing teams. As a result, promotion relied heavily on informal communication and social media posts, which may have limited the reach of the event.

Furthermore, logistical challenges during the event, including limited venue access prior to the start time and minor technical issues such as microphone failure, highlighted the need for more comprehensive operational planning.

The success of the project can be evaluated by comparing the outcomes of the conference with the original objectives established during the planning stage. Project success is often measured through the achievement of planned objectives, stakeholder satisfaction, and the creation of long-term value for participants (Kerzner, 2017).

One of the primary objectives of the project was to organise and deliver a leadership conference that would attract up to 100 participants. This objective was successfully achieved, with sixty-seven registered participants attending the event in addition to invited speakers and guests. The attendance level demonstrates effective event promotion and strong interest in the conference theme.

Another objective was to secure a diverse group of speakers capable of sharing insights on leadership from different professional perspectives. This objective was also successfully achieved. The conference featured eleven speakers representing healthcare leadership, academia, and leadership organisations. The diversity of the speaker lineup contributed to a rich programme and provided participants with exposure to multiple leadership perspectives.

The project also aimed to create networking opportunities that would encourage collaboration between participants. Evidence suggests that this objective was successfully met. Participants engaged in discussions during networking sessions and many established professional connections following the event through online platforms such as LinkedIn. Networking outcomes are widely considered one of the most important measures of success for professional events (Getz and Page, 2016).

In addition to achieving its planned objectives, the project generated several unexpected positive outcomes. One of the most significant outcomes was the recognition received through the Commonwealth Leadership Institute network, which led to an invitation to participate in leadership workshops at Windsor Castle. This outcome demonstrates how leadership initiatives can create opportunities for further professional development and international collaboration.

Despite these successes, several challenges were encountered during the planning and delivery of the event. The most significant challenge was the limited planning timeframe. Although the initial concept for the event was developed earlier, the majority of organisational work began after speaker confirmations were received in early January. This created time pressure for coordinating logistics, promotion, and programme preparation.

Another challenge involved managing the project largely independently. While guidance was provided by UWTSD staff and the Commonwealth Leadership Institute, most operational tasks were handled individually. Managing multiple

responsibilities simultaneously required strong organisational and communication skills.

Marketing coordination also presented challenges. Although marketing support had been anticipated, communication issues meant that most promotional activities were conducted independently through social media platforms and university channels.

Although the conference was largely successful, several logistical challenges were encountered. One invited speaker was unable to attend the event as scheduled due to a delayed international arrival in the United Kingdom. As a result, the session originally allocated to this speaker had to be removed from the programme. Despite this unexpected change, the conference schedule was adjusted effectively, and other speakers were able to extend discussions to maintain audience engagement. This situation highlighted the importance of contingency planning in event management, particularly when coordinating speakers travelling internationally. According to Getz and Page (2016), event organisers must anticipate potential disruptions and incorporate contingency strategies to ensure programme continuity.

However, the project can be considered successful. The conference achieved its primary objectives, generated positive participant feedback, and created opportunities for professional networking and leadership development.

Beyond the immediate outcomes, the project can also be analysed in terms of its broader impact.

A further dimension of the project's success can be analysed through its impact on stakeholder engagement and long-term value creation. Stakeholder engagement is widely recognised as a critical factor in determining project success, particularly in events involving multiple participant groups (Freeman, 1984). In this project, stakeholders included students, professional speakers, university staff, and representatives of the Commonwealth Leadership Institute.

The project demonstrated effective stakeholder engagement through consistent communication with speakers, coordination with university departments, and active involvement of participants during the event. The positive feedback received from attendees and speakers indicates a high level of stakeholder satisfaction, which is considered a key success indicator in project management (Kerzner, 2017). Furthermore, the continuation of professional relationships beyond the event suggests that the project created sustained value rather than a one-time experience.

In addition to stakeholder engagement, the project can be evaluated in terms of knowledge exchange and experiential learning. Conferences are increasingly recognised as platforms for informal learning, where participants gain insights through interaction rather than formal instruction (Eraut, 2004). The combination of structured presentations and informal networking opportunities allowed participants to engage in both knowledge acquisition and knowledge sharing. This dual approach reflects contemporary models of professional learning, which emphasise the importance of social interaction and reflection (Kolb, 2015).

Another important aspect of the project's impact is its contribution to personal and professional identity development. Leadership development is often linked to an individual's ability to reflect on their experiences and construct a sense of identity within a professional context (Ibarra et al., 2010). The conference provided a platform not only for participants but also for the organiser to engage in this process. Delivering a personal leadership narrative and managing a complex event contributed to the development of confidence, self-awareness, and leadership capability.

From a project management perspective, the experience also highlights the importance of adaptive leadership. Adaptive leadership involves responding effectively to changing circumstances, particularly in uncertain or challenging environments (Heifetz et al., 2009). The ability to manage unexpected issues during the event, such as technical difficulties and speaker absence, demonstrates the application of adaptive leadership in practice.

Finally, the project can be considered successful in terms of creating a meaningful and memorable event experience. According to Pine and Gilmore (2011), experiences that engage participants emotionally and socially are more likely to have a lasting impact. The integration of formal and informal elements within the conference contributed to a holistic experience that extended beyond traditional academic events. This suggests that future leadership initiatives should continue to incorporate experiential components to enhance engagement and learning outcomes.

Conclusion

The "Leading Beyond Borders: People, Place & Purpose" conference successfully achieved its objective of creating a leadership-focused event that brought together students, professionals, and leadership practitioners to share knowledge and develop professional connections.

The findings indicate that the conference contributed to leadership development by providing participants with exposure to diverse leadership perspectives and opportunities for reflection and inspiration. The personal leadership narrative presented during the conference resonated with many participants.

Networking and collaboration were also important outcomes of the event. Participants established professional connections during the conference and continued these interactions through online platforms after the event. These connections have the potential to contribute to future collaborations and leadership initiatives.

The design of the event programme played a key role in supporting participant engagement and satisfaction. The combination of formal presentations, networking

opportunities, and experiential activities created a dynamic and engaging event experience.

Although several logistical challenges occurred during the planning and delivery process, these issues were effectively managed through adaptability and problem solving. The experience of organising the conference also contributed significantly to personal leadership development, strengthening skills in project management, stakeholder engagement, and public speaking.

The project demonstrates how leadership events can create meaningful opportunities for learning, networking, and professional growth within academic and professional communities.

The project not only achieved its planned objectives but also contributed to long-term professional development outcomes, including new networking opportunities and recognition within the Commonwealth leadership community.

Limitations and Recommendations

Despite the overall success of the project, several limitations should be acknowledged.

One of the most significant limitations was the limited planning timeframe. Although the initial concept for the event was developed earlier, most organisational activities took place within a relatively short period after speaker confirmations were received. Time constraints can significantly affect project planning and coordination, particularly in complex events involving multiple stakeholders (Kerzner, 2017).

Another limitation involved the availability of marketing support. Due to communication challenges within the organising structure, promotional activities were largely conducted independently through personal networks and university social media channels. A more coordinated marketing strategy could potentially have increased the visibility of the event and attracted a larger audience.

Logistical constraints also affected the event delivery. Limited access to the venue prior to the conference created time pressure for equipment setup and preparation. Technical issues such as microphone battery failure and missing presentation equipment also occurred during the event.

Future events could be improved by implementing several practical recommendations.

First, event planning should begin earlier to allow sufficient time for speaker coordination, marketing activities, and logistical preparation.

Second, a structured marketing strategy should be developed that includes collaboration with university communication teams, social media campaigns, and targeted outreach to professional networks.

Third, responsibilities should be distributed among a small organising team rather than being managed primarily by one individual. Delegating roles such as marketing coordinator, logistics manager, and technical support would improve efficiency and reduce pressure on the event organiser.

Finally, future events should ensure that backup technical equipment is available to minimise disruptions during presentations.

Implementing these recommendations would strengthen the planning and delivery of future leadership conferences and enhance participant experience.

A key limitation of the project was the lack of structured quantitative data collection during the event. While feedback was overwhelmingly positive, the absence of formal survey data limited the ability to provide detailed statistical analysis.

To address this, future events should implement structured feedback tools, such as post-event surveys, to capture measurable data on participant satisfaction and learning outcomes.

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AI Statement

I acknowledge the use of ChatGPT to support proofreading and checking clarity, grammar, and academic tone within this assignment.

Appendix

Appendix. A (My speech)



Ed-Talk (my speech)

If someone had told me a few years ago that I'd be standing on this stage today - helping organize an event like this, speaking about leadership - I honestly wouldn't have believed them.

Not because I didn't care or I didn't have ambition.

But because, for a long time, I didn't think this space was for me.

For those who don't know me, I'm originally from Poland, and I moved to Wales in 2017.

I arrived with a lot of fear.

A language barrier.

And a constant feeling that I didn't fully belong.

Everything felt unfamiliar - the culture, the conversations, even how confident everyone else seemed. I remember sitting quietly, listening more than speaking, and thinking, "Maybe leadership is for people who already know what they're doing."

What I didn't realize then is that leadership doesn't usually start with confidence. It starts with discomfort.

At that time, standing on a stage like this felt very far away.

When I was asked to speak about leadership, I panicked a little. I don't have a single big moment where I stood on a stage or made a historic decision.

Over the years, one thing that slowly changed me was travel.

I've been lucky enough to travel to places like Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Nepal, Bali, across Europe, and even to Florida through my university.

Each place was different - different languages, different customs, different ways of thinking.

And traveling to so many countries taught me something important: people live, think, and lead in very different ways. And that made me realize that leadership isn't about making everyone do the same thing. It's about listening, observing, and learning how to move forward together.

Travel has a way of stripping away control.

You don't always know where you're going.

You don't always know the rules.

And suddenly, you're forced to observe, listen, ask questions, and adapt.

And without realizing it, those are the exact same skills leadership requires.

Out of all those experiences, the one that taught me the most about leadership wasn't a city or a country.

It was the Everest Base Camp trek in Nepal.

Now, when people hear "Everest," they imagine something heroic or extreme. But the reality is very different.

When I was on the final section of the path, just before we reached base camp, something happened. I was exhausted, the air was thin, and suddenly I just started crying.

I had no idea what the next few hours would look like. I didn't know how to keep going. And in that moment, I just had to trust my friend and our guide, who calmly slowed everything down and reassured me.

Of course, at the time, I wasn't thinking about leadership at all. I was just trying to survive.

But when I was preparing for this talk, and I look back on everything I've done, everything I've travelled, everything I've challenged myself to do in life, I realize that moment taught me something important about leadership:

Leadership isn't always about pushing through alone. Sometimes it's about knowing when to let others lead you. Sometimes it's about trusting, even when you're unsure. And sometimes, it's about taking the next step even if you're scared.

That lesson stayed with me long after I came back.

Because when I later decided to get involved, to take initiative, to help organize this event - I wasn't suddenly fearless.

I wasn't an expert.

I didn't wake up one day thinking, "Yes, I know exactly how to do this."

What I did was decide not to stay comfortable.

I asked questions.

I made mistakes.

I learned along the way.

Very much like travel.

Very much like Everest.

For a long time, I thought leadership meant having answers.

Now I think it's much closer to this:

Being willing to feel uncomfortable.

Being willing to ask for help.

Being willing to step forward even when fear is still there.

Fear doesn't disappear when you lead.
You just stop letting it decide for you.

That's why spaces like the Commonwealth Leadership Institute matter.

Not because they create perfect leaders - but because they give people room to grow, to learn, and to step forward before they feel "ready."

Especially for young leaders.

Especially for people who, like me years ago, might feel like they don't fully belong yet.

If there's one thing I hope you take from my journey, it's this:

You don't need to wait for confidence.
You don't need to wait until you feel like an expert.
You don't need to wait until fear is gone.

Leadership - like travel - begins the moment you decide not to stay where you are.

Sometimes it's moving to a new country.
Sometimes it's saying yes to an opportunity.
Sometimes it's simply raising your hand and asking a question.

And sometimes, it's standing on a stage you never imagined you'd be on.

I'll finish with this:

If the version of me who arrived in Wales in 2017 could see this moment, they wouldn't believe it.

But the truth is, nothing changed overnight.

I just kept taking the next step.

And so can you.

Thank you.



Appendix B

Feedback collected mainly through LinkedIn comments, but also private messages highlighted the inspirational nature of the conference.



Bernie Davies  • 1st

People Specialist | Multi-Award Winning International Speaker: TE...

1mo ...

It was fantastic and you were incredible. 🍷🍷🍷

Love ·   2 | Reply · 2 replies



Gareth Davies  • 1st

Professor and Dean of Institute of Management and Health at Uni...

1mo ...

Well done Angelika - you were awesome (as always)!

Love ·  1 | Reply · 1 reply



Jacqui Jones  • 1st

Program Director International Travel, Tourism, Events, Festivals & ...

1mo ...

Congratulations [Angelika Jasnós](#) wow have you achieved! An outstanding presentation & an inspirational event 🇬🇧 🌍 🇬🇧

Love ·  1 | Reply · 1 reply



Antoinette Milne • 2nd

Lecturer at University of Wales Trinity Saint David

1mo ...

Congratulations Angelika! A tremendous event!

Love ·  1 | Reply · 1 reply



Bernie Davies  • 1st

People Specialist | Multi-Award Winning International Speaker: TEDx | UN...

[View my portfolio](#)

1mo • 

What a day! 🥳 🥳

Congratulations to 3rd year Event Management student [Angelika Jasnós](#) for leading an excellent events team and hosting [Prifysgol Cymru Y Drindod Dewi Sant / University of Wales Trinity Saint David](#) inaugural [#EDX](#) Event "Leading Beyond Borders" at the [#DylanThomasCentre](#) Swansea.

Kudos to [Jacqui Jones](#) [Debbie Jenkins](#) [Dr Jayne Griffith-Parry](#) [Gareth Davies](#) Professor and Dean of the Institute of Management, Jonathan from the Commonwealth Institute and msny more who empowered these young people to shine as they did today.

Proud to have been among the indredible lineup of Speakers- which included Angelika's very moving Talk on Belonging. There wasn't a dry eye in the theatre 😭

This is one university that is making the most of the opportunities in the best interest of its students, partners, and the wider community.

Diolch yn fawr! 🙌 🙌 🌐 🙌 🙌



Debbie Jenkins ✓ • 1st

Lecturer of International Travel, Tourism, Events and Resorts Management
1mo • 🌐

Amazing inspiring event today with [Commonwealth Leadership Institute \(CLI\)](#) an event hosted and run by [Angelika Jasnos](#) from our International Tourism Management Programme. As a third year student she has been nominated as a commonwealth leader . Her story is truly inspiring as well as all the guest speakers who today shared their leadership experiences, thoughts and skills.

[Prifysgol Cymru Y Drindod Dewi Sant / University of Wales Trinity Saint David UWTSD IMH Swansea, Events, Gastronomy, Hospitality, Leisure, Sport, Travel & Tourism Management TEDxSwansea Jacqui Jones Terry STEVENS Dr Jayne Griffith-Parry Bernie Davies](#)



Jacqui Jones ✓ • 1st

Program Director International Travel, Tourism, Events, Festivals & Leisu...

1mo • Edited •

An Inspirational **Commonwealth Leadership Institute (CLI)**'s Leading Beyond Borders Event organised by UWTSD International Travel & Tourism Student **Angelika Jasnós** supported by our Student Team!

The event was held at Dylan Thomas Centre to welcome Young Leaders from across the Commonwealth to Wales.

Gareth Davies Dean of UWTSD's Institute of Management & Health, & **Jonathon Gray** Director of Commonwealth Leadership Institute welcomed the guests to Swansea & set the scene for this unique event.

The delegates were joined by industry professionals & students who all enjoyed a wide range of high impact short Leadership presentations.

Personally it was an honour to speak alongside Professor **Terry STEVENS**, UWTSD Tourism Alumni **Heledd Williams** Head of Business Wales at the Welsh Government, **Suki Collins**, **Bernie Davies** & the outstanding Commonwealth Young Leaders.

All presentations generated deep discussions, however without a doubt the shining star of the event was Angelika whose presentation inspired everyone with her passion & honesty.

As a Commonwealth Young Leader Angelika told her own career journey, taking her from Poland to Swansea, sharing her fears & how she discovered herself through travel adventures & her academic studies at UWTSD.

Angelika's story came from the heart - sharing her leadership & learning experiences from climbing to Everest Base Camp, managing student events & taking part in UWTSD international experiences to Paris & Florida.

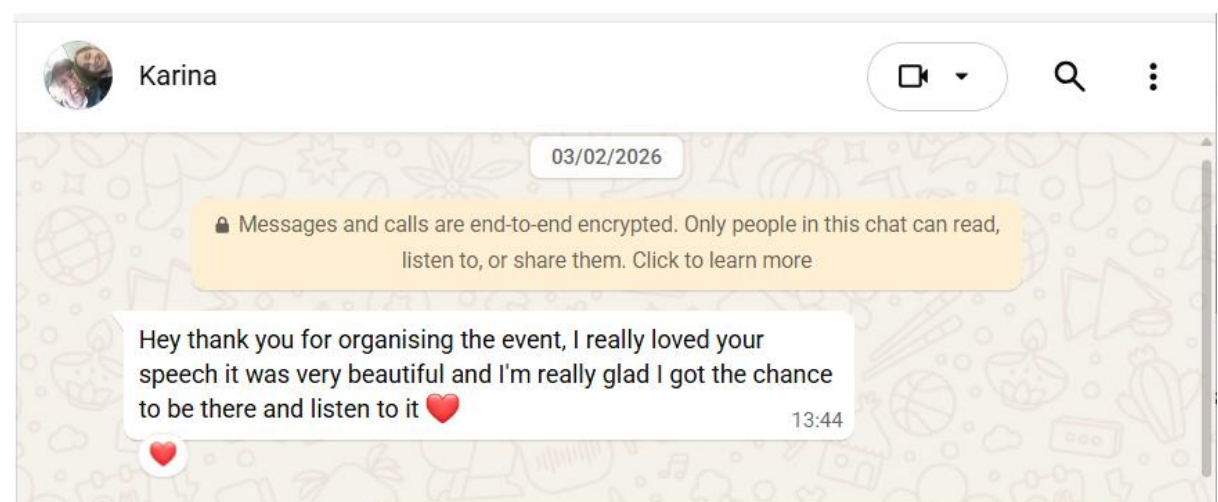
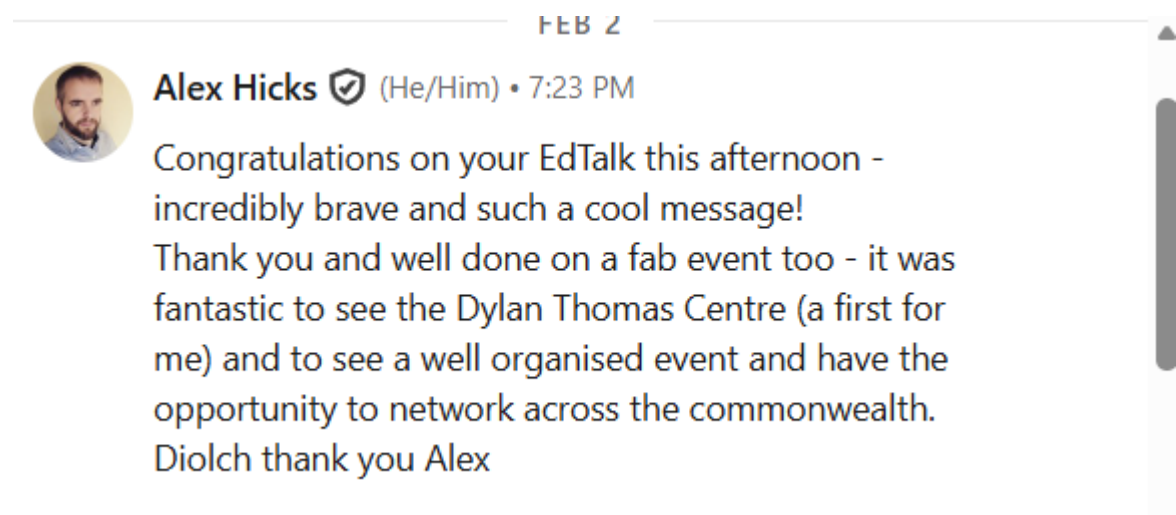
Congratulations Angelika for taking the challenge & presenting & to 2nd Year Events Student [Arwen Garland](#) doing a great job hosting the event. Thank you also to UWTSD Level 5 & 6 Tourism & Events Students for all your hardwork & support working as an outstanding Events Team.

Everyone enjoyed wonderful Welsh Cakes & Barabritth made by the UWTSD Gastronomy Students before the International delegates headed to the Immersive Room on our UWTSD Waterfront Campus to enjoy a very competitive Escape Room Activity.

This was followed by Welsh Wine Tasting sponsored by [Velfrey Vineyard](#) from Pembrokeshire. Very special thanks to [Andrew Mounsey](#) & our Wine Professional [Antoinette Milne](#) for giving our Commonwealth guests an outstanding taste of Wales.

The day finished with an excellent Welsh Buffet professionally prepared by UWTSD Gastronomy Students expertly led by Academic Director [Dr Jayne Griffith-Parry](#).

Thank you to all the Speakers, Commonwealth Leaders, Students and Lecturers from across the academic disciplines who supported the Event making it such a success.



Appendix C.

The impact of the conference extended beyond the event itself, as involvement in the leadership initiative led to an invitation to participate in leadership workshops at Windsor Castle.



Invitation to the 2026 Commonwealth Leadership Immersive, Windsor Castle

Thursday 5th - Saturday 7th February 2026

Dear Angelika,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to attend the 2026 Commonwealth Leadership Immersive, to be held at Windsor Castle from Thursday 5th February – Saturday 7th February 2026. Please note that there are some additional events being planned for Monday 2nd February until the start of the Windsor event – details will be shared with the group at a later date but you may wish to try and keep some flexibility in your travel plans.

In addition to your important role in helping to shape and organise this landmark gathering, we are delighted to confirm your place as a full residential participant. Your insight, commitment and generosity of spirit have already contributed significantly to the development of this event and we are deeply grateful. It is equally important to us that you have the opportunity to fully engage with the experience you have helped to create.

Hosted under the auspices of the Commonwealth Leadership Institute, this immersive brings together an extraordinary group of emerging and established leaders to explore new models of courageous, collaborative and compassionate leadership. Building on the momentum of the recent Virtual Commonwealth Leadership Summit, the Windsor Immersive will deepen connection, learning and reflection across the pioneering Commonwealth cohort. As a member of this first cohort, you will be part of a community designed to support one another throughout your careers — a connected, agile network prepared to lead through the complexity of the coming decades.

During the immersive, participants will:

- Continue and complete the breakout projects begun at the Virtual Summit, developing them into refined proposals to be presented to dinner guests for endorsement, critique, support and investment;
- Learn new skills and theory that will strengthen your leadership practice;
- Build deep trust and belonging within the cohort and collectively face the challenge of presenting your work through a small “Ed X-style” session at Windsor;



COMMONWEALTH
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

Invitation to the 2026 Commonwealth Leadership Summit, Windsor Castle

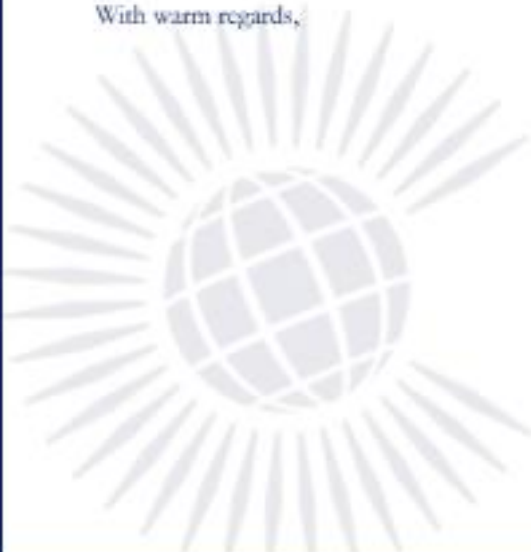
Thursday 5th - Saturday 7th February 2026

- Prepare for CHOGM, developing strategic content and political narrative to strengthen the cohort's collective presence and ensure the work is represented on the global stage;
- Draft articles and written pieces capturing learning, insight and impact for wider publication across the Commonwealth;
- Contribute to the fundraising ambition of the programme, helping to secure long-term investment in this pioneering movement.

Attendance at this event is by invitation only and places are strictly limited. To confirm your participation at the Windsor event, please RSVP by Thursday, 27 November 2025, by emailing Sarah Davies (sarah.davies31@wales.nhs.uk). Once your attendance is confirmed, you will receive a registration form to capture your details and preferences, followed by a full programme brief and logistical information. Accommodation and all meals will be provided; participants and teaching faculty are kindly asked to make their own travel arrangements.

We are honoured that you will be joining both as a valued contributor to the event and as a member of this inaugural cohort. We look forward to sharing this extraordinary experience with you at Windsor Castle.

With warm regards,



Dr. Jonathon Gray

Co-Director, CLI

Appendix D

Conference Agenda

The structured programme, which included leadership talks and networking breaks.

LEADING BEYOND BORDERS 01:15-01:30 Welcome & Introduction PEOPLE, PLACE & PURPOSE			
BLOCK 1 01:30-02:10 • Heledd Williams • Terry Stevens • Bernie Davies Break 15 mins	BLOCK 2 02:25-03:05 • Suki Collins • Jacqui Jones • Michael Pervan Break 15 mins	BLOCK 3 03:20-04.05 • Angelika Jasnos • Sarah Davies • Kerry Robertshaw Break 15 mins	BLOCK 4 04:20 -04:40 • Will Beharrell • Maverick Peter Seda 04:40- Closing

Appendix E

Eventbrite set up for people to register in Welsh and English language

eventbrite

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EVENT ENDED

Leading Beyond Borders: People, Place & Purpose

Dylan Thomas Centre · Swansea, Wales

Monday, Feb 2 from 1:15 pm to 5 pm

Sales ended
Mon, Feb 2 • 1:15 pm

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Overview

Join us in person to explore how people, place, and purpose shape next-level leadership beyond borders!

Leading Beyond Borders: People, Place & Purpose is an exclusive leadership event hosted in Wales in collaboration with the Commonwealth Leadership Institute (CLI).

Bringing together emerging young leaders, experienced practitioners, and global voices from across the Commonwealth, this afternoon of TEDx-style EdTalks will explore what leadership looks like in a world shaped by change and opportunity.

Set in the heart of Swansea, the event will feature a curated programme of short, inspiring talks from leaders working across sectors including public service, heritage, wellbeing and business. Speakers will share personal leadership journeys, lessons learned, and reflections on how meaningful leadership can connect across borders, cultures, and generations. A key focus of the event is amplifying young voices. The event is designed to create space for confidence, connection, and open dialogue across generations.

Attendees can expect:

- A series of 7–10 minute EdTalks from invited speakers and young leaders
- Opportunities for networking and informal discussion
- Welcoming environment that encourages shared learning and new connections

Sales ended
Mon, Feb 2 • 1:15 pm

Explore similar events

Whether you are a young leader at the start of your journey, a student exploring leadership pathways, a practitioner, or simply passionate about leadership and global collaboration, this event offers a chance to be part of an inspiring conversation - and to help shape leadership beyond borders.

Sales ended
Mon, Feb 2 • 1:15 pm

Explore similar events

Trosolwg

Ymunwch a ni i archwilio sut mae pobl, lleoliad a phwrpas yn gallu llunio arweinyddiaeth lefel nesaf y thu hwnt i'r ffiniau!

Arwain y thy hwnt i'r ffiniau: Mae Pobl, Lleoliad a phwrpas yn ddigwyddiad arweinyddiaeth unigryw. Wedi'u gynnal yng Ngymru mewn cydweithrediad â sefydliad Arweinyddiaeth y Gymanwlad.

Yn dod ag arweinwyr ifanc ynghyd, ymarferwyr profiadol a lleisiau byd-eang o bob cwr o'r Gymanwlad, mewn prynhawn llawn sgysiau addysg o arddull TedX. Yn archwilio ar sut olwg sydd ag arweinyddiaeth mewn byd sydd wedi'i siapio gan newid a chyfle. Wedi'i leoli yn nghanol Abertawe, bydd y digwyddiad yn cynnwys rhaglen wedi'i churadu o sgysiau byr ac ysbrydoledig gan arweinwyr sy'n gweithio ar draws sectorau amrylyw gan gynnwys y sector gwasanaeth cyhoeddus, treftadaeth, lles a busnes.

Bydd Siaradwyr yn rhannu teithiau arweinyddiau personol, y gwersi a ddysgwyd a myfyrodau ar sut y gall arweinyddiaeth ystyrlon gysylltu ar draws ffiniau, diwylliannau a chenedlaethau.

Un o brif ffocysau'r digwyddiad yw hyrwyddo lleisiau ifanc. Mae'r digwyddiad wedi'i gynllunio i greu lle ar gyfer hyder, cysylltiad a deialog agored ar draws cenedlaethau.

Gall mynychwyr ddisgwyl:

- Cyfres o Sgyrsiau Addysg 7-10 munud gan siaradwyr gwadd ac arweinwyr ifanc.
- Cyfleoedd ar gyfer rhwydweithio a thrafodaeth anffurfiol.
- Amgylchedd croesawgar sy'n annog dysgu a chreu chysylltiadau newydd.

Os ydych chi'n arweinydd ifanc ar ddechrau eich taith, yn fyfyrwr sy'n archwilio llwybrau arweinyddiaeth, yn ymarferydd, neu'n angerddol am arweinyddiaeth a chydweithio bydeang, mae'r digwyddiad hwn yn cynnig chyfle i fod yn rhan o sgwrs ysbrydoledig - ac i helpu i lunio arweinyddiaeth y tu hwnt i ffiniau.

[Read less](#)

Sales ended
Mon, Feb 2 • 1:15 pm

[Explore similar events](#)

Appendix F

Some of the photos from the event.











VELFREY

PEMBROKESHIRE



A FAMILY-RUN VINEYARD SITUATED IN
THE PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTRYSIDE,
PRODUCING AWARD-WINNING WELSH WINES
VELFREYVINEYARD.COM



Appendix G.

You're Invited: ITT Future You – Swansea Arena, 10 March

Summarise

AJ

Angelika Jasnos (2308967)

Reply

Reply all

Forward

To: 'Kerry Robertshaw' <Kerry.Robertshaw@wales.nhs.uk>

Tue 17/02/2026 08:00

Hi **Kerry**,

I hope you're well.

My colleagues who are organising the upcoming ITT "Future You" event at Swansea Arena on 10th March asked me to reach out and personally invite you to attend.

"Future You" is an inspiring event aimed at helping young people explore future career pathways, personal development, and new opportunities through engaging talks, networking, and interactive sessions. It's set to be a really impactful and motivating day.

We would be delighted if you were able to join us. Please let me know if you're available, and I'd be happy to share any additional details.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Angelika

KR

KerryRobertshaw<Kerry.Robertshaw@wales.nhs.uk>

Reply

Reply all

Forward

To: @ Charlie MacDonald (2304849); Angelika Jasnos (2308967)

Sat 28/02/2026 14:39

RHYBUDD: Deilliodd yr e-bost hwn o du allan i system E-bost Prifysgol Cymru Y Drindod Dewi Sant. Peidiwch ag ateb, na chlicio ar ddolenni nac agor atodiadau oni bai eich bod yn adnabod cyfeiriad e-bost yr anfonwr ac yn gwybod bod y cynnwys yn ddiogel.

WARNING: This email originated from outside University of Wales Trinity Saint David's Email System. Do not reply, click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender's email address and know the content is safe.

Thanks Both

Sincere apologies but reviewing the other agenda I will be needed all day Tuesday and will not be able to make it.

Please think of me for the future, as I would be keen to stay involved and regularly visit Swansea.

KR

Kerry

Appendix H.

Presentation slides

Leading Beyond Borders: People, Place & Purpose – Commonwealth Leadership Institute Conference 2026



Presented By:
Angelika Jansos- 2308967

Lecturer: Scott James
IP- Element 3



Project Aim & Context

Aim:

- Deliver leadership conference
- Support learning & networking

Context:

- 67 participants
- 11 speakers
- Students & professionals





Project Objective

- Structured leadership programme
- Facilitate networking
- Support leadership development
- Evaluate event impact

Key findings 1.

Leadership Development

- Personal leadership stories
- Real-life experiences
- High participant engagement
- Reflective learning

(Northouse, 2022; Kolb, 2015)



Key findings 2.



Networking

- Active discussions
- Professional connections
- LinkedIn engagement
- Ongoing communication

(Bourdieu, 1986)



Key findings 3.

Event Experience

- Engaging environment
- Interactive sessions
- Social activities
- Positive atmosphere

(Pine & Gilmore, 2011)



Outcomes

- Successful event delivery
- Strong engagement
- Networking outcomes
- Personal leadership growth
- Windsor Castle opportunity



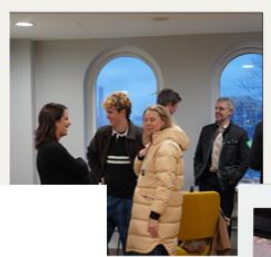
Challenges

- Short planning time
- Limited marketing support
- Speaker absence (travel delay)
- Technical issues

(Getz & Page, 2016)



Recommendations

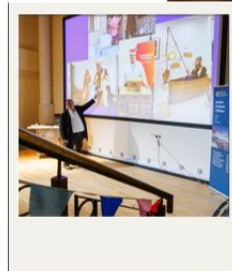


- Start planning earlier
- Improve marketing strategy
- Strengthen contingency planning
- Responsibilities split among a small organising team

Lesson Learned



- Leadership = action, not confidence
- Importance of adaptability
- Value of communication
- Growth through experience



'Leadership-like travel- starts when you decide not to stay where you are.' *Angelika Jasnos*

Conclusion

- Objectives achieved
- Positive impact
- Strong future potential

Thank You
for your
attention

Presented By :
Angelika Jasnos

