

Executive Meeting Minutes

19.09.13

NAB Moot Court Room London School of Economics 13.00-16.00

Present: Chris Ashford, Antonia Layard, Kevin Brown, Andre Naidoo, Marian Duggan, Rosie Harding, Charlotte Bendall, Jonathan Garton, Ben Livings, Sarah Blandy, Marie Selwood, Gita Gill, Gavin Dingwall, Jen Hendry, Jess Guth, Margaret Downie, Rosemary Hunter, Mark O'Brien	
Agenda item	Action
1. Apologies	
PE, JS, AB, CH, SC	
2. Minutes of 28.03.13	
Approved.	
Jess Guth and Jen Hendry had been appointed to the small grants committee.	
Marian Duggan shares same initials as Margaret Downie – Marian to be referred to as MCD from here on.	
3.1 Chair	
Conferences	
York - see report	
International Relations - see report	
Exchanging newsletters and e-bulletins with Canadian and Australian associations in order to circulate details of activities.	
Co-sponsors of events. Two options – our conference jointly held in Australia in 2018 or the second option would be to sponsor the event and still hold our event. Some concerns were expressed that promoting two events and expecting members to attend both would be expensive, but equally that many members would struggle to attend Sydney.	
AGREED: Co-sponsorship of the Sydney 2018 conference, in addition to SLSA 2018. RH to take forward.	RH
LSA – response to email (see report).	
AGREED: RH to reply to email from Eve Darian-Smith highlighting our activities and annual conference.	RH
Academy of Social Sciences - see report.	
AGREED: To re-submit the 2013 nominations together with one individual who declined to be nominated in 2013. We also support the change of title from Academician to Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences.	

Learned society websites. Develop spaces on the website around the themes and streams of the SLSA as an option for streams/themes? Inclusion of PhD students, to enhance and support their networks as part of this. Launch at 2014 conference. Pilot as one blog with tags and then to see how develops. Wordpress agreed as the platform. Stream organisers to be contacted to gauge their level of interest in the idea.	RH
Open Access	
Raising awareness for the OA agenda and drafting guidance for members. OA sub-committee to meet immediately after Executive meeting to draft a response to latest HEFCE consultation.	
Law Commission	
See report.	
MS to request being added to additional email lists to ensure that we receive all relevant notices to pass on to our membership.	MS
REF Specialist Advisers	
Discussed latest request for nominations in specialist areas. One suggestion made. RH to follow up.	RH
The Legal Education and Training Review	
A brief discussion took place exploring the reference to socio-legal studies in the report. This includes the relevancy to the professions of socio-legal studies, understanding of socio-legal studies, etc. CA will represent the SLSA at the event to be held on 1 October.	
Executive Committee Membership	
See report.	
Ben Livings will continue and further develop international presence when he takes up a new post at the University of New England, Armidale early in 2014.	
Sarah Blandy – continue	
Kevin Brown – continue	
Jane Scoular – RH to check	RH
Gavin Dingwall – standing down as two terms expired	
Penny English – standing down as two terms expired	
Rosemary Hunter – indicated that would be willing to serve for another term; discussion of relevant constitutional provisions.	
Executive currently has 17 members. Two vacancies for AGM – although discuss at next Executive meeting about increasing size of membership.	
ACTION: CA to add to agenda for next meeting.	CA
3.2. Vice Chair	
AB attended the launch of the Law Commission's consultation on their next programme of law reform, on behalf of the SLSA. The consultation has been advertised to members via the e-bulletin.	

3.3 Treasurer	
See report. Discussion followed about how we use our much improved financial position following two successful conferences, both to extend SLSA activity and also to ensure that SLSA activities are put on a sustainable footing. AGREED that two years' worth of expenditure would be put aside whilst other income (aprox £15k- 20k) would be directed into supporting/enhancing existing activity, such as PG student-related activities and small grants. Seminar series award increased to £5k, small grants increased (including PG fieldwork) to 15k, bursaries to attend the Sydney conference. Also AGREED that MS should increase her hourly rate (to be finalised with RH/MOB).	MS/RH/MOB
3.4 Membership	
SB has now fully taken over this role. The Executive recorded their thanks to Julie McCandless for her extended work as membership secretary over the summer in order to ensure an efficient handover. An item will be included in the e-bulletin highlighting SB's details.	MS
3.5 Recruitment	
See report. Comments on draft flyer to be sent to MCD. MCD to revise for inclusion in the next newsletter.	SC/MCD
Discussion of whether membership should be rolled into conference registration for non-members, but too many practical difficulties.	
AGREED that membership would be highlighted at the booking stage for RGU 2014 with a link to the SLSA membership form.	
3.6. Newsletter and Web Editor	
See report. Include a congratulations to new Academicians.	
Newsletter sponsorship –	
RH to write to Heads of Law Schools who currently sponsor the newsletter plus a number of suggested additional institutions (£500 per annum for three years).	RH
MS to highlight membership directory to key media contacts (once it is working again).	MS
3.7 PG Student Representative	
See report.	
AGREED: Facilitate meeting between new academics/PG students and experienced academics at the 2014 conference – at the opening lunch.	
Possibility of a roundtable discussion by PG students exploring PG study/the experience as part of the conference.	CB/SC/MD
3.8. Webmaster	
NJ is retiring. Jed Meers has agreed to take over the role, and will be co-opted	

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No recurrence of the security problems we had earlier in the year. Lewis Gowers' work on this seems to have been successful.	
Work is almost complete on the new site and database. There have been some unforeseen hitches in data transfer from the old site but these should hopefully be resolved by end of October or sooner. New site will improve functionality rather than change appearance or structure.	
Include in the e-bulletin that the membership directory is currently out of action and members will be advised when it is once again available for editing.	
3.9 International liaison	
See report.	
3.10 Social Media	
Dedicated email to be sent to members highlighting Twitter account details.	MS
4.1.a RGU 2014	
Get report from MD to drop in.	
AGREED that Call for Papers and Registration details should appear on the RGU Conference website in the near future. Call for Themes to be included in an ebulletin.	
Flight/travel details to be reviewed in line with York delegate attendance in order to explore potential travel deals.	
Drinks reception will be held on campus.	
Plenary speakers to still be explored with a view to assembling a panel.	
Provide space for discussion about Open Access and PG lunch on the first day.	
A budget and pricing structure to be forwarded from the conference team to RH and MOB by the end of the month.	SC/MD
4.1.b. Warwick 2015	
Conference venues have been booked. Site visit to be undertaken by RH and MOB.	RH/MOB/JG
4.1.c Annual conference 2016 and 2017	
Nothing to report.	
4.1.c. Postgraduate Conference	
The 2014 PG Conference will be held at Liverpool Law School, with local coordination by Helen Stalford. The 2015 Conference will be held in Birmingham withlocal coordination by Rosie Harding. Registration for the 2014 conference will open later in the Autumn, with the usual cap of 50 participants.	

5.1 Book prizes	
RH to write to Richard Hart to check the status of sponsorship in light of the sale of Hart to Bloomsbury, and to also explore the possibility of a members discount to the Bloomsbury catalogue of books. A book prize committee would be formed in line with previous years consisting of CA, AL, JH, JG and GD. RH to coordinate the prize.	RH
5.2. Article prize	
As previously, all Exec members to contribute to judging article prize (though members of book prize panel excused if they wish – and subsequently agreed members of grants panel also excused if they wish). AB/RH to coordinate.	AB/RH
5.3 Contributions to socio-legal community	
Nominations considered and it was AGREED that Roger Cotterrell would be awarded this prize. RH to contact him.	RH
5.4 Grants	
To be renamed 'Grants' from 'Small Grants'	JS
5.5 Seminar	
JG and RHa to join GD and PE for this year with MOB continuing to chair.	МОВ
6. One Day Conferences	
Newsletter and e-bulletin to include a call for proposals with a deadline of the end of 2013.	
7. Any Other Business	
None.	