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| slsa-red80 |  | | **Executive Meeting  Minutes**  **14.01.16** | |
|  | | **Queen Mary Law School, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, Room 3.1** | | |
| Present: Charlotte Bendall, Sarah Blandy, Lois Bibbings, Kevin J. Brown, Emilie Cloatre, Naomi Creutzfeld, Sharon Cowan, Kevin Crosby, Nikki Godden-Rasul, Rosie Harding, Maebh Harding, Jen Hendry, Rosemary Hunter, Jed Meers, Mark O’Brien, Marie Selwood, Michael Thomson, Siobhan Weare, Tom Webb. | | | |  | |
| Agenda item | | | | Action | |
| 1. Apologies | | | |  | |
| Diamond Ashiagbor, Dave Cowan, Carla Crifo, Jonathan Garton, Jess Guth, Francis King, Gethin Rees | | | |  | |
| 2. Minutes of 14.09.15 | | | |  | |
| The Minutes were approved. | | | |  | |
| 3.1 Chair | | | |  | |
| Rosemary Hunter welcomed Sharon Cowan Kevin Crosby, Nikki Godden-Rasul and Siobhan Weare to their first meeting of the executive.  It was confirmed that Charlotte Bendall will step down as Postgraduate Representative at the AGM 2016. RH thanked Charlotte for all her work on behalf of the executive. Nominations for a new PG Representative will be sought with the position advertised through social media and the e-bulletin.  RH explained the role of the International Liaison Officer which includes liaising with and offering support to international members and international socio-legal organizations. Sharon Cowan accepted the role, subject to her election to the executive at the AGM 2016.  It was confirmed that Ben Livings will be stepping down at the AGM 2016 which is the end point of his first term.  It was confirmed that Jess Guth, Rosie Harding and Jen Hendry all of whom mark the end of their first term at the AGM 2016, will remain on the executive for a second term. Maebh Harding, who comes to the end of her co-opted term, will stand for election to the executive.  Mark O’Brien who will have served two terms as a member of the executive by the AGM 2016 has indicated he is willing to serve another term as Honorary Treasurer if elected to the position at the AGM. There were no additional volunteers within the executive to take on the position of Treasurer.  It was confirmed that Helen Carr and Gethin Rees are to step down from the executive at the AGM 2016.  It was confirmed that there will therefore be at least three vacancies on the executive to be filled at the AGM 2016.  As agreed at the last meeting, the Executive made a submission to the BSB’s consultation on the future of training for the Bar.  It was AGREED that the executive will nominate Vanessa Munro to the Academy of Social Sciences.  The recent AcSS meeting attended by RH included a discussion about ‘motivating volunteers’, which provided various ideas for rewarding service to a learned society. It was AGREED that the Chair of the association would if a member of the executive so requested it send a formal letter of appreciation to the member’s institution.  It was AGREED that the drafted information for prospective executive members would be placed on the website and in the Spring Newsletter.  RH confirmed that on behalf of the executive she nominated two members to a new ESRC Peer Review College to review applications for Doctoral Training Partnerships. The nominees were Dave Cowan and Amanda Perry-Kessaris.  It was AGREED that the executive would enter into dialogue with publishers regarding APC discounts for SLSA members. The outcome of any discussions will be reported back to the executive.  RH reported that she had been approached by Steven Whittle, IALS Information Systems Manager, to discuss a new Open Monographs publishing initiative at the School of Advanced Studies (SAS). It was AGREED to monitor the progress of the initiative and to discuss it again in future executive meetings if needs be.  RH reported that she was approached by a marketing manager from Routledge about a new initiative in which they bring together excerpts from related titles to create a short ebook on a specific topic. They did one on Law and Society for the LSA and promoted it at the Seattle conference. It was made available free to LSA members in exchange for members opting in to Routledge’s email list. They are interested in doing something similar with the SLSA, which could be co-branded. Following discussion, it was AGREED not to proceed with this.  RH reported that the executive have been contacted regarding the Legal Records at Risk Project based at IALS. It was AGREED to put information about this in the newsletter. It was also AGREED that MS would respond on behalf of the executive including asking if they have been in contact with the Law Society about the project.  RH reported that cataloguing of the latest tranche of SLSA archive at IALS has been completed. It was AGREED that each officer should package up their materials and send at the end of their term.  It was AGREED that Michael Thomson, Sharon Cowan, Jen Hendry and Dave Cowan would form the organizing committee with RH for the hosting of an SLSA reception at the LSA Annual Conference in 2016.  Michael Thomson is continuing to co-ordinate with colleagues from other jurisdictions on the Mexico City Conference 2017. It was AGREED that members of the executive would email Michael with the names of relevant Latin-American specialists who may be particularly interested in attending the Mexico City Conference in 2017.  In regards to the Socio-Legal Conference in Sydney, December 2018, it was AGREED that Sharon Cowan and Jen Hendry would join the planning committee. Marie Selwood and Sharon Cowan to produce an article for the newsletter on the forthcoming conference.  In regards to the idea of making connections with French socio-legal scholars, Emilie Cloatre agreed to draft a paper on this for next executive meeting in May.  It was AGREED that the current designation of themes and streams at the annual conference will be re-evaluated following the annual conference in 2016. Rosie Harding to design evaluation forms to allow the executive to seek the views of delegates on this matter. Any executive members with views on the content of the evaluation form should message Rosie H. RH to write to theme convenors, Dermot Feenan and Andrew Gilbert, regarding their request to reclassify the Law, Politics and Ideology theme to a stream to inform them of the decision to defer such decisions until after the results of the evaluation. | | | | Jen Hendry  Marie Selwood  Rosemary Hunter  Rosemary Hunter  Marie Selwood  Rosemary Hunter &  Francis King  Rosemary Hunter  Marie Selwood  All Officers  Michael Thomson, Sharon Cowan, Jen Hendry, Dave Cowan, Rosemary Hunter  Michael Thomson. The executive.  Sharon Cowan, Jen Hendry & Marie Selwood  Emilie Cloatre  Rosie Harding & Rosemary Hunter | |
| 3.2. Vice Chair | | | |  | |
| Rosie Harding confirmed that the conference sub-committee has chosen the University of Bristol as the hosts for the 2018 conference. The dates are 27-29 March 2018. Bristol have been asked to confirm that they are able to offer a PGR package inclusive of accommodation.  RHa confirmed that discussions are continuing with Leeds on their bid to host the 2019 conference.  It was agreed that for future tenders the executive would provide an example of a budget to assist potential bidders. | | | | Rosie Harding  Rosie Harding, Michael Thomson, Jen Hendry  Rosemary Hunter & Rosie Harding | |
| 3.3 Treasurer | | | |  | |
| Mark O’ Brien reported that the association’s finances remain in a healthy state.  Last year the association spent more than we received.  MOB reminded the executive of the current policy of maintaining a safety net of two years’ running costs in reserve.  MOB is continuing to work to rectify the issues with the association’s Pay-Pal account. MOB will update the executive on progress at the next meeting.  MOB is continuing to work to rectify the issues with the association’s Lloyds bank account. Some members are still depositing money to this account rather than the Co-operative account. MOB is gathering signatures of previous relevant officers to permit him to withdraw the final money from the Lloyds account. MOB hopes to have the issue sorted by the AGM 2016. | | | | Mark O’ Brien  Mark O’ Brien | |
| 3.4 Membership | | | |  | |
| Sarah Blandy confirmed she intends to tackle outstanding issues with membership fees by the AGM 2016. This includes the issue of members paying into the wrong accounts, members in arrears and members paying the wrong amounts. SB will email all affected members.  SB confirmed her plans to step down as membership secretary at the AGM 2016.  There was discussion of possible reforms to the membership secretary’s role post-AGM 2016. With Nathan Emmerich now assisting the membership secretary, this will allow for the secretary to have a greater focus on policy issues. A possible merger of the membership secretary and recruitment secretary roles was discussed, but the executive agreed that this would not be the best way forward.  Meabh Harding and Lois Bibbings expressed interest in the role of membership secretary. Both are to chat with SB on the role.  Marie Selwood agreed to put information on the website on how members can change their details on the Jiscmail mailing list.  It was confirmed that many of the individuals designated as ‘free members’ are heads of school and libraries. The only significance of this designation is that that they receive copies of the newsletter. | | | | Sarah Blandy  Sarah Blandy, Meabh Harding and Lois Bibbings  Marie Selwood | |
| **3.5 Recruitment** | | | |  | |
| No report received. | | | |  | |
| 3.6. Newsletter and Web Editor | | | |  | |
| Marie Selwood reported on her work since the previous meeting.  Marie Selwood is to order a new tablecloth for the association’s stand following the loss of the previous one at the previous annual conference.  Marie Selwood is producing a flyer for the annual conference to explain the process of how to become a member of the SLSA.  Marie Selwood inquired as to whether the executive felt there was a need for a redesign of the newsletter It was AGREED that a redesign was not necessary. | | | | Marie Selwood  Marie Selwood | |
| 3.7 PG Student Representative | | | |  | |
| Charlotte Bendall reported on her work since the previous executive meeting.  CB confirmed that there are approximately 150 students on the PG emailing list. | | | |  | |
| 3.8. Webmaster | | | |  | |
| Jed Meers reported to the executive on his work since the previous meeting.  JM confirmed that there are plans to advertise the new SLSA blog facility at the forthcoming SLSA annual conference.  Sharon Cowan, Tom Webb, Mark O’Brien and Naomi Creutzfeldt have volunteered to curate the blog once it goes live.  RosieH volunteered to write a blog post.  Nikki Godden-Rasul and Kevin Crosby agreed to write a blog post on the forthcoming SLSA conference.  Tom Webb and Siobhan Weare agreed to write a blog post on the forthcoming Lancaster conference.  Stream and themes convenors are to be contacted regarding the posting of blogs.  JM and MS confirmed that the redesigned e-bulletin will be ready to go live in the next couple of weeks. A test one will be sent to the executive first.  JM reported that he and Lewis are working on a way to simplify the initiation oof streams and themes web pages.  Jed Meers to remind Lewis to invoice the treasurer. | | | | Jed Meers & Marie Selwood  S Cowan, T Webb, Mark O’Brien, N Creutzfeldt, R Harding  Nikki Godden-Rasul & Kevin Crosby  Tom Webb and Siobhan Weare  Rosemary Hunter  Jed Meers & Marie Selwood  Jed Meers  Jed Meers | |
| 3.9 International liaison | | | |  | |
| Sharon Cowan was appointed the new International Liaison Officer pending her election at the AGM in 2016. | | | |  | |
| 3.10 Social Media | | | |  | |
| Jen Hendry reported on her work since the previous meeting.  Dave Cowan to provide book prize for 2,000th SLSA twitter follower.  It was agreed that for the Lancaster conference we will use the following hashtag on twitter #SLSA2016  Jen Hendry agreed to provide a hashtag for the next postgraduate conference at the September meeting. | | | | Jen Hendry | |
| 4.1.a Warwick 2015 | | | |  | |
| The executive formally thanked the University of Warwick for its donation of £21,465.73 following their successful conference. | | | |  | |
| 4.1.b. Lancaster 2016 | | | |  | |
| It was confirmed that there have been 155 submissions as of the 14th January 2016.  It was confirmed that the call for papers closes on Monday 18th January. A second call for papers after the deadline will be considered if necessary.  It was confirmed that there were 12 registered for the conference as of the 14th January 2016.  It was confirmed that there had been one application to date for the charity attendance grant. It was agreed that the deadline for application to this scheme would be extended. Executive members were encouraged to invite charities to apply to the scheme.  It was confirmed that there had been 10 PGR travel grant application and one hardship application to date.  It was confirmed that there had been one Poster submission received to date. Executive members were encouraged to encourage PGRs to apply for this.  It was confirmed that publishers have been contacted regarding the conference. Still waiting on a response from some.  It was agreed that the Law Commission would be offered a number of free registration places. RH to contact. SC would investigate whether we should also invite the Scottish Law Commission to present on any of its work at the conference.  It was agreed that there would be an impact session run at the Lancaster conference. Conference organisers agreed to schedule an appropriate time for the session. RH to contact relevant speakers.  TW confirmed that he had received a query regarding discounts for retired members wishing to attend the conference. It was agreed that retired members would be charged the same as PGRs for this conference. Future conferences would introduce a discounted fee for retired members.  It was agreed that the Executive would schedule sessions for the author meets reader sessions for the prize winners, as part of relevant streams/themes.  Michael Thomson volunteered to assist organise the author meets readers sessions with Henry Yeomans.  Tom Webb reported that it was proving difficult to make a block booking with the Travel-Lodge. He agreed to try approaching them in person. Another affordable accommodation option is the Holiday Inn, although this is outside the city centre. | | | | Tom Webb & Siobhan Weare  Entire Executive  Entire Executive  Francis King, Tom Webb & Siobhan Weare  Sharon Cowan  Rosemary Hunter  Tom Webb  Various (see below)  Michael Thomson  Tom Webb | |
| 4.1.c Newcastle 2017 | | | |  | |
| Nikki Godden-Rasul and Kevin Crosby reported to the executive on preparation for Newcastle’s hosting for the annual conference in 2017.  NG and KC proposed that the theme of the conference would be ‘visions of law’. The executive agreed.  RH to contact NG and KC to arrange a site visit with MOB. | | | | Rosemary Hunter | |
| 4.2 Postgraduate conferences | | | |  | |
| This year’s postgraduate conference was hosted by the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies. It was over-subscribed, and informal feedback suggested it was much appreciated by the students who attended. Thanks were expressed to the presenters for their continuing support for the conference. RH confirmed that the next PGR conference would be Queen’s University Belfast.  It was agreed that in the not too distant future that the PGR conference should be held in Scotland if a suitable host is found. | | | |  | |
| 4.3 One-day conferences | | | |  | |
| The joint IALS/British Library/SLSA/BSC training day on Sources and Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice was held at IALS on 20 November. It was the best attended training day to date and included an impressive line-up of speakers. Discussions are ongoing regarding future training days. | | | | Rosemary Hunter | |
| 5.1 Book prizes | | | |  | |
| There were 17 entries for the book prizes. The sub-committee on the book prizes reported the shortlists and winners for each category. RH to get in touch with all those shortlisted. MS to announce the shortlists in the e-bulletin and the winners in the Spring newsletter.There will be two author meets readers sessions. Emilie Cloatre and Jen Hendry to assist in organising these. | | | | Rosemary Hunter, Marie Selwood  Rosemary Hunter, Emilie Cloatre and Jen Hendry | |
| 5.2. Article prize | | | |  | |
| The four articles shortlisted were: Chua  Halliday JacksonMantouvalouThe executive AGREED that the winner of the best article prize was Chua. Shortlist to be placed in the e-bulletin and winner reported in the newsletter.  RH to contact those shortlisted. RosieH to follow up with author meets reader session for the winner. | | | | Marie Selwood  Rosemary Hunter  Rosie Harding | |
| 5.3 Contributions to the socio-legal community | | | |  | |
| Martin Partington was delighted to accept the prize for 2016. The deadline for nominations for next year’s prize will be in early September, for decision at the September Executive meeting. | | | |  | |
| **5.4 Grants** | | | |  | |
| The sub-committee for research grants reported to the executive on its deliberations.  The executive AGREED to fund the grant applications of Perry-Kessaris, Duggan and Fox.  The executive AGREED to fund the PhD Fieldwork application of Narayan.  Jess Guth to inform the applicants.  It was AGREED that the Grants Sub-Committee would undertake to redraft the application forms and present drafts to the executive at the next meeting.  There was discussion of the PhD Fieldwork grant following RH’s research on sources of fieldwork funding. There was concern that these grants may not be reaching their targets. It was AGREED there was a need to tighten the criteria to exclude students with ESRC funding and to ask questions about other sources of funding for the PhD generally (rather than just for fieldwork specifically). The funding rules should also give the committee scope to look at the spread of awards across institutions. It was AGREED that more detailed guidance should be provided, together with an example of a good application. | | | | Jess Guth  Jess Guth  Rosemary Hunter, Jess Guth | |
| **5.5 Seminar** | | | |  | |
| RHa confirmed that the seminar Competition has 16 entries. The sub-committee are in the process of evaluating the bids and it is anticipated that a decision will be made on these by early February 2016. | | | | Rosie Harding | |
| **5.6 Research Training and Mentoring Awards** | | | |  | |
| No up-dates for this meeting. | | | |  | |
| **6. Reforms to Legal Education** | | | |  | |
| MOB reported back to the executive on the SRA’s proposed reforms to legal education. CHULS and the SLSA will continue to promote the role of socio-legal scholarship in legal education. | | | |  | |
| **7. Next Meeting Dates** | | | |  | |
| It was confirmed that the next executive meeting will be 19th May 2016 at IALS at 1pm with lunch at 12:30pm. | | | | Kevin Brown | |
| **8. Any Other Business** | | | |  | |
| None | | | |  | |