

COUNCIL FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ENGLISH

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Linnean Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly

Friday 16 September 2011 (12.30-2.30pm)

Present: Linda Anderson, Deborah Cartmell, Fiona Douglas, David Duff (Chair), Elspeth Graham, Jan Jedrzejewski, Gail Marshall, Peter Middleton, Angelique Richardson, Marcus Walsh, Greg Walker.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Scott Brewster, Susan Bruce, Claire Connolly, Faye Hammill, Peter Kitson, John Lyon, Nahem Yousaf and Helen Small.

2. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of 7 May 2011

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

- a. The 2011 Book Prize had received 5 eligible entries. These will be judged by GW, LA & DD.
- b. £10,000 had been transferred from the Subject Centre to CCUE, to support ongoing work in maintaining website etc.

4. Arrangements for OGM – update

The OGM will be held on Saturday 3 December 2011 from 10am-5pm, in the same venue as last year - The Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Russell Square, University of London. (Enquiries had revealed that it would be too expensive to hold the OGM in the British Academy premises.)

ACTION: DD/DC to send out invitations to OGM.

3 Nov update: Invitations have been sent to all UK Heads of Department and CCUE representatives. Deadline for registration is Friday 18 November.

5. Response to REF2014 consultation

Over 30 responses had been received to CCUE's consultation on the REF draft statements on panel criteria and working methods. Whilst these replies covered a broad spectrum of opinion, they also revealed a lot of common ground and similar concerns. It was agreed that CCUE's response would confine itself mainly to points requiring clarification or amendment, since the basic principles of the REF had already been agreed... These points were discussed and arrangements made for collating CCUE's response, with DD as editor. GW & LA, as members of the English REF subpanel, would be able to provide useful guidance to CCUE as planning for the REF moved forward. Final deadline for responses to HEFCE is 5 October 2011.

ACTION: DD to coordinate and send CCUE response.

4 Dec update: DD has sent the agreed CCUE response to HEFCE; also circulated to Heads of Department, and copied to CCUE Exec.

6. Response to White Paper consultation

GM was coordinating the Exec. response on this. It was agreed that key points would include the issues surrounding deregulation of the market and the likely development of a two-tier system, further fragmentation of the UK's HE system, consequences for the postgraduate market, damage to internationalisation of HE and overseas recruitment.

ACTION: DD & GM to organise and send response by 20 Sept 2011 deadline.

Update: CCUE response sent to David Willetts; CCUE Exec. members have received copies.

7. CCUE's role post-Subject Centre

a. Early Career Lecturers Event

This year's event will be held at De Montfort University on 17 & 18 November; charge £50). The Exec. discussed the draft flier for the event (circulated by DC) and suggested amendments to make it clear that early career lecturers in Creative Writing and English Language were also welcome to attend.

ACTION: DC, DD and SB to organise, and issue invitations.

23 Sept update: invitations sent to Heads of Department.

b. Conversion of Subject Centre website

CCUE has now taken over management of the website, which has a specifically teaching, rather than research, focus. Suggestions for a new name for the site (needs to be easily Googleable) should be sent to DD. It was agreed that the site would benefit from some further restructuring, as well as a cull of out-of-date materials. DD had met with Brett Lucas, who had agreed to make any changes requested by CCUE and to continue to maintain the site for a small fee.. Other suggestions included presenting the resource more as a repository or library of materials (perhaps with 'liveness' mimicked by the inclusion of auto-generated changing highlighted material) - DD, DC, EG & FD agreed to look at the website and consider how it could best be restructured and presented in its new incarnation. Aim is to relaunch the website at OGM. This was also an opportunity to enhance CCUE's own website by creating a portal to all UK HE English Departments (with indication of which ones are CCUE members) and links to subject-internal associations such as BARS, BAVS, BSECS etc. It was agreed that CCUE funds would be available if necessary to pay a postgraduate to develop new content for the CCUE site.

ACTION: DD, DC, EG & FD to look at former Subject Centre website and make recommendations for change.

ACTION: DD to commission new content for CCUE site.

c. Relationship with Higher Education Academy

Members of the CCUE Exec were invited, if able, to stay on to meet with Nicole King (incoming HEA discipline lead).

8. CCUE link with English Association (Higher Education Committee)

Discussion of this was held over for the next Exec meeting.

9. Amendments to CCUE Constitution <http://www.ccue.ac.uk/about/constitution.html>

Discussion of this was held over for the next Exec meeting.

10. AOB

There was no other business. The meeting ended at 2.45pm.

11. Date of next meeting

5pm on Friday 2 December 2011 (Room 265, 2nd floor Senate House, Russell Square, London).

Fiona Douglas (University of Leeds), Assistant Secretary.