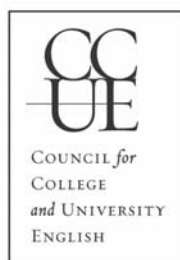


CHAIR of CCUE
Professor Elisabeth Jay
Assistant Dean of Arts and Humanities



Headington Campus
Gipsy Lane
OXFORD
OX3 0BP

Tel: +44 (0) 1865 484235
Fax: +44 (0) 1865 484082

ejjay@brookes.ac.uk
www.brookes.ac.uk

Council for College and University English
Response to the invitation for consultation contained in RAE 01/2004:
RAE 2008 Panel Configuration and Recruitment March 2004

The Executive Committee of the Council for College and University English discussed this consultative paper at their meeting on 24th April 2004. The Committee wishes to make the following points on behalf of the membership:

Section 1: Configuration of units of assessment and their grouping under main panels

- i) Panel J would, at first sight seem to offer a slightly odd grouping. English, Linguistics, and Communication, Cultural and Media Studies might be thought to have more in common intellectually with cognate Humanities subjects than with Library and Information Management: for instance the monograph seems more likely to have a prime role in Humanities disciplines than in Library and Information Management. Panel J will need to have mechanisms in place to respond to what might emerge as very different patterns of publication in its four sub-panels.
- ii) Specification of the mechanisms to be employed to facilitate liaison between the main panels would therefore be helpful. It is important that these mechanisms be as substantial and transparent as those between the sub-panels and the main panels, so that the results of the various Arts and Humanities subjects, considered initially within different main panel groupings, can be monitored to ensure broad comparability of assessment criteria, standards and outcomes.
- iii) The mechanisms for cross-referencing between sub-panels is also extremely important in such a broadly-based subject discipline as English. Again clear information and guidance need to be provided to reassure the subject community that robust and transparent mechanisms are securely in place.

Section 2. Draft list of nominating bodies

In some disciplines a number of tightly-focussed interest groups and organisations have been consulted rather than, or in addition to, a subject-wide body. CCUE affirms the value of consulting groups that speak for an entire subject community rather than minority interest groups, and draws attention to the disparity in the process of consulting the various Arts and Humanities disciplines. Procedures will need to be put in place that allow for the possibilities of the very different patterns of nominations that might occur when such interest groups form a part of the consultation process.

Elisabeth Jay (Chair).