

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee held on 20 October 2012 at the Institute of Historical Research – 11 a.m.**

Present: Prof. Ann Hughes, Co-convenor (Keele), Dr Keith McLay Co-convenor (Chester), Dr Glenn Richardson, Secretary (St Mary's UC), Prof. Rainer Schulze, Treasurer (Essex) , Dr Meg Arnot (Roehampton), Dr Mark Clapson (Westminster), Dr Paul Corthorn (Queen's University, Belfast), Dr Karin Dannehl (Economic History Society/Wolverhampton), Dr Andrew Dilley (Aberdeen), Dr Peter D'Sena (Higher Education Academy), Dr Daniel Gordon (Edge Hill), Mr Simon Lambe (Postgraduate Student Rep), Dr Robert McNamara (Ulster), Dr Rebecca Rist (Reading), Dr Andrew Roach (Glasgow), Dr John Young (Strathclyde).

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Prof. Malcolm Chase (Leeds), Dr Andrew Foster (Kent and HA), Dr Amanda Goodrich (Open), Dr David Hussey (Wolverhampton), Prof. Donald MacRaild, (Northumbria), Dr Philip Ollerenshaw (UWE Bristol), Dr A.E. Redgate (Newcastle).

### **2. Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting of 19 May 2012.**

These were accepted as an accurate record subject to the following emendations:

Daniel Gordon (Edge Hill) was in attendance at the meeting.

Andrew Foster noted (by email )comments that he and or Jason Peacey had made on the RHS, particularly the work of Peter Mandler in drawing up the RHA response to the History A-Level consultation that was widely circulated and discussed with HA and HUK colleagues.

### **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

There were none.

### **4. Report from Peter D'Sena, (Higher Education Academy)**

D'Sena reported on activities and initiatives sponsored or supported by HEA. LMH conference on teaching was well attended. The conference on Teaching History in Higher Education held at IHR in early September was well attended by 80 delegates

HEA will be supporting a series of w/shops and seminars events which have a pedagogical element or clear dimension on teaching

and learning. E.g. Future of Holocaust Studies being reviewed at University of Southampton.

1.5 million funding available from HEA is divided among 28 disciplines. Colleagues for last year's unsuccessful bids are encouraged to reapply alongside new bids for next year. HEA is also looking for reviewers of these bids and information on this will be available in 2013. Teaching Development Grants for individuals and collaborative work will be available in January and further details available then.

There are also travel grants for people to attend conferences with a teaching related theme. Need to apply one month ahead of the event. A number of projects are being supported including commissioning someone to evaluate NSS; keen to take up one of the ideas of the analysis of small departments.

For 2013: Events include:

Arts and Humanities conference, 29/30 May Brighton historians to contribute to this.

Peter d'Sena is organising personal visits to departments and discussion with people in different HEs about ways of accessing HEA support and funding.

Miles Taylor willing to work in partnership with HEA and collaborating on the next stage Teaching History in HE in Senate House on 10/11 September 2013.

## **5. Secretary's Report.**

Dr John Colin resigned from Committee and Dr Amanda Goodrich wishes to step down after one 3-year term. Dr Andrew Roach is stepping down after 6 years.

## **6. Treasurer's Report.**

Sixty-six subscriptions are now in. Yet it is still the case that expenditure per year is higher than income, so that HUK is living off savings. Need minimum of nine more subs over the year to break even. Drive for additional subscriptions needed to pay outstanding subs and new ones to join up. This is to be linked to the launch of new website.

## **7. Convenors' Reports:**

### **I. Subject Association:**

11 June meeting attended where plans already in place were discussed. At the 15 October meeting the main issues discussed were open access publishing; fed back on A Level consultation with Peter Mandler. Central point was that there was opposition to the idea of individual academics advising on A-Level curriculum and assessment. Proposed instead, that there should be some form of brokering organisation to offer a representative sample of academics, recognising the diversity of history teaching in UK universities and not just Russell Group. HEA, RHistS and HA involved in discussion of provision of historians to contribute to reform of curriculum and exam process. Urgency needed to be clear about how professional colleagues should respond to invitations to consultation – suggestion that this be emailed to all department. The Discipline needs to be united behind the mechanism proposed by RHistS and HA rather than individuals. This position should also be put on the website.

AHRC Strategy 2013-2018 draft document has been released for consultation; link to that document to be circulated; responses sought for subsequent communication with Peter Mandler and research policy group.

### **II. HUK Constitution and Relationship with the RHistS**

Relationship is closer and more coordinated. Revised HUK Constitution to be submitted to Plenary. Relationship between RHistS and HUK to be discussed.

### **III. Plenary**

Peter Mandler is to attend as incoming President of RHistS. Items for the meeting include the tertiary fees regime and its impact on history, Public history, employability of history graduates.

### **IV. Response to A-Level Consultation**

(discussed above).

### **V. New co-convenor:**

Andrew Dilley volunteered to become a co-convenor succeeding Ann Hughes at the Plenary. Ann thanked him for his interest and also expressed thanks to others who had expressed interest in taking on the role.

## **VI. HEA Collaborative Training Scheme**

(discussed above)

### **8. Website Development.**

GR continue to work with Sean O'Brien and IHR on site. Domain name now under HUK control and content being uploaded. Plans to have a basic version live for Plenary are still on track.

### **9. Open Access Publishing**

HUK and RHS contemplating responding to Finch report. An overview was offered by Andrew Dilley. The view was taken by the Committee that there were important unforeseen consequences from the premise that public funded research should be available to public. Finch outlined Green and Gold routes but clearly favoured Gold route where the author pays journals to have work published available on open access. Secretary of State Willetts endorsed the Finch report. Funding councils are already working out ways in which OA publishing is to be incorporated into funding proposals. Open Access is likely to be an element of REF 2020.

A wide-ranging discussion followed. Gold model considers issues of production in humanities as 'challenge's not real issues/problems to be addressed. There is a threat to monographs and edited collections in this new and preferred model.

QR finances supposedly to be used fund the cost of publishing in OA. Yet as only 3-4 star will attract funding, universities will be likely to pay OA costs only for output of this rating. This may be problematic for independent scholars and early-career researchers who will be disadvantaged in this scheme.

AD to circulate a discussion paper on OA. To be discussed in business part of the Plenary. Issue of Open Access is also to be featured on website for Plenary.

### **10. Reports from:**

#### **I. Irish Representatives.**

University of Ulster amalgamating Irish History with provision at Coleraine campus; some redundancies in history followed. A new chair in British History to be advertised soon. Recruitment holding steady and there were not very many English students coming to NI. Queens' recruitment also holding up. No massive increase in recruitment of GB students. MA numbers are not increasing.

**II. Scottish Representatives.**

No particular news at this meeting. Echoed the view from Irish reps.  
Not many students from rest of the UK at Aberdeen;

**III. Welsh Representatives.**

No reps at meeting. Committee is aware of continuing programme of restructuring and mergers in Wales.

**11. Reports from:**

**I. Historical Association:**

No rep at the meeting

**II. Royal Historical Society:**

No rep at the meeting

**III. Institute of Historical Research:**

No rep at the meeting

**IV. Postgraduate representative:**

Simon Lambe commented that there no particular issues for the committee's consideration at this meeting.

**12. Any Other business.**

There was none.

**13. Dates of Future meetings:**

- Plenary 17 November 2012
- Steering Committee, 16 February 2013
- Steering Committee, 11 May 2013

The meeting concluded at 12.52pm

Glenn Richardson

Secretary