

SUALL

Scottish Universities Association
for
Lifelong Learning

Hon Secretary
Dr R A Thomson
Centre for Lifelong Learning
University of Strathclyde
40 George Street
Glasgow G1 1QE
Tel: 0141 548 2239
Fax: 0141 553 1270
E-mail: r.a.thomson@strath.ac.uk

A Meeting of SUALL was held within the Centre for Lifelong Learning (7th Floor), University of Strathclyde, 40 George Street, Glasgow, on Friday 3rd February 2006.

Attendance

Mike Allardyce (Dundee)
Lucy Bate (UALL)
Pete Cannell (OU)
Brian Findsen (Glasgow)
Jim Gallacher (Glasgow Caledonian)
Con Gillen (Edinburgh)
Lesley Hart (Strathclyde)
Theresa Hoare (Glasgow)
Hazel Knox (Paisley)
Keith Mackle (Dundee)
Margaret Mill (Napier)
Anne McGillivray (Paisley)
Mike Osborne (Stirling)
Julia Preece (Glasgow)
Alex Rougvie (St Andrews)
Raymond Thomson (SUALL)
Colin Thorne (Strathclyde)
Viv Urquhart (Dundee)

Apologies were received.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Accepted

2. Matters Arising

- (a) The Secretary asked for final numbers for the AGM to be held on Skye.
- (b) The Linguists Sub-committee has been disbanded.
- (c) No progress as yet on the appointment of a press officer

3. Reports from Sub-Committees

- (a) **Widening Participation in HE.** The widening participation survey is still on-going. The Secretary will see the Convenor about the possibility of publishing the results. Margaret Dundas will attend the next meeting. Representatives of this group will meet the new member of staff at Universities Scotland concerned with social inclusion. Keith Mackle will

contact Linda McLeod of the Funding Councils to determine if the group can assist the Funding Councils in moving on the Learning for All report. A Teaching and Learning Forum is being developed at the Funding Councils, to be chaired by Jim Gallacher.

- (b) **CPD.** The last meeting was cancelled, and rescheduled for February.
- (c) **Administration.** There are still problems with ILAs. A meeting convened on this by the Scottish Executive had failed to invite some key players. 23,000 accounts opened in November (11,000 being used). This is on the low side of predictions. CRLL is undertaking a review of the ILA scheme. The Administrators Conference in Maynooth has 30 registrations. There are still 7 bursaries of £50 left. The Secretary will see the Convenor of this group to investigate institutional links to the SUALL web-page. Job-matching was discussed and it was noted that the matching of part-time tutors could present problems.
- (d) **Research.** Met in January. Paul Nolan of Queens Belfast has asked to join this committee, Agreed. Action is being developed to build up the research capacity for those researching in isolation.

4. Discussion on Regional Fora

John Field has asked 5 pertinent questions to help direct the discussion on the future of regional fora. The experience of Stirling and St Andrews is not very positive. Some members felt that there were signs of positive change which may bring benefits to SUALL members. In terms of efficiency, HE Access courses were better at bringing people into HE. Pete Cannel reported on the disparate nature of each of the Foras activities.

5. Changes to Constitution and Rules

Minor amendments were made. Other changes were requested via e-mail prior to the AGM.

6. Proposed SUALL Symposium at Strathclyde, November 2006

This was discussed. It will be linked to the November meeting. A date will be circulated in the week beginning Feb 6.

7. UALL National Report

- (a) An Events diary was distributed
- (b) Forthcoming conferences were advertised
- (c) UALL Cymru researching into funding for p/t students in Wales. Representatives will be in Glasgow on 21 February (pm). Secretary to ask for contacts.
- (d) Jim Gallacher asked for ideas and comments to be fed into the UALL identification of key strategic issues.

8. Reports from Universities

- (a) Edinburgh: The personnel Office is doing job-matching for p/t tutors.
- (b) St Andrews: Fee-setting for p/t students is under way. Self-financed students will pay £1200 and it is hoped that p/t students will be pro-rated to this figure.
- (c) Strathclyde: Postgraduate certificate in executive Coaching is due to start.
- (d) Napier: The review is complete. Working with COSCA to benchmark Counselling Skills.
- (e) Glasgow: DACE is having an assessment of teaching and learning. The voluntary severance scheme is now concluded. Brian Findsen will become

HOD in April. The CRADALL seminars were intimated. MRes being developed in 2006. Senior lecturer post to be advertised.

- (f) Open: All courses soon to be ILA ready. It is rewriting its widening participation strategy.
- (g) Dundee: Still awaiting review
- (h) Glasgow Caledonian: Big FE/HE articulation project with five strands. Working with refugees. CRLL seminars were advertised.
- (i) Paisley: The Bell merger is proceeding. ELIR Review is under way. Problems emerging because of new HNCs worth only 96 points.
- (j) Stirling: Mike Osborne is now Director of DIACE. There is now an RPL unit. Reports were given of European projects and events.

9. AOCB

A Search Committee was to be set up to find a replacement for Alex Neil MSP as Chair of SUALL.

It was confirmed that the Secretary was on the editorial Board of JACE.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 15 June 2006, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Isle of Skye

Dr Raymond A Thomson, Hon Secretary SUALL
6 February 2006