

UACE(S) Secretary's Report 2002 2003

It is with great sadness that the secretary wishes to note the untimely death of UACE(S) Chair Professor Colin Bell. Condolences were posted on the web site on behalf of UACE(S) and the secretary will attend the Celebration of the Life of Colin Bell at the University of Stirling on 2nd July 2003. A search committee will be set up to identify a new Chair.

The main Committee of UACE(S) has met three times since the last AGM. A final response to the Scottish Parliamentary Inquiry into Lifelong Learning Final report was sent to the Committee Chair and to the Minister for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning. The Secretary attended the National Conference on Lifelong Learning which followed the publication of the Strategy document Life Through Learning, Learning Through Life.

New members of the Association are confirmed as UHI, SAC and Edinburgh College of Art. The Association is pleased to note the attendance of representatives from SHEFC and Universities Scotland.

The sub-committees have agreed to meet on different days to UACE(S) Council. The secretary has attended at least one of each of the sub-committee meetings with the exception of the Linguists. The Access Working Group has reviewed and agreed a new remit and proposes to change its name to the Widening Participation to Higher Education Sub-committee to reflect the changing nature of the access agenda in Scotland and HEIs involvement in Community Learning and Development Strategies. The Administration Group has tackled issues of ILAs, Disability and Race Relations. The Association welcomes the revitalisation of the CPD Sub-committee.

On behalf of UACE(S) the Chair wrote to the funding Council expressing concern at the evaluation of Strand 4 funded projects. The Access Working group has asked that UACE(S) writes again outlining further concerns.

The Association welcomes the indication of further funding for the Scottish Network for Access and Participation (SNAP). A meeting between the SNAP Project Officer and office bearers will take place at the end of June to discuss the way forward. A new Chair for SNAP will also be appointed. The Association wishes to record its thanks to the outgoing Chair, Margaret Mullen.

The Secretary attended the National UACE Conference in Newcastle and notes UACE(S)'s thanks to Lucy Bate (UACE Administrator) and the team at Newcastle for organising a stimulating and enjoyable event.

Keith Mackle
Hon Sec UACE(S)
09/06/03