

UACE(S) Secretary's Report 2003-2004

UACE(S) was pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Alex Neil MSP as the new Chair for a period of two years from June 2003.

The main Committee of UACE(S) has met three times since the last AGM. A special meeting of UACE(S) was convened in October 2003 to discuss the future of UACE with representatives of UACE UK.

This year the sub-committees have met on different days to UACE(S) Council. The secretary has attended most of the sub-committee meetings with the exception of the Linguists which has not met for some time. UACE(S) Council may wish to discuss the future viability of a Linguists Sub-committee. The WPHE Sub-committee is presently gathering a second round of valuable statistical information on participation in WP and Lifelong Learning activities in HEIs. The previous information resulted in interest from the Funding Council, Principals and others. The committee has had discussions on involvement in community activities and a presentation on the new guidelines for the production of Community Learning and Development Strategies. The Chair, Dr Hazel Knox, has indicated her wish to step down and the Sub-committee are currently seeking nominations for a new Chair. UACE(S) owes a debt of gratitude to Dr Knox for her professional and very successful leading of this group which is now strong and vibrant. The Administration Group has again tackled issues of ILAs and we note with concern that they will certainly be implemented too late for a number of institutions publicity materials to carry any mention of them. The Administration Sub-committee agreed to look at designing a brief for a UACE(S) Website. A small working group chaired by Theresa Hoare came together in early June 2004 and proposals will be submitted to UACE(S) on 25 June 2004. At the last meeting of the CPD Sub-committee members heard a very useful presentation from Dr Kevin Cullen, Director of Research and Enterprise at the University of Glasgow, on Knowledge Transfer Metrics.

UACE(S) Secretary has distributed forms in order to compile a register of expertise and also forms to examine the structure of Lifelong Learning Activities within Scottish HEIs. Response has been patchy and he would encourage those who have not sent back information to do so. It is intended that the information will be made available on a UACE(S) Website.

UACE(S) has discussed future relationships with UACE UK and a discussion paper with proposals for the future will be discussed on 25 June 2004.

A small group of UACE(S) members were invited to contribute to the Scottish Funding Council review of widening access to and participation in lifelong learning. The group had a useful meeting with Tom Ward, Senior Policy Adviser on 15 June 2004.

The Association notes the ending of SNAP in its present form and eagerly awaits news of how the very valuable networking activities are to be continued. The Association would like to warmly thank Lucy Macleod for Chairing SNAP at a time when its future was so uncertain.

Keith Mackle
Hon Sec UACE(S)
22/06/04