



British Education Studies Association (BESA)

Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting

Friday 1 July 2005

University of Chester

The first Annual General Meeting of the Association took place on the evening of the first two-day conference. The meeting was attended by 45 conference members and the Acting Chair was Prof Steve Bartlett, University of Wolverhampton.

1 Apologies

David Matheson, Nottingham University

2 Welcome by acting Chair

The Chair welcomed conference members to the meeting and thanked them for their interest and participation. He explained that the conference and the proposal for a new association had been developed by a Founding Group in order to enable networking and the sharing of ideas about Education Studies, to raise its profile in the sector and provide a national voice.

He invited all members present to feel able to participate as members of the association and as members of the Executive.

Members of the Founding Group were:

- Steve Bartlett, University of Wolverhampton
- Les Hankin, Liverpool Hope University College
- Alan Hodgkinson, University of Chester
- Sue Lewis, Manchester Metropolitan University
- Derek Kassem, Liverpool John Moore's University
- David Matheson, Nottingham University
- Emmanuel Mufti, Liverpool John Moore's University
- David Smith, Liverpool Hope University College
- Hugh Somervell, University College Worcester
- Stephen Ward, Bath Spa University College

3 Approval of the Constitution for the Association

A draft of the Constitution had been provided online to members and a hard copy included in the conference pack. The draft had been considered by the Founding Group.

It was agreed that the Constitution was a suitable document for the Association and was approved with the following amendment:

- a. The officer posts of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasure should in the first instance be for varying periods, in order that all posts do not

terminate at the same time. The post of Chair should be for one year, to be succeeded by the Vice Chair.

- b. The Chair in the first instance should be for one year.

The length of term for the other officer posts would be agreed at the first meeting of the Executive Committee.

4 Approval of the Description of the Association

A draft of the Description, which is to form the text for website, had been provided online to members and a hard copy included in the conference pack. The draft had been considered by the Founding Group. The document received positive comments from members and was agreed as an appropriate description of the Association and its aims. The Description was approved with agreed modifications:

- a: to clarify the role of students in the Association
- b: to include members from Further Education as well as Higher Education

5 Election of Chair of the Association

Proposal for Chair: Steve Bartlett, University of Wolverhampton
Proposer: Stephen Ward, Bath Spa University College
Seconded: Alan Hodgkinson, University of Chester

The proposal was agreed.

6 Election of Vice Chair of the Association

Proposal for Vice Chair: Stephen Ward, Bath Spa University College
Proposer: Sue Lewis, Manchester Metropolitan University
Seconded: Emmanuel Mufti, Liverpool John Moore's University

The proposal was agreed.

7 Election of Secretary of the Association

Proposal for Secretary: Les Hankin, Liverpool Hope University College
Proposer: Derek Kassem, Liverpool John Moore's University
Seconded: Emmanuel Mufti, Liverpool John Moore's University

The proposal was agreed.

8 Election of Treasurer of the Association

Proposal for Treasurer: David Smith, Liverpool Hope University College
Proposer: Hugh Somervell, University College Worcester
Seconded: Les Hankin, Liverpool Hope University College

The proposal was agreed.

9 Executive Committee members

The following members were proposed as members of the Executive for the Association and their membership was agreed:

- Daphne Evans, Trinity College, Carmarthen
- Sian Dufty, University of Chester
- Gill Haynes, University of Exeter
- Yvonne Hill, Manchester Metropolitan University
- Alan Hodkinson, University of Chester
- Sue Lewis, Manchester Metropolitan University
- Derek Kassem, Liverpool John Moore's University
- David Matheson, Nottingham University
- Emmanuel Mufti, Liverpool John Moore's University
- John Sharp, Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln
- Hugh Somervell, University College Worcester
- Chris Wakeman, University of Wolverhampton
- Bob Waugh, Oxford Brookes University
- Gwenan Williams, University of Wales, Bangor

10 Future meeting of the Executive

This would be arranged by the Chair, probably during the third week of September 2005.

11 Journal for the Association

Steve Bartlett explained that a proposal for a journal for the Association had been made to Sage Publications; it had been well received, although finally rejected on the grounds of the scale of competition in the market. However, recently, Trentham Books have expressed interest and suggested that they would be prepared to publish if minimum sales of 200 could be guaranteed. Subscriptions could be raised as part of future conference fees.

There was discussion of this suggestion and it was agreed that a journal would be desirable that, with the growing interest in Education Studies and the growing membership of BESA, this figure could be reached. It was agreed that the Chair should continue negotiations with Trentham Books.

12 Next conference

The Chair sounded the meeting on their reactions to the first conference and the response was overwhelmingly positive. While there were some reservations about the quality of the domestic arrangements, members said that they had found the conference highly successful as a means of networking, sharing ideas and engaging in discussion about different aspects of Education Studies. It was agreed that the quality of papers and the subsequent discussions had been high.

The format was generally agreed to be appropriate, with two days – one working day and one week-end day. There was some feeling that three days might be stronger.

There was discussion of the location of the next conference. Bishop Grosseteste College was offered as a possible venue and was thanked for this. There was a suggestion that it might be located further south, but there was no decision and it was agreed that the Executive would consider this at its first

meeting.

13 Any other business

Steve Bartlett was thanked for his initiative in setting up the Association and the first Conference.