

<p>Present: Penny English, Margaret Downie, Sarah Christie, Rosemary Hunter, Anne Barlow, Charlotte Bendall, Marian Duggan, Jen Hendry, Caroline Hunter, André Naidoo, Ben Livings, Jane Scoular, Jess Guth, Sarah Blandy, Mark O'Brien, Chris Ashford</p>	
<p>Agenda item</p>	<p><i>Action</i></p>
<p>1. Apologies</p>	
<p>MS, GD, KB, RHa, JG, GG, KB</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of 17.01.13</p>	
<p>Approved.</p>	
<p>3.1 Chair</p>	
<p>New members of the Executive were welcomed.</p> <p>Those Exec members who stood down at the AGM were thanked: Linda Mulcahy, Vanessa Munro, Julie McCandless and Amanda Perry-Kessarais.</p> <p>Julie McCandless is to be co-opted to the Executive until September in order to complete work on the new membership database.</p> <p>RH and CA had undertaken a site visit to RGU. AGREED that conference dinner would be held in the City Centre.</p> <p>The Association had been invited to make further nominations to the REF panel. It had been AGREED via email with Executive members that Carl Stychin would be nominated for the legal theory vacancy.</p> <p>Concerns had been raised by the CHULS Executive regarding the nomination of additional assessors and they had decided not to engage with the process. Specific concerns relate to transparency in decision-making on appointments and potential lack of consistency between new nominees and pre-existing panel members.</p> <p>The SLS also had concerns but felt it was important to engage with the process. It was AGREED that whilst the SLSA Executive had concerns about the approach of HEFCE to panel appointments, it remained important to engage with the ongoing process.</p> <p>There was an identified need for a sub-group to draft a SLSA position paper on Open Access. It was agreed that it would consist of RH, MD, BL, AL, and CA.</p>	<p>SC/MD</p> <p>RH</p> <p>RH, MD, BL, AL, CA</p>

3.2. Vice Chair	
Nothing to report.	
3.3 Treasurer	
LM and MOB had organised the paperwork relating to the accounts as part of the handover and had successfully transferred the appropriate financial records.	
3.4 Membership	
It was noted that a number of new members had joined at the York conference.	
3.5 Recruitment	
It was AGREED that a targeted email be sent to those York conference attendees who were not members. The membership form also needed to be updated.	CH/MD
3.6. Newsletter and Web Editor	
See written reports. It was AGREED that RH would sign the letters sent out as part of the newsletter sponsorship scheme in a bid to encourage new sponsors and the continuation of existing sponsor agreements. Exec members were urged to encourage their institution to join the list of sponsors of the newsletter if it does not already do so. The issue had been raised at the AGM of whether the print newsletter should be stopped and switched to some form of electronic delivery. Concerns were raised relating to whether this might undermine sponsorship requests, whether this might be seen as a reduction in the 'value' of membership, and 'readability' (if a PDF of the existing newsletter). It was also noted that the newsletter is currently freely available as a PDF from the Association website. It was felt that a change of format could be explored, that members could be contacted to explore their views, that any change could be phased and that a new design could be adopted for an online newsletter. It was AGREED that we would look to boost newsletter sponsorship over the next three years, whilst considering new format options.	RH RH/MS
3.7 PG Student Representative	
It was felt that the PG room hadn't really worked/wasn't used at the York Conference, and the format would not be continued at RGU. The PG conference would take place in Liverpool during January 2014.	CB/SC/MD
3.8. Webmaster	
No report.	

3.9 International liaison	
No report.	
3.10 Social Media	
Twitter had been deployed in a comprehensive way throughout the York conference. Streams had their own hashtags in addition to the conference hashtag. A Twitter Wall was also used in the publisher area. Some positive feedback had been received from conference attendees.	
4.1.a York 2013	
<p>The Executive Committee congratulated Caroline Hunter on an outstanding conference. Very positive feedback had been received, particularly with regard to the environment, facilities, quality of papers and the student helpers. The combined registration and information desk had worked well. There were 359 attendees during the course of the conference.</p> <p>Brenda Hale's plenary speech would be made available on the conference website,. A card of thanks would be sent to BH from RH on behalf of the SLSA.</p> <p>Copies of the winning PG poster and as many of the other posters as possible would be made available on the conference website, and it was AGREED that the PG poster competition would continue.</p> <p>Publishers seemed generally happy. The prize draw didn't take place but AGREED the draw would be advertised in the RGU conference booklet. Ensure draw does happen in 2014, and consider use of social media to support the prize.</p> <p>There had been some feedback that the lunches were a little light on the first two days. This feedback would inform the RGU conference.</p>	<p>RH</p> <p>CH/MS/SC/MD</p> <p>AN/SC/MD/CA</p> <p>SC/MD</p>
4.1.b. RGU 2014	
<p>See written report.</p> <p>There would be ordinary service buses from the accommodation to the conference venue. SC and MD to check whether there is any planned reduction in service during the conference.</p> <p>Block booking of the seminar space had already been undertaken.</p> <p>It was intended to use the Visit Aberdeen website to manage the process of accommodation. DMU had successfully used a similar system and had secured a 5% fee of each booking. AGREED SC and MD to explore if this could be replicated for the RGU conference.</p> <p>The conference rate would be honoured for those wishing to arrive early/stay after the conference in order to 'build in' a holiday.</p> <p>Airline discounts/conference rates are possible, but the University's travel agent has asked for further details of the number of delegates arriving from which locations. SC/MD to analyse York and DMU delegate lists to gain some idea of this.</p> <p>New venues were being explored for the conference dinner as the planned venue is being renovated. The new venue would be centrally located and was being</p>	<p>SC/MD</p> <p>SC/MD</p> <p>SC/MD</p> <p>SC/MD</p>

planned on the basis of 250 attendees. Helena Kennedy has been invited to be the keynote speaker but has not yet replied. RH to follow up with her. A formal agreement is required to enable Finance@RGU to identify the SLSA as a supplier and make the transfer of funds more straightforward. RH to make appropriate revisions to the York agreement and send it to SC.	RH RH
4.1.c Annual conference 2015 and 2016	
Nothing to report.	
4.2.a BL/SLSA/IALS Socio-Legal Training Day	
The event was planned for May 2013. Nothing further to report.	
5.1 Book prizes	
These would be advertised as usual over the Summer.	RH/MS
5.2. Article prize	
These would be advertised as usual over the Summer.	RH/AB/MS
5.3 Contributions to socio-legal community	
The timeframe for this needed to be checked with MS and discussed at the next meeting.	MS
5.4 Small grants	
The new PG fieldwork scholarship would be advertised at the same time as the small grants competition over the summer, and considered concurrently with the small grant applications. JS to draft guidelines for the award.	JS
5.5 Seminar	
The seminar series will continue this year and be advertised as usual. AGREED that feedback would be provided to all, but need not be lengthy and detailed.	MOB
6. Officer Positions Falling Vacant	
The following positions had been filled at the AGM: Secretary: CA Treasurer: MOB Membership Secretary: SB	
7. AcSS Nominations	
It was necessary to 'gear up' for the June round of nominations. It was AGREED to form a sub-committee consisting of RH, AB and another committee member	RH, AB/JS

<p>not present at the meeting. RH to ask JS if she would be prepared to do this again.</p> <p>It was AGREED to explore a number of nominations.</p>	
<p>8. Next Meeting Dates</p>	
<p>Thursday 19 September 2013, LSE</p> <p>Wednesday 22 January 2014, LSE</p> <p>It was also AGREED that the Spring meeting would be moved back to May 2014 rather than being held at the end of the conference, with the date to be set at the next meeting. This would be reviewed and evaluated in light of the given financial health of the Association.</p>	
<p>9. Any Other Business</p>	
<p>AN reminded the meeting of the successful discounts for members that had been negotiated with Palgrave, Ashgate and Routledge. It was AGREED that these publishers would be included in the weekly e-bulletin recipient list in order that they can be fully aware of socio-legal events, and to enhance the targeting of member-relevant texts and material.</p>	<p>AN/MS</p>