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| slsa-red80 |  | | **Executive Meeting  Minutes**  **18.05.17**  **Conference Room:**  **IALS**  **Address: IALS, Russell Square, London** | |
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| Present: Rosie Harding, Jen Hendry, Neil Graffin, Maebh Harding, Marie Selwood, Jed Meers, Janine Sargoni, Emilie Cloatre, Kevin Crosby, Ed Kirton-Darling, Colin Moore, Ilke Turkmendag, Jess Mant, John Harrington, Michael Thomson | | | |  | |
| Agenda item | | | | Action | |
| 1. Apologies | | | |  | |
| Jill Dickinson, Vanessa Munro, Diamond Ashiagbor, Jessica Guth, Sharon Cowan, Naomi Creutzfeldt, Nikki Godden-Rasul, Thomas Webb, Jonathan Garton, Mark O’Brien, Devyani Prabhat | | | |  | |
| 2. Minutes of 12.01.17 | | | |  | |
| The Minutes were approved. | | | |  | |
| 3.1 Chair | | | |  | |
| RH welcomed new members to the exec - John Harrington (Cardiff), Vanessa Munro (Warwick), Ed Kirton-Darling (Kent), Colin Moore (Kent), and Ilke Turkmendag (Newcastle).  RH also thanked Neil Graffin for taking on the role of Secretary and Naomi Creutzfeldt for taking on the duty of Publisher’s liaison  RH noted that Mark O’Brien has been the SLSA treasurer for a number of years and wishes to step down. It was asked whether anyone would like to take up this role.  Vacancies have opened up on the Book Committee. Jess Mant and Rosie Harding (chair) have offered to take up these positons.  Vacancies have opened up on the Grants Committee. Ilke Turkmendag, Colin Moore and Ed Kirton-Darling have offered to take up these positions.  Vacancies have opened up in the Research Training Grants committee. Colin Moore, Emilie Cloatre and Rosie Harding (chair) have offered to take up these positions.  A vacancy opened up on the Seminars Committee. John Harrington offered to take up this position. The Seminar Committee are to internally elect a new chair, and report back to RH.  We have made a submission to HEFCE REF 2021. We await HEFCE’s response. This will need to be followed up.  We sought a volunteer to attend the Academy of Social Sciences CEO and COO Group meeting on 22 June. Ed Kirton-Darling has offered to attend.  Rosie Harding thanked Kevin Crosby and Nikki Godden-Rasul for their work organising the Newcastle 2017 conference.  We discussed a European meet-up at the LSA – SLSA members will be encouraged to attend.  Philip Thomas requested whether the SLSA might put forward a bank of reviewers for the JLS. Jedd Meers suggested that he would liaise to indicate how individuals could be found through ‘expertise’ on the membership list.  Rosie Harding and Jen Hendry will attend the annual meeting of the law subject associations with the Law Commission on 6 July.  Rosie Harding confirmed that there has been no movement in response to the executive’s representations to the LSA International Committee’s report concerning ways in which the LSA might interact more cooperatively with other national associations. It was noted the short tenure of their executive, but that we will continue our efforts to work closely with the LSA. | | | | ALL  RH  Seminar Committee    RH  EKD/RH  ALL  SC  JM  RH/JH  RH | |
| 3.2. Vice Chair | | | |  | |
| The position of Vice-Chair was vacant and therefore there was no report. | | | |  | |
| 3.3 Treasurer | | | |  | |
| Mark O’Brien was unable to attend. There was a discussion of the treasurer’s report in his absence.  It remains to be the case that we are unable to access the PayPal account. It was agreed that we will not use PayPal in the future. It is hoped that we will be able to obtain access to the PayPal account by the next meeting. There was an incident of attempted fraud on the account which was dealt with. | | | | MOB | |
| 3.4 Membership | | | |  | |
| MH’s membership report was presented to the executive.  MH reported that Jed Meers, Marie and Maebh have been working on making mailing lists more robust for the hardcopy newsletter in order to avoid unnecessary returns. There have been issues with regards to this because the JOOMLA database is currently not working (due to the cbjuice extension). We are investigating the possibility of replacing the cbjuice extension with a MailChimp extension. This would allow us to improve upon our weekly email and dispense with the JISCMail list.  The number of paid up members stands at 849 out of 2489 entries (as approved by Nathan Emmerich). It is hoped that the MailChimp extension will allow us to tidy up the membership database.  We have managed to invoice Nottingham Trent for institutional membership.  We continue to have problems with renewals on PayPal.  Maebh has asked for maternity cover for membership queries. Ed Kirton-Darling has stated that he can do it. | | | | JM, MH, MS  EKD | |
| **3.5 Recruitment** | | | |  | |
| No report.  It was noted that we are endorsing a PGR/ECR workshop on ‘Re-Thinking Transitional Justice’ at the University of Oxford. A recruitment leaflet was sent by Lydia Hayes for inclusion in the conference packs. | | | |  | |
| 3.6. Newsletter and Web Editor | | | |  | |
| LERN have contacted us and have enquired about mutual member discount. We agreed to advertise on behalf of LERN in the newsletter and offer their members registration at SLSA member rates for our one day conferences, seminars and workshops on a mutual basis. This discount does not apply to the annual conference.  MS noted that it was particularly good at Newcastle to have the additional postgrad/early career desk next to the main SLSA one as this gave as an even stronger presence in the main conference area and it would be nice to do that again in Bristol if there is space.  The spring issue was published at the beginning of March.  The details were as follows:   * print run: 1300 for mailing list * 500 for annual conference * pdf to JLS for inclusion as e-insert * 15 editorial pages * 1 insert from Hart Publishing * page 16 – Newcastle University 2017 advertisement   The newsletter will be published on 26 June 2017. Details so far:   * + print run: 1300 for mailing list plus   + pdf to JLS for inclusion as e-insert   + page 16 Bristol 2018 ad   + 1 insert from Hart Publishing   Any ideas, please let Marie know.  The website has had a spring clean to make sure everything is up to date. The e-bulletin continues to receive good feedback. | | | | MS  ALL | |
| 3.7 PG Student Representative | | | |  | |
| Jess Mant reported as follows:  PGR session at the Newcastle conference was well attended – 50 people. It was suggested that it would good to repeat in the future. For this session there was a ‘well-being’ theme. This involved practical info on how to support each other through communication, and make use of support networks and a short presentation by Richard Collier on his ongoing well-being research.  It was suggested that as theme ‘resilience’ might be appropriate for the next session (inc. looking at rejection (journal articles, job interviews etc.). We are looking for an academic to talk specifically about resilience. Janine Sargoni suggested she could look for someone at Bristol.  PGE/ECR – it was agreed that this went well - the ECRs themselves enjoyed networking with the other ECRs in the breaks just as much as the PGRs, and it was beneficial to have final/4th year PGRs on the panels mixed in with new lecturers.  Suggested that the location of the table and the signage could be made clearer for Bristol. We agreed we could have a large standing notice, and it was suggested that these usually cost approx £100 | | | | JS  JMant/DP/JS | |
| 3.8. Webmaster | | | |  | |
| Jed Meers reported as follows:  The MailChimp extension is currently being installed on the Joomla system. This will allow us to generate the e-bulletin from the emails on the membership system. This will be up and running in the next couple of weeks and will be at no extra cost.  We are seeking alternatives to PayPal. There are a variety of alternative but WorldPay was discussed as a potential new system. This might work out cheaper than PayPal.  The membership database is now up to date.  The blog continues to tick along and the e-bulletin is helping with this - 100-200 clicks on average. It was noted that there was not much traffic from Google, and a bit from Google scholar. Jed suggested that he will look at making the website more SEO friendly. | | | | JM | |
| 3.9 International liaison | | | |  | |
| No report.  LSA  It was discussed whether we should send hard copy newsletters to Mexico. We have noted that the LSA have tweeted and retweeted our presence at the LSA at the previous conference. It was suggested that we find a way with social media to get our newsletter out. We discussed the possibility of the LSA enhancing their support for us at the conference. | | | | JH | |
| 3.10 Social Media | | | |  | |
| JH reported the following:   * 2720 Twitter followers * 955 Facebook members * 825 Facebook members in the closed group   There was a spamming situation in the closed group – this has been blocked  JH thanked Jess for taking over during the year  JH asked that new exec members give their Twitter handles, and these could be updated on to the executive list.  JH noted that retweets and mentions are helpful in building our social media presence  JH asked if anyone wanted to help with social media.  Jess enquired whether she could be given admin access to the Facebook closed group in order to post information for PGRs   JH asked that a consistent hashtag could be used for the Bristol conference #SLSA2018 | | | | ALL, NG  ALL  JH  DP, JS | |
| **3.11 Publisher’s liaison** | | | |  | |
| Nothing to report. | | | |  | |
| 4.1. a. Newcastle 2017 | | | |  | |
| It was noted that the Newcastle conference was a success and the organisers were thanked. It was noted that there were very few complaints, with the exception of individuals being able to find rooms. Kevin explained that campus is usually easier to navigate but there was construction work taking place.  Janine Sargoni noted that, in feedback received, the awarding of book prizes was nerve wracking. This was discussed and it was agreed that we will continue to award prizes in the way we did at Newcastle to encourage short-listed persons to attend.  It was suggested that the organisers of the Newcastle conference should liaise with the organisers of the Bristol conference. | | | | JS, DP, KC,NG-R | |
| 4.1. b. Bristol 2018 | | | |  | |
| The following was noted concerning the Bristol conference:  It is located in central campus with two other buildings used  Dinner at museum  Permanent and touring exhibition – vestibule and eating section  Dancing and entertainment – with a place to talk and a place to eat  There will be a number of tours, including a Banksy tour  The plenary has been set up for 250 guests and will be chaired by the Head of School at Bristol  Hotel rooms have been block-booked  A domain has been registered for the booking website  We will need to make a call-out for themes for September It was agreed that ‘Hot topics’ should be ‘Current Topics’  Bristol Organising team are to write up notes from the site visit to send to RH and JH.  It was asked whether we will convert the 7 themes to streams. It was stated that we will agree or disagree in the September meeting. Theme organisers will be contacted to give them the opportunity to request conversion to a stream.  Kevin Crosby raised the issue that not all email addresses were correct for those convening streams – it was stated that these will be required to be updated  It was agreed that the Bristol organising team will bring a full budget to be agreed at the September exec meeting.  The timescales and deadlines for the 2018 conference to be agreed by email following the 2017 schedule. Marie Selwood to email dates to Bristol organisers. | | | | DP, JS, MS  MS, KC  KC  JS,DP  MS, JS, DP | |
| 4.1. c. Leeds 2019 | | | |  | |
| It was confirmed that initial preparations are going well. A committee is in the process of being established for this. | | | | JH, MT | |
| **4.1 d. Future Conferences** | | | |  | |
| A call for expressions of interest for conference venues for 2020 onwards should be put out in the summer.  The LSAANZ 2018 joint conference is still happening, though there is nothing to report at this time. | | | | JH  JH, SC | |
| **4.2. Postgraduate Conference** | | | |  | |
| Postgraduate conference – it was suggested that this could be rebranded as a workshop to clarify its content. Sally Wheeler has agreed to host the 2018 conference at QUB. The dates will be 4-5 January.  It is hoped that we can hold the 2019 conference in Edinburgh.  PGR students are attending the conference on a number of occasions. We agreed that people should only go once. Jess to liaise with Nathan for PGR 2019 that first years will be given priority. | | | | JM, NE | |
| **4.3. One Day Conferences** | | | |  | |
| The proposed French-Anglo socio-legal conference is going ahead. Emilie is meeting with co-organiser in France to discuss attendees etc. Emilie suggested that it would be good if members of the exec could go.  The 2017 Sources and Methods workshop at IALS will be taking place on 24 November. The topic is likely to be ‘Family and Social Welfare Law’  One Day Conference proposal ‘Ways of Knowing: Law and Epistemology’ from Dermot Feenan and Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos was discussed. The executive committee decided not to support the proposal. Feedback to be provided to the applicants.  A review of SLSA One-Day Conference policy will be undertaken and discussed at the September 2017 Exec Meeting. | | | | EC, ALL  RH  RH  RH | |
| **4.4. SLSA European conference** | | | |  | |
| A SLSA European Conference was mooted by Phil Thomas. Antwerp has been suggested as a location. There is nothing more to report on this at this time. | | | |  | |
| **5. Prizes and competitions** | | | |  | |
| For brevity these will not be discussed individually.  The cut off dates for each of the prizes was re-highlighted.  The closing date for all publication prizes is the first Monday in October each year.  The closing date for the prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community is the first Monday of September | | | |  | |
| **6. Election of vice-chair** | | | |  | |
| Jen Hendry was elected as the vice-chair of the SLSA, with congratulations. | | | |  | |
| **7. Sub-committee membership** | | | |  | |
| The sub-committees have refreshed their memberships – this has been discussed above.  Grants subcommittee: Emilie Cloatre; Neil Graffin; Jess Guth (chair); Ed Kirton-Darling; Michael Thornton; Ilke Turkmendag  Book prize committee: Diamond Ashiagbor; Naomi Creutzfeldt; Jonathan Garton; Rosie Harding (chair); Jen Hendry; Jess Mant  Seminar competition subcommittee: Sharon Cowan; Jonathan Garton; Maebh Harding; John Harrington; Michael Thomson; Tom Webb.  The seminar sub-committee must elect a chair and notify RH, MS and NG.  Research training grants and mentoring awards: Emilie Cloatre; Naomi Creutzfeldt; Maebh Harding; Rosie Harding (chair); Colin Moore. | | | | ALL Seminar committee members | |
| **8. Reforms to Legal Education** | | | |  | |
| We discussed the response to the SRA proposal. Jess Guth has written a blog on the issue and it is felt that no current action is required, but we will be closely monitoring what the SRA do with regards to the SQE and respond as appropriate and in collaboration with the other law subject associations. | | | | ALL | |
| **9. The Legal Status of the Association** | | | |  | |
| There was discussion among the executive as to the most suitable legal status for the association going forward. It was agreed to establish a working group on this. It was agreed the members will include Rosie Harding (chair), Jonathan Garton, Colin Moore, Mark O’Brien, Ed Kirton-Darling and Jen Hendry. | | | | RH, JG, CM, MOB, EKD, JH | |
| **10. Next Meeting Dates** | | | |  | |
| The next three meetings were agreed and are as follows:   * Wednesday 20 September 2017 * Thursday 18 January 2018 * Thursday 17 May 2018   Members are reminder that they are expected to attend all meetings. | | | | ALL | |
| **11. Any Other Business** | | | |  | |
| None | | | |  | |