



British Association of Film,
Television and Screen Studies

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

12pm Monday 12 January 2015

Seminar Room, Bankfield House, University of Leicester

1. Apologies: Tim Bergfelder, Paul McDonald, Lucy Mazdon, Lucia Nagib, Vivien Saunders, Jenny Stewart, and Tim O'Sullivan (MeCCSA).

Present: Phil Powrie (Chair), Joe Andrew, Anna Claydon, Rajinder Dudrah, Beth Johnson, Alex Marlow-Mann, Andrew Moor, Brian Winston.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST EC

The minutes were approved subject to the query raised by Joe Andrew that the EC discussed at last meeting the need to have 2 signatories on the BAFTSS cheques. What is the status of this?

Action Point 1: Lucia to check and to report back to the EC.

3. UPDATE ON ACTION POINTS FROM RELEVANT EC MEMBERS

All checked and list updated.

4. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- As of January 2015 we have 41 active members who have paid up and re-subscribed. We have 564 expired members. All members have been emailed and reminded to join. The JISC list membership currently stands at 885.
- Alex brought up the issue of receipt of cheques as he is currently not in a FT academic post and so we need another address and person to deal with this; also as Lucia is resigning from her post as Treasurer we need to have another named contact person or a way of dealing with this. After discussion it was decided to remove the ability to pay by cheque from the website, and that the only payment methods would be credit card and PayPal. For now Alex will remain the named contact person on the website for individuals who have any queries re cheques or still wish to pay by cheques and in these few instances he is happy to liaise with members and give out his home address details for receipt of cheques.

Action Point 2: Alex to liaise with Stefano to update the written text on the website to this effect.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Sent via Lucia to RD over email; reported as £10, 518.24p as of 6 Jan 2015.

6. UPDATING THE BAFTSS CONSTITUTION (BRIAN WINSTON – SEE 2 ATTACHMENTS)

- The following clauses were discussed and agreed:
 - 6.1.4: In order for the AGM to remain quorate this was changed from 25% to 20%.
 - 6.3.4 EC roles and the elections process.
 - The Constitution should state 'calendar year' rather than 'academic year' – to be amended.
 - 6.3.2 on the last two lines this should read as: 'they should step down', removal of the hyphen.

Action Point 3: The new Constitution now needs to go to all members at the AGM at the MMU April 2015 meeting for approval.

7. BAFTSS WEBSITE

(Stefano Baschiera and all) – It was agreed that this needs redesigning and needs to be hosted by some institution or in the Cloud if this will save the Association money. What are our specifications – what do we need and want? We need the membership details associated with our website.

We are looking for a structure which might include a members' area, and the front page design and content needs to be made more appealing. The MeCCSA and SCMS websites could be looked at for comparisons in terms of what we want or do not want.

Action Point 4: Alex, RD and Andrew Moor to search for competitive independent site developers.

Action Point 5: All via the EC email list to share websites for us to consider as templates.

Action Point 6: Stefano to put up a counter system on the current website to monitor traffic on the website ASAP.

8. RELATIONS WITH OTHER BODIES

8.1 WJEC. RD to write to Jeremy Points and Pat Phillips for any update. None received, will follow up for next EC [Jeremy sent an email update but this was received after the EC meeting].

8.2 MeCCSA. Our PG contact details of Viv and Jenny were sent to Tim O'Sullivan. Tim might follow this up in terms of PG matters from his Association. BAFTSS could possibly work closely with MeCCSA through more PGR work and activities.

Action Point 7: This is one for our PG Reps to give us some input on: how do they feel about this and how best might we work together on this, given that some PGRs might belong to both organisations?

8.3 Doctoral Training Colleges

Action Point 8: Phil to get back in touch with the Directors with an update of where we are with our thinking on this and we need more information from them re their curriculum or what they are offering and how BAFTSS might help them tailor that service.

- BAFTSS could also organise and address a PGR FTSSS related event with MeCCSA possibly co-organising and funding it together.

Action Point 9: Phil to draft up a possible day event to this effect and liaise with our PG Reps and circulate it to the EC for further discussion. If agreed we could advertise this at the next AGM at MMU.

8.4 Academic Publishers

Action Point 10: Subject specific publishers should be up on our website as partners – Stefano to put this up with an appropriate heading. Stefano to liaise with PP.

9. BAFTSS 2015 CONFERENCE PLANNING

- Organisation for the 3rd conference at MMU is in full flow. Select highlights so far include:
- An email will go out on Monday 19 Jan re booking costs for the conference, together with a draft schedule.
- Andrew Moor has done a deal with the MacDonald's hotel wherein if 40 rooms are booked at a negotiated discount rate of £110 per night and B&B by delegates BAFTSS gets two free rooms.
- Quay tickets will send us update reports every week re how many have paid to attend.
- The Thursday night reception will possibly take place on the roof garden of the Arts building.
- The journal *Screen* has offered to pay BAFTSS some money towards a jointly co-hosted event.

- *The Stuart Hall Project* will be introduced by RD plus 2 others – RD to organise this. All are to speak for 5 minutes maximum which will fill the 2 hour slot allocated for the screening.
- Anna has a cheque from the last BAFTSS conference dinner to give to Lucia.

Action Point 11: Anna will circulate minutes of the organising committee’s meeting to the EC for all to have a summary for their records.

10. BAFTSS AWARDS

- Phil raised a query as to whether we should publicise the shortlists from each category on the mailing list. It was agreed that this information would be better served in the BAFTSS newsletter in the members’ area of the website.
- It was noted that there have been a limited number of films submitted under the practice category – i.e. only 2 with one carried over from the previous year. It was discussed and agreed that the minimum number of items in any category to be considered in future years should be 5.
- The PG Essays word total was agreed as between 3-5K words limit.
- It was agreed to exclude individual book chapter submissions from the competition.
- It was agreed that all publishers submitting any work should check with their authors before formal submission to BAFTSS (i.e. that authors are happy for their work to be submitted), and that authors need to be BAFTSS members.

Action Point 12: If at all possible Alex Marlow-Mann and Lucy Mazdon are to send in their shortlist of the articles to RD by the end of January for inclusion in the next newsletter.

11. BAFTSS GRADUATE NETWORK

Action Point 13: As no PG Reps were able to attend today’s meeting RD will contact them both re any future plans and events or ideas which they might share at the next EC meeting.

12. A BAFTSS JOURNAL

- It was agreed that BAFTSS wants to pursue the idea of an Association sponsored and edited peer reviewed journal. We also need to investigate how this publication should work our revised website. We need to present this idea for further discussion to the AGM. The EC are to try and meet with Martin Eve at the conference re Open Access publishing models.

Action Point 14: Brian Winston to draft a working document re the possible aims and scope of the journal, periodicity and working model of the publication.

13. BAFTSS NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the next newsletter is 23 January and all are encouraged to consider a small item/report of 200-500 words, or to encourage their PGRs or relevant FT&SS networks to submit.

14. AOB

- Advisory Board: RD suggested the possible need for this as some senior colleagues from the EC had not been able to attend many meetings in the past and that their skills and experience might better be utilised on an Advisory Board. The Board would also allow us to include FT&SS industry specialists and practitioners who might help further the work of BAFTSS nationally and internationally. The aims of the Board were discussed and agreed as follows: to help to evaluate proposals for the conference, to give the EC advice and steer on FT&SS related matters, to help the EC process matters such as selecting abstracts for the annual conference, be judges for the Awards, and help us respond to policy initiatives e.g. REF, UCAS etc., and to act as possible readers of articles on the proposed BAFTSS journal.

The logo for BAFTSS, consisting of the letters 'BAFTSS' in a bold, orange, sans-serif font, centered within a solid black rectangular background.

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Action Point 15: All to consider names for the Advisory Board and to send to Phil who will write to them to invite them to join. Phil also to write to EC members (e.g. Lucy, Paul, Tim and any others) who might want to step down from the EC but be more involved at the Advisory Board level.

Time and Date of next meeting: 11am on Thurs 16 April room GM 234 in the Geoffrey Manton Building at MMU as part of the BAFTSS conference.