



British Association of Film,  
Television and Screen Studies

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting**

24 May 2011

Room B4, Trent Building, University of Nottingham, 11:30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Apologies: Vicky Kearley (VK), Alex Marlow-Mann (AMM), Tim Bergfelder (TB), Sarah Street (SS)

Present: Joe Andrew (JA), Stefano Baschiera (SB), Chris Berry (CB), James Chapman (JC), Anna Claydon (AC), Rajinder Dudrah (RD), Dina Iordanova (DI), Rachael Keene (RK), Yosefa Loshitsky (YL), Paul McDonald (PM), Andrew Moor (AM), Lucia Nagib (LN), Brian Winston (BW)

NB: The Interim Chair thanked PM and colleagues at Nottingham University for access to the space, and the Interim Secretary on behalf of the IEC congratulated the Chair on the Special Jury award at the Learning on Screen awards for A Boatload of Wild Irishmen, on which he is associate producer and writer.

### **1. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2012 were approved with corrections to names: Alexander Marlow-Mann, Paul McDonald (Attachment 1)

### **2. MATTERS ARISING**

none

### **3. REPORTS FROM THE WORK TEAMS**

#### 3.1 Membership (Spokesperson: Brian Winston)

- We have 295 paid-up members (194 full, 101 students), and nearly 600 on the listserv.
- The meeting noted that we are happy to have got so far so quickly, we intend to recruit more, but we recognize that we need have more achievements to report and opportunities to attract more members. Possibly the upcoming AGM will provide that next opportunity.
- The meeting offered thanks to AMM, in particular for all his work on the technological aspects of managing communications with members.
- We noted the need for someone else to take over or share Alex's duties as of September, and LN will follow-up on a lead.

#### 3.2. Events (Lucia Nagib)

- We have four upcoming Postgraduate events, as detailed in report from the events team in the March report:
- Two BAFTSS sponsored panels at the Scottish Consortium programme, "Film and Film Initiatives in Scotland," 8 June 2012, Birnam Institute, Dunkeld.
- PG Conference "Genre beyond Hollywood," University of Southampton, on 8th July, organised in association with BAFTSS.
- The University of London PG Training Day will be held on 27 October, and will be open to BAFTSS members. This year's theme will be "The Senses."
- PG Conference Language in Cinema, a BAFTSS event being currently organised by PGRs from the Centre for World Cinemas, University of Leeds (PhD students Tamara Courage and Jo Gilbert), with the support of Manchester (PhD student Sabina Shah), on 8-9 December at

Leeds.”

- The meeting agreed to award each event £250, to be used to assist attendance of BAFTSS student members with no access to other travel funds.
- LN and the events team will adapt a form to be used by each event and communicate with the Interim Treasurer (DI) about how to transfer money and account for expenditure.
- In return for these funds, the events will be asked to use the BAFTSS logo (as derived from the current letterhead and the website) on all publicity and to use the “in association with BAFTSS” tag.

3.2.3. The Interim Chair undertook to re-cost the 2013 annual conference and AGM for after Easter and before the start of the Summer Term, at Lincoln.

- A Conference Team was established, consisting of: BW, AC, JC, and JA, plus one doctoral student (to be recruited by the team).
- The meeting noted the need to find ways to subsidize attendance for PG members and to facilitate PG panels

3.2.4. The 2012 AGM will take place from 2-6 p.m. on 20 September [NB not as in agenda for the meeting – apologies! CB] in the Council Room at King’s College London. The room seats 30.

- SB reported that the online voting system has been tested and works.
- The IEC voted unanimously to suspend the requirement of 25% membership attendance to be quorate in item 6.1.5. of the constitution, to replace it with 10%, and to allow online voting.
- The interim officers will devise and announce deadlines for nominations for the 7 positions on the EC to be elected electronically before the AGM.
- As many items as possible will be circulated before the AGM (e.g. reports).
- However, a vote in the elections will also be taken to constitute delegating powers to the newly elected EC for any further decisions that have to be taken at the AGM.

3.3. Fund-raising (Dina Iordanova)

- In view of the Interim Treasurer’s Report (item 4 below), DI reported that BAFTSS needs to locate sources of funding in addition to membership funds.
- DI feels the only viable source may be the BFI (see item 7 below), although the fundraising team will also check out the RSA “catalyst fund” awards and investigate the Academy Foundation.
- The meeting discussed the possibility of taking advertising and sponsorship on the website and also of selling access to our membership list. We noted that we could not do the latter without first giving members the right to opt out.
- We affirmed that we continue to accept job ads as a service to members and without charging a fee.

3.3.1. AC’s report “BAFTSS and the HEA” (Attachment 2) was received and its recommendations adopted with thanks.

- SB will post it under the membership section of the website and alert members to its recommendations.
- SB will work with AC to conduct a poll to find out how many of our members are
- HEA members.

3.4. Awards (Tim Bergfelder)

- In the absence of TB and SS, the meeting noted that the deadlines are coming up soon, but that enough entries have been received to make awards in all categories.
- YL noted that the events team plans to decide on the process whereby the awards will be decided after the deadlines.
- JC suggested that next year EC members should not be able to nominate their own works and the meeting noted this for the attention of the incoming EC after the AGM.
- The meeting noted that the events team will have to draw up a final statement about how many submissions there were in each category, how decisions were made, the quality and type of submissions, etc.
- If it is thought appropriate as a way to generate publicity, short lists might be drawn up in certain categories.
- Some prior announcement will be needed before final decisions are announced at AGM.

#### 3.4.1 Charlotte Crofts (CC) and Catherine Grant (CG)'s proposal for a practice research award (Attachment 3) was received with thanks.

- The meeting agreed that TB should notify CC and CG that the proposal had been accepted, but for 1 award only, in the next round of awards, with CC and CG to join the awards team and run this particular award.
- TB should discuss how to go about this with CC and CG

#### 3.5 Political Agenda (Dina Iordanova)

##### 3.5.1. AHRC call for AHRC members to represent subject associations (PaulMcDonald)

- IEC members who are also peer reviewers on the AHRC college are: PM, RD, CB, JA and TB.
- DI noted that BAFTSS has recently written to the AHRC to request recognition as an AHRC stakeholder. She will forward the letter to PM, so that he can write to AHRC reiterating its main points.

##### 3.5.2. UKAS/HESA/JACS (Dina Iordanova) (Attachments 3 and 4)

- DI acknowledged the assistance of JA, AM, and RD, as well as her university statistician in drawing up the data. The aim is to develop this material with a view to speaking to HESA later in the year. Our aim is to have our discipline counted under one category.
- YL noted that all the members doing film/television/screen studies in language departments are missing from the data we have so far.
- CB pointed out that as well as "Film Studies," BAFTSS has to cover television and screen studies.
- DI pointed out that the HESA definitions of even "Film Studies" bear little resemblance to what we think we do.
- The data does indicate continuing growth, and also that those departments focused in our areas rather than media seem to do better on the student survey.
- AC pointed out that this data probably also omits international students, another area of growth.
- DI reported that the cost estimate on HESA data purchases mentioned in the report would be between £300 and £500.
- DI will draw up a fuller report and recommendations for next steps in the wake of this meeting.

##### 3.5.3 REF

- The meeting approved DI's recommendation that BAFTSS write to the REF immediately saying that we feel our field is under-represented
- The interim officers will communicate with the IEC members after this meeting about possible "impact assessors," should we be asked to participate in their nomination.

### 3.6. Communications (Chris Berry/Stefano Baschiera)

- CB reported that the regular updates on the team activities are working to galvanise us and keep us connected to our members. They will continue.
- SB reported that he is moderating approximately 70 postings a week to the website. He asked that IEC members should email him directly if anything requires special attention or needs to be done.
- CB reported that our press and PR list remains underdeveloped. He will circulate it to IEC members and seek further input.

#### 3.6.1. Brian Winston and Chris Berry to report on meeting with MeCCSA (Attachment 6).

- The meeting emphasized that although cooperation was desirable, it should not compromise our autonomy. CB will liaise with MeCCSA on items 1 (including the REF) and 3, and LN on item 2.
- RK reported that VK says many MeCCSA PGN people want to be part of both, and that the feeling is that there is no need to put both MeCCSA and BAFTSS PGNs together into one. In other words, cooperation should be possible but there is no need to merge.
- The interim officers will communicate the decisions of the meeting to MeCCSA

## 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

- DI's report was received with thanks.
- See item 3.2.1 above. We also propose to continue this funding scheme, with 2 annual calls for applications for two lots of £250 funding each half year. The proposed deadlines for calls are 5 January and 5 July, starting in 2013.

### 4.1. Amendment to the constitution appendix concerning next year's fee structure.

The meeting suggested that next year's fees should be pegged at £20 full and £10 research students and postdocs. To be ratified at the upcoming AGM

## 5. POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS NETWORK

- RK will communicate funding decisions to the PGN and seek out input on future events, as well as inform PG members of the IEC's support for PG sessions at the conference.
- The PGN is talking to Frame about publishing winning essays.
- AC suggests contacting Graduate Schools to disseminate to potential student members.
- The meeting decided to recognize "Postgraduate Matters" as a team of the EC. RK and VK are to discuss with members and report back to the IEC on which two staff members of IEC they would like to work with them on this team.
- RK reported that members have expressed a desire for quite practical, careers focussed events, and perhaps a session with the BFI Library.
- AC argues for a Twitterfeed for each BAFTSS event.

### 5.1 Logo competition (Rajinder Dudrah)

- The call went out often, but we got no submissions. We will continue with the website design we have now.



British Association of Film,  
Television and Screen Studies

- DI will ask AMM about making a Jpeg of our logo as it currently exists, so that we
- can send it events we are sponsoring, etc.

#### **6. PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADVISORY BOARD (DINA, CHRIS, BRIAN)**

- We suggest a board of approximately 20 people (10 UK academics, 5 international academics, and 5 film or video-makers/screen professionals/public figures).
- Some names were circulated and approved at the meeting. They will now be invited.
- IEC will be circulated after the meeting for further suggestions.

#### **7. BFI. DISCUSSION OF THE BFI'S FUTURE HORIZONS FOR UK FILM, AND BAFTSS RESPONSE.**

- Although we are concerned about the way HE is overlooked in the report, DI and CB will draw up a response welcoming and pointing out all the ways in which BAFTSS can contribute to the realization of their goals.
- PM suggested we should also include other levels of education (not least because we teach the teachers).
- We will request a meeting with Amanda Nevill, Mark Reid ( Head of Education), and Richard Paterson (Head of Research).
- We will seek BFI funding, aware that we will need to develop a project funding application rather than continuous funding application if we are seeing lottery funds.
- We will request recognition as a stakeholder from the BFI.

The meeting ended at 4.30 p.m.