**47th Meeting of the Council of University Classical Departments**

# Held in Room G349, Senate House, London, at 2 pm

# on Saturday, 5th November, 2016

**Present**: Charlotte Behr (Roehampton), Hugh Bowden (KCL), James Clackson (Cambridge), Simon Corcoran (Newcastle), Jason Crowley (MMU), Armand D’Angour (Oxford), Peter Kruschwitz (Reading), Helen Lovatt (Nottingham), Nick Lowe (RHUL), Gesine Manuwald (UCL), Ellen O’Gorman (Bristol), April Pudsey (Manchester Metropolitan, Elections), Louise Revell (Southampton), Emma Stafford (Leeds), Catherine Steel (Glasgow, Secretary), Stephen Todd (Manchester), Ruth Westgate (Cardiff), Greg Woolf (ICS, Chair).

1. **Apologies** were received from: Christy Constantakopoulou (Birkbeck); Andrew Bayliss (Birmingham); Gavin Kelly (Edinburgh); Patty Baker (Kent); Theodora Jim (Lancaster); Bruce Gibson (Liverpool); Emma Bridges, Ursula Rothe, (Open); Jason König (St. Andrews); Carey Fleiner (Winchester); Elena Isayev (Exeter, Treasurer)
2. **Minutes of the last Council** (7th November 2015). These were *accepted*.
3. **Matters arising not covered below**: none.
4. **Chair’s Report**: the Chair’s report is available at <http://cucd.blogs.sas.ac.uk/files/2015/01/Phoney-War-Chair-Report.pdf>. The overall picture for Classics in Universities appears, at present, to be cheering; new programmes are opening and co-operation between organisations involved with Classics are working well. The wider picture for Higher Education is less clear. Little detail about the operation of TEF at subject level is yet available, and it would be important for CUCD to have input into the selection of subject specialists when that took place. It was *noted* that metrics could disadvantage our subject and that the future relationship between TEF and fees, particularly at a subject level, was potentially troubling.

BASIS: representatives of AHA had met with the BA to talk about BASIS and more generally about communication between the BA and subject associations. Although BASIS has had its grant confirmed, there are a number of uncertainties over the ways in which this will play out over the coming few years. There are concerns about the level of top-slicing that may be applied to the grant, and also about new governance structures being designed by the Academy. Uncertainty about future directions has been made worse by the weakness of the pound. On communication the Academy has been urged to engage more frequently and more fully with subject associations and learned societies.

Professor Woolf had attended a meeting of the Arts and Humanities Alliance on 4th November. Among matters discussed were the AQA cuts to humanities A-levels, the TEF, Graduate Incomes in the Humanities, the impact of Brexit and Athena Swan. Peter Mandler was stepping down after four years as co-ordinator and would be replaced by Susan Bruce (University English) and Martin Halliwell (English Association).

1. **CUCD Education committee**: CUCD Education committee has helped to fund six events, and is in the process of finalising the dissemination of those events.

Future plans include a double panel on technology at the CA 2017 conference (technology and pedagogy, and technology and outreach). A call for events has just been circulated; CUCD contacts are encouraged to draw this call to the attention of colleagues.

Education committee is recruiting new members, as two members are standing down at the end of 2017, and is also looking for a new Chair; suggestions of candidates should be sent to Professor Lovatt.

Education committee has also set up a blog, which is available at <https://cucdeducation.wordpress.com/>

AQA: Professor Woolf reported on developments since AQA announced it was withdrawing a number of A-levels, including Classical Civilisation. There has been quite a lot of publicity, particularly on behalf of Archaeology, and some joint action with art historians, anthropologists and archaeologists is underway. AHA also discussed the issue on the 4th November. Dr. Stafford reported on the CA’s plans: the CA is keen to offer support to schools which have been using AQA to switch to OCR and is organising INSET days which would also be made available via a series of podcasts. Professor Bowden suggested that it is also important to engage with SMTs in schools to facilitate the transition.

If subject contacts are able to identify schools which have been using AQA and therefore may be seeking to transfer to OCR they are encouraged to send this information to the CA.

**Action: all**

1. **Treasurer’s report**:

In Professor Isayev’s absence, the accounts were *noted*. It was *agreed* that the financial situation of CUCD was currently satisfactory and there was no need at present to raise subscriptions.

1. **Secretary’s report**: Professor Steel drew two matters to Council’s attention:
2. although the ICS has in the past been listed as a member institution of CUCD it appears to have dropped off the current list. Council *agreed* to reinsert the ICS to its membership;
3. at present Council minutes are published only once they have been agreed, which means a long interval before they are available. Professor Steel asked Council whether it would be acceptable for draft minutes to be published on the CUCD website once contacts had had an opportunity to comment on the draft. This was *agreed*.

**Action: CS**

1. **CUCD Bulletin**:

Professor Steel reported on behalf of Dr. Deacy that the 2016 *Bulletin* was now largely complete and available on the CUCD website; the final element in the 2016 edition will be the statistics.

The Bulletin continues to report on new degree programmes, this year the new BA Ancient History at MMU. There are pieces too on various initiatives including from the WCC-UK e.g. its launch event in April plus some reports on innovative teaching/student research. Most recent is a multi-authored piece on Outreach including tips on applying for funding and case studies, which has gained around a third more twitter interest than anything else that has been in the Bulletin. Dr. Deacy is liaising with several colleagues over further case studies and if anyone at Council knows of any interesting current or planned work in this area she would be interested in hearing from them.

Included among articles planned for 2017 are pieces coming out of events funded by CUCD Education committee and obituaries of Geoffrey Waywell and Rosemary Barrow. Suggestions for content are always welcome.

**Action: all**

1. **Statistics**: Professor Woolf reported that CUCD has added questions on gender and career stage to the statistics return and reported on AHA discussion of gender balance and career progression in the Humanities. The Royal Historical Society had last year published a report on Gender in the Profession which highlighted decreasing levels of representation of women at successively senior levels. Professor Lovatt volunteered to share information from a review at Nottingham and Birmingham.

**Action: HL**

1. **REF 2014 review**

The Stern report has been published; it is expected that there will be a consultation before the end of the year. The AHA together with SAS is organising a conference on the Stern report on December 12th in Senate House, at which CUCD will be represented by Professor Woolf and Dr. Quinn. The details of the next REF are not yet known, either in terms of date or the authority responsible, but it does not seem that it will be significantly lighter touch. It was *agreed* that CUCD would respond to consultation, if invited, after December 12th.

**Action: GW**

1. **Funding for Master’s degrees**

It was agreed that this item did not require discussion.

1. **Teaching Excellence Framework**

Already covered under item 4.

1. **CUCD Elections**:

There had been four nominations for four places on Standing Committee, so the following elections were confirmed:

Emma Bridges (Open University); (re-election for a second term)

James Clackson (Cambridge);

Jo Quinn (Oxford); (re-election for a second term)

Peter Morton (Manchester)

1. **Date of next meeting:** November 4th 2017, at 2pm.
2. **Any other business**:

CUCD *noted* that a number of Universities have set up a number of full and partial scholarships for refugees and asylum seekers; it welcomed these initiatives and offered its support to the national campaign for Equal Access .

It was *agreed* that CUCD should respond to the current Parliamentary consultation on the risks of Brexit. Professor Woolf and Professor Lovatt volunteered to make a submission.

**Action: GW, HL**

Professor Steel reported a request from Professor Cairns, Chair of the Classical Association Journals Board, to ask CUCD contacts to remind colleagues that authors of articles in journals published by CUP may post pre-prints only to institutional repositories and personal websites and not to commercial websites such as academia.edu.

It was *noted* that the list of external examiners that CUCD used to host was a valuable resource and it was *agreed* to ask Dr. Marshall about adding a question on external examiners to statistics.

**Action: SM**

Council recorded its thanks to the outgoing members of Standing Committee, Professor Hunter and Professor Todd.

07/11/16

CEWS