

Summary – NAMHE Committee Meeting 9 June 2012

Committee Business

The Committee voted on whether length of service for a committee member should always be three years, or whether a 'by-election' should cover only the remaining service of the outgoing committee member. It was agreed by a majority verdict to continue with the latter policy.

Thomas Schmidt-Beste was congratulated on his appointment to a personal Chair at Manchester. The Committee now needs to co-opt a new representative for Wales, as well as representative for Northern Ireland to replace Frank Lyons. Thomas will be standing down as Chair at the next AGM.

There was some discussion as to whether there should be student representatives on the Committee. It was agreed in principle to be a good idea. Thomas Schmidt-Beste is going to contact the IMR for advice on how they handle student representation.

Matters arising from the last meeting

Working visas for foreign academics – SCUDD and SCODHE have agreed in principle to be involved in joint action, but thanks to the influence of the Manifesto Club and others, the UKBA has relaxed its rules for visiting artists and academics.

Lobbying for Music in Parliament – Miguel Mera has compiled a shortlist of possible champions in Parliament. The Committee is currently drawing up a list of issues that are important to HE Music, for which NAMHE would like to seek support from lobbyists.

Current Issues and Projects

- Thomas Schmidt-Beste has provided advice to Prof Georgina Born (Oxford) on her 'MusDig' ERC-funded research project on the impact of digital technologies on music and digital music teaching in the UK and elsewhere. NAMHE will be named as a collaborator and will be able to access the data assembled by the project once it is completed.
- NAMHE is considering putting on a seminar to discuss the findings of a project run by June Boyce-Tilman (Winchester) on the recruitment, supervision and examination of PhD students in practice arts.
- The Committee discussed the emerging practice of student essay writing being sold over the Internet. It was agreed to approach the membership for anecdotal evidence of the practice, if it exists, and for advice on methods of dealing with it.
- Celia Duffy reported that Aberdeen had expressed concern at the explanation of A-Z C20 Music Concepts in the new National Qualifications in Scotland. Celia had agreed to write to the Scottish Qualifications Agency to express grave concern at the wording.

- The NAMHE membership has been invited to suggest projects that NAMHE might fund for the benefit of the full membership.

NAMHE Conferences

NAMHE is continuing to work closely with NAME; a further joint seminar, on employability in music education, is arranged for Saturday 30 June. It was suggested that the two organisations might hold a joint conference. Thomas Schmidt-Beste is going to explore this possibility with James Garnett, Chair of NAME.

The topic of 'Public Engagement and Enterprise' was suggested as a theme for the 2013 Annual Conference, to be held possibly at Durham. 'Technology – teaching and research' was suggested as a theme for the 2014 Conference, which will be held at Bath Spa University.

Meetings in 2012-13

Saturday 6 October 2012
Saturday 26 January 2013
Tuesday 7 May 2013 – Annual Conference
Saturday 8 June 2013