

## Summary – NAMHE Committee Meeting 6 October 2012

### *Committee Business*

Rachel Cowgill and Jan Smaczny have been co-opted onto the Committee representing Wales and Northern Ireland respectively.

Committee elections are due. Michael Clarke, Peter Manning and Charles Wiffen are standing for re-election, while Helena Gaunt has decided to stand down.

### *Matters arising from the last meeting*

*Student representation* – Member departments will be invited to nominate a student to attend the next NAMHE Conference free of charge. Students attending will be asked to choose one of their number to be the first representative on the NAMHE Committee.

*Scottish Qualifications Agency* – Celia Duffy wrote to the Agency to protest about the A-Z C20 Music Concepts in the new National Qualifications in Scotland. As a result, the concepts have been removed from the Agency's web site.

### *Current Issues and Projects*

- *Items from Member Institutions*
  - The University of Salford has asked if NAMHE could act as a 'clearing house' in the debate on one-to-one tuition. The Committee decided that it would be difficult to do this, but they are happy to provide supporting information for any member department to present to senior management.
  - The Central School of Speech & Drama has asked if there is a network where departments can exchange information. NAMHE has a jiscmail list. Members are urged to sign up to this via the NAMHE web site.
- There was a discussion as to how NAMHE might support the IMR's on-line research training.
- NAMHE is considering applying to the HEA next year to a fund supporting teaching & learning projects managed by subject associations. The funding has been awarded to SCUDD this year.
- The Committee discussed closer collaborations with NAME and the RMA. Caroline Bithell attended NAME's annual conference. Jan Smaczny is serving on the new RMA External Affairs Committee and will represent the RMA on NAMHE.
- NAMHE has assisted the AQA with a survey on A-Level syllabus reform. Juliana Baxter from AQA is to be invited to speak at the next NAMHE Conference.
- Martin Blain represented NAMHE at the AHRC Subject Associations meeting in June, at which collaborative provision was discussed.
- NAMHE has been invited to nominate research users as REF assessors. Thomas Schmidt will liaise with the RMA on this.

- The Committee studied a series of booklets published by NAME and considered the possibility of publishing an advocacy book along these lines. These would include position statements on a variety of topics and with different viewpoints.

### ***NAMHE Annual Conference 2013***

‘Great Expectations: Managing the Present’ was suggested as theme for 2013, with the focus on staff as well as students. It is planned to hold a round table with students on their experiences of transition from school to university.

Durham is unable to host the conference; it was agreed to approach Birmingham.

### ***Meetings in 2012-13***

Saturday 26 January 2013

Tuesday 7 May 2013 – Annual Conference

Saturday 8 June 2013