

## Summary – NAMHE Committee Meeting 12 October 2013

### *Committee Business*

- Celia Duffy, Steve Halfyard and Thomas Schmidt reach the end of their two year terms on the Committee in December; Martin Blain completes his first term. Paul Archbold and Caroline Bithell are also standing down. There will be four vacancies of three years and two of one year in the forthcoming committee elections.
- The committee has welcomed two new student committee members: Elizabeth French of Kingston University and Rob Spalton of Birmingham Conservatoire

### *Current Issues and Projects*

- **Priorities** – Rachel Cowgill reported that, following a recent survey of the membership, the priorities of her chairmanship of NAMHE will be the web site, advocacy, the NAMHE film (see below) and strategy points arising from the survey.
- **Advocacy** – Plans are being developed for a film advocating Music as an HE discipline. It is intended that the film will last 15 minutes and be made in up to six locations, covering the four UK countries, conservatoires, Russell group institutions, post-1994 institutions, world music and pop music. Rachel Cowgill is writing to heads of departments of member institutions to invite them to be involved. It is also hoped to produce a document for NAMHE similar to the Conservatoire Way.
- **Facilitating Subjects** – the Committee welcomed Professor Stephen Lacey and Professor Roger Marsh from SCUDD to an open discussion session.
- **AHRC Cultural Values Project** - NAMHE is to spearhead a bid for a digital technologies project.
- **Postgraduate Taught Numbers** – NAMHE is commissioning research into the median for MAs around the country.
- **Open Access** – NAMHE is preparing a response to the new consultation on post-2014 REF.
- **HE Music and the ECU Gender Equality Mark** – NAMHE has decided to commission some research on HESA statistics and gender balance within departments, with emphasis on staff.
- **Travel Grants** – NAMHE has allocated a budget of £200 per term to sponsor student travel to events hosted by the IMR.
- **Treasurer's Report** – the balance at the bank is healthy at around £15k, but about 15 member departments have not yet paid for 2012-13.
- **Communication with membership** – NAMHE plans to make more use of social media; a Twitter account is to be set up.

### *Events attended by NAMHE*

- AHRC Subject Association (26 September) – Miguel Mera
- Launch of Music Research Consortium UK (25 October) – Paul Archbold, Helen Julia Minors, Jan Smaczny and Charles Wiffen

- HEA/QAA event on Education for Sustainable Development (5 November) – Jan Smaczny
- Conference on GCSEs structure, content and implementation post-2015 (21 November) – Pam Burnard

### ***NAMHE Annual Conference 2014***

After consulting the membership, it has been agreed to keep the conference date the same, the Tuesday after the May bank holiday. The next conference will be on *Learning Communities* and will take place at Bath Spa University on Tuesday 6 May. The membership survey has identified that the areas of most concern to members are research-led teaching, employability, contact time and modes of delivery; communities of creative practice. These strands will therefore be focused upon at conference

### ***Meetings in 2013-14***

The Committee will meet on Saturday 26 January and Saturday 7 June, at the University of Birmingham.