



The Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth

COMMITTEE MEETING

29th June 2010 1.30 pm

DTH 109, Goldsmiths, London

Minutes

Present: James Fairhead, Catherine Alexander, Raminder Kaur, Ian Fairweather, Garry Marvin

1. Apologies

James Staples, Kate Degnen, Ro Jackson, Nayanika Mukherjee, Atreyee Sen

2. Minutes of 12-03-10

Were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising

In response to action points on the minutes of 12-03-10:

Action: RJ to confirm that bloggers have been invited via *Anthropology Matters* and that views expressed on the blog are not those of the ASA.

Noted: Atreyee Sen has been appointed as Conference Liaison Officer.

Action: JF to chase up outstanding letter of support from JNU Vice-Chancellor for 2012 ASA Conference.

Action: AS to report back to the Committee on the 2012 BASAS conference in India and the BASAS application for funds in case of any possible clashes with ASA Conference.

Action: GM to report back to the Committee on details of the ASA student film competition from Trevor Marchand (SOAS).

Noted: Simone Abram was thanked for five years' sterling service as ASA Secretary.

4. Item 4

Note: oral reports were presented in reverse order.

a – Chair's Report

JF's report noted.

Noted: ESRC funding for DTC/DTUs has been cut in the immediate term. Ten-year funding for Centres has been cut to 5 year terms.

b – Administrator

RJ's report noted.

c – Treasurer

RK's report noted.

Noted: The ASA Belfast conference made a loss of £1500. There was a lack of clarity over a) whether ASA conference seed money £500 constituted a grant or a loan, b) who should cover losses and c) who should benefit from profits.

Agreed: For the Belfast Conference, the ASA will not recover the £500 seed money and will pay an additional £750 to the Belfast Anthropology Department as a 50% share of the losses sustained.

Agreed: In future, seed money is to be viewed as a loan and should be returned to the ASA after each Conference. The ASA will not cover any losses incurred. The ASA will receive 50% of any profits made.

Action: AS to clarify the status of the seed money, loss cover and profit sharing in the Guidelines that are sent to Departments organising ASA Conferences.

Action: JF to write to HoDs to encourage all staff to join the ASA, if not already members, explaining a) its importance as a lobbying body for professional anthropologists and b) the advantages of membership, c) the connection to the WCAA (noting its website).

d – Ethics

NM's report noted.

e – Networks

CD's report noted.

f – Publications

JS's report noted.

Noted: Volume I on Tourism from the Bristol conference is out. The second is due Jan 2011. The Belfast issue is on track.

g – Media

GM's report noted.

Action: GM to liaise with Trevor Marchand and RJ to advertise the film competition on the ASA website.

Action: GM to circulate a paragraph to the ASA Committee on guidance for media appearances, offering advice via FAQs and running a blog for members to provide their own experiences and suggestions. Kit Davis to be invited to start off the blog.

5. Conferences

Action: RK to draft, and circulate to the Committee, a paragraph for the hosting departments outlining the key financial arrangements between the ASA and departments.

Action: AS to draft, and circulate to the Committee, a letter to the hosting departments, containing the approved financial paragraph as drafted by RK, other key points and drawing attention to the ASA Conference Guidelines.

Firth Lecture 2011

Action: CA to circulate suggested speakers, who fit with the theme of Animals and People, to the Committee and to solicit other suggestions. A decision will be made either at the next ASA Committee meeting or earlier by email agreement by the Committee.

ASA 2011

Action: AS to write to Penny at Lampeter to seek assurance that the 2011 conference is going ahead as planned and to mention that RJ may provide advice and help on logistics.

Noted: GM has already offered to help with academic advice.

Agreed: If there are any problems with Lampeter hosting the 2011 Conference, JF will contact the HoDs for an alternative.

ASA 2012

Agreed: RO to be given £500 from ASA funds towards his trip to JNU in order to write a feasibility report for the Committee on how to turn the existing academic collaboration into a successful event.

Noted: Other visits to JNU are planned alongside research trips. These visits should be co-ordinated to ensure consistent messages etc.

Action: RO to re-circulate the draft conference budget to the Committee.

6. Date of next meeting.

Agreed: the next meeting will be held in Manchester in early November. Details to be circulated closer to the time by CA.

7. AOB

Noted: HEFCE funding of subject centres is changing to a thematic focus. C-SAP only has one administrator left for all three disciplines. It is likely that Anthropology will be part of a generic social sciences group with no specific attention to learning and teaching within Anthropology. IF will be a key link between ASA and C-SAP as it transforms and new Disciplinary Interest Groups (DIGs) emerge.

Agreed: That the ASA AGM is asked to approve the appointment of the C-SAP (or whatever it becomes) to be the Learning and Teaching Officer for the ASA Committee on a 4-year term.

Agreed: The C-SAP teaching prize is to be announced via the ASA website and awarded at the next ASA conference.

Meeting ended 16.30.

CA