Minutes of the Membership Development Committee

Minutes from the meeting of the MDC on Monday 22 May 2017, online

1 Welcome and apologies

Chair: Sarah Sherman (SS)

Present: Julie Voce (JV), James McDowell (JM), John Couperthwaite (JC), John Traxler (JT), Daniel Scott (DS), Alastair Clark (AC), Kerr Gardiner (KG), Lynne Downey (LD), Simon Kear (SK), Thomas Palmer (TP - ALT)

Apologies received from: Jane Britton, Matthew Newcombe, Victoria Baxter

2 Any other business

See item 11.

3 Approve the minutes of the MDC meeting held 15 February 2017

The minutes were approved by the committee.

4 Innovation, community and technology report

The committee noted Martin Hawksey's ICT report, which documented progress made in the technical delivery of ALT events at the OER17 conference in April, the verification of ALT's Twitter account, results of the ALT Annual Survey, and ALT website statistics.

5 Conference and events report

The Committee noted the events report, which summarised the very positive evaluation of the OER17: The Politics of Open conference, and introduced ALT's new Events Manager, Jane Marsh.

6 FE and cross-sector engagement report

The committee noted the report, which covered FELTAG SIG activities, and ALT's contribution of a learning technology professional profile as part of Jisc's Building Digital Capability project. AC raised the subject of the Doug Gowan Memorial fund: a number of individuals from FE, learning and skills have begun CMALT under the fund, and high-quality applications are still being received.

7 Membership and CMALT report

TP presented the membership report. It noted continued good performance in recruitment and retention in Q1 2017; the constitution of the ALT South group and further development of the ALT Members Groups and SIGs hosted websites; ALT collaboration with external partners; current calls for Learning Technologist of the Year Awards entries, ALT Trustee and Vice-Chair nominations, and ALT Honorary Life Member nominations; and CMALT development plans.

The committee received a preview of the latter, to be announced officially on 24 May 2017. The project (provisionally entitled 'Pathways to CMALT') has two main elements: 1) the expansion of the CMALT framework to accommodate early-career and senior practitioner strands alongside the

current accreditation; 2) the provision of open online support – in the form of dedicated resources and feedback from tutors and peers – for candidates as they complete CMALT. ALT has employed a consultant on this project, and planning is in the process of definition and refinement.
Committee members interested in helping to pilot one of the new CMALT strands or in participating in consultation may contact TP directly, or respond to the announcement published on 24 May.

Actions:
- Committee members to promote calls for LT Awards, ALT Trustees roles, Hon. Life Membership:
  - [Learning Technologist of the Year Awards](#). Now open for individual and team entries. Closes **4 June**
  - [Call for nominations for Trustees and Vice-Chair of ALT](#) is open. Closes **9 June**.
  - [Call for nominations for Honorary Life Membership](#), for individuals who have made an outstanding and sustained contribution to ALT's charitable objectives. Closes **7 July**
- Committee members to indicate interest in involvement in CMALT development project. Contact thomas.palmer@alt.ac.uk or respond to announcement made on ALT site 24/05/2017.

8 Areas for committee involvement
The Chair noted a number of areas in which committee members might become involved.
- The #ALTC Blog will issue a call for editors soon, and always needs writers and contributions.
- Research in Learning Technology will issue a call for RLT Editorial Board Membership shortly. Board membership involves twice- or thrice-yearly online meetings on journal strategy, and some reviewing commitments.
- The newly-published ALT Strategy sets out the aim to liaise as widely and effectively as possible with relevant organisations across the sector. Committee members are encouraged to share any knowledge or existing links with external organisations to this end.
- Similarly, if committee members are attending relevant events and would be willing to hand out some ALT literature/promote ALT, please let TP know.

Committee members can indicate interest in these areas in the sheet at:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DHcvYaNiv_ph-nicbViHWzeZvmviGgw0wptMem1zSCM/edit?usp=sharing

9 Committee Membership
The Chair thanked KG and Vice-Chair JV on behalf of the MDC and ALT for their service on the committee. Both have served two consecutive terms and will stand down from September. Expressions of interest in the Vice-Chair position are invited from committee members, and will be gathered by email. A new Vice-Chair will be in place, and committee vacancies filled, by the next meeting in October 2017.

10 Items referred to and from other ALT committees and Trustees including shared update from all committees
The committee noted the shared report from the last round of committee meetings. This committee's contribution to the next shared report will reflect the actions and recommendations minuted here.

Recommendations to be reported to Trustees:
Recommendation: Trustees to note MDC members' involvement in efforts to deliver on ALT's strategic aims around public impact and professionalisation in Learning Technology.

11 Any other business
JT discussed the REF. The terms and conditions are currently unclear; many universities are now working on institutional tactics. A number of factors make this iteration of the REF potentially more significant to ALT's membership. ALT responded to the HEFCE consultation in March; it would undoubtedly be advantageous if ALT could offer members more support to position themselves effectively within the REF, in the way of briefings and/or practical tips. Centrally-located events a possibility. The Chair suggested that committee members with suggestions/expertise to contribute to

help ALT serve members in this area contact JT and ALT.

It was proposed that the TEF should be on the agenda at the next MDC meeting in October.

Action
Committee members able to contribute relevant expertise/time to contact JT through MDC email list.

12 Dates of next meeting
The next meeting will take place face-to-face in October 2017, date to be confirmed

Minutes written by: TP 23/05/2017
Reviewed by: SS 23/05/2017