



Communications and Publications Committee

Minutes

Minutes from the meeting on 09 May 2017.

1 Welcome and apologies

Chair: Neil Morris

Present: Amanda Jefferies, Sandra Huskinson, Santanu Vasant, Kristina Petersen (ALT), Martin Hawksey (ALT)

Apologies received from: Lesley Diack, Ros Walker, Anne Hole

2 AoB

Committee Membership.

3 Approve the Minutes of the 15 February 2017

Minutes from the last meeting approved.

4 Items to be reported to/from Operational Committees /Trustees

Reporting from other committees noted. NM noted that Trustees felt the launch of the strategy was very positive and thanked those in helping in its dissemination. Raised question of capturing some of the launch social media activity in a Storify or similar.

Action: Volunteers from the committee to generate a storify

5 Innovation, Community and Technology Report

Following the launch of the new strategy, ALT is in a period of consolidation.

The Annual Survey provides useful information. NM asked if the results of the survey could be shared further, e.g. through blog posts (the #altc blog and external blogs including 'The Conversation'). SV supported the idea of blogging on the Conversation and other national blogs and getting ALT work out on there. NM suggested a blog post by MH on the technical side of running OER17, MH noted that there had already been a post on his personal blog detailing the technical setup used for streaming the event.

MH highlighted the verification of ALT's Twitter account which was noted as a positive development.

6 Events/Annual Conference

MH provided an overview of the Events and Conference report highlighting the appointment of Jane Marsh as Events Manager. Key points from the report were highlighted including the very positive feedback for the running and administration of the event. MH also pointed out that from the survey

responses the majority of people found out about the event via Twitter and this will be taken into account by the staff team for future events. NM noted the positive gains in survey responses for the event website.

MH updated the Committee on Annual Conference progress in particular the number of submissions which is the highest in 5 years. MH indicated that the review of submissions was almost completed and registrations would open at the end of the week (w/c 8 May).

Also noted that ALT is about to announce collaboration with the Mozilla foundation, starting with a webinar at the end of May.

Action: CPX members to help promote registration for the Annual Conference.

7 Journal update

7.1 Reporting from 2016

Noted that the journal has continued to grow. Volume wise and geographic up until the point with issues with T&F. The publisher's report was positive and there was a desire despite recent issues to continue the momentum of growth.

7.2 Update and discussion on hosting options

NM updated the Committee on the current situation with the Journal. Noted that as publicly announced ALT is seeking a new publisher as quickly and smoothly as possible. Editors have been storing up a bank of manuscripts to publish as soon as possible. The Committee welcomed all the efforts being made by editors, NM and the staff team during this difficult time. The committee were invited to provide feedback on three different options for a new publisher. The Committee responded positively to all the options and had no objections or concerns with to any of them as they all meet ALT's core criteria for a new journal publisher.

Action: NM to continue to provide updates from Trustees to CPX regarding the journal.

8 #ALTC Blog

MH provided a verbal update on the #ALTC blog on behalf of Anne Hole. Noted that currently averaging about four posts per month, with some variation. The Editors have recently completed a survey to readers. Survey responses mention the need to promote the blog more and that the blog content is good. Blog writers are encouraged to use other media but this is not been taken up much. Some blog editors are coming to the end of their term. Anne Hole, editor-in-chief, is coming to the end of her term but has offered to continue. We will be looking to recruit more editor and to have someone in place to replace Anne when she steps down in three years' time.

SV suggested incentivising writing for the blog by offering discounts to the Annual Conference. A lot of readers come to the blog through Google search, so the right keywords and titles in the blogs are important.

Action: MH to investigate options for discounted conference places for supporters of the ALTC Blog

9 CPX at altc 2017

Participation at this year's conference by CPX members was discussed. Agreed that promotion of the Journal would be important given recent developments. Suggested that it would be good to include a promotional postcard for the Journal in the delegate pack.

Action: For CPX members to suggest what they would be willing to contribute to the conference

10 AoB

Three committee members are coming to the end of their three year term and have the option to stand for a further three years:

Sandra Huskinson

Anne Hole
Ros Walker

Action: MH to contact Committee members reaching the end of their term.

11 Dates of next meeting:

October Face-to-Face TBC

12 Reporting to/from the Central Executive

The Committee would like the Central Executive to note they have reviewed Journal options and have no concerns with any of the options being considered.

Minutes written by: MH/16 May 2017

Reviewed by: NM/18 May 2017