

Publications Committee Meeting
15th February 2013
Draft Minutes
Chair – Matt Lingard

1. Participation

Chair: Matt Lingard

Participation: Liz Bennett (LB), Sarah Cornelius (SC), Frank Steiner (FS), Ulrich Tiedau (UT), Julie Voce (JV)

ALT staff: Anna Davidge (AD)

2. Apologies

Dick Moore, Graham McElearney, Steven Verjans, Dominic Watts, Joe Wilson, Morag Munro and Frances Bell

3. Approve the minutes of last meeting, 30th October 2012 and note any outstanding actions

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Outstanding actions to note:

ACTION: Access to Google Analytics for PX members (AD)

ACTION: Take advice on current membership of committee (AD, DM, ML)

4. Review agenda and add any other items of business

Reviewed and no extra items added.

5. Research in Learning Technology, the Journal of the Association for Learning Technology

5.1 Update from AD on journal submissions and publications for this year

ACTION: AD to circulate finalised publication schedule for 2013.

5.2 The committee reviewed the minutes of the Journal Steering Group meeting which took place on Friday 8 February 2013 and heard an update from ML.

It was proposed that authors of published RLT articles are asked to become reviewers for the journal.

ACTION: Add to agenda for discussion at next Journal Steering Group meeting

5.3 Journal subscription fees will not increase for 2013.

6. ALT online Newsletter

6.1 The committee heard an update from JV

Morag, Julie and Graham are coming to the end of their term as editors of ALT News Online in September 2013. Liz, Frank and Sarah have previously expressed an interest in formally taking over the roles they have been actively involved since May of last year.

ACTION: AD to take advice regarding handover.

JV expressed concern at the lack of submissions to ALT News Online. The committee discussed alternative ways of attracting submissions, such as promoting certain categories of article and reaching out to ALT members via social media and email lists.

6.2 Issues regarding the current publication model were discussed.

The committee agrees in principle that the Newsletter should make a change to a blog format, publishing continuously at the rate of approximately 1 article per week or fortnight.

This will take advantage of the blog platform (Wordpress) which already hosts ALT News Online and will allow for greater flexibility in the types and lengths of articles published. It is thought that in general it will be easier to attract a wider variety of articles to a blog rather than a newsletter.

ACTION: AD to arrange a face-to-face meeting of the Newsletter Editors to discuss the above issues and potential changes in greater detail.

7. ALT Wiki Report

The committee heard a report on the ALT Wiki from ML.

The Wiki has not received a lot of traffic or contribution for some time; possible scenarios for the future of the Wiki were discussed.

It was suggested that the committee focus on the changes to ALT News Online for now, before assessing how the Wiki can be best used.

The committee agreed in principle that the research guides in the Wiki should be moved to the ALT Open Access Repository.

ACTION: AD to take advice on moving research guides to the Repository.

8. Online operations report

The Operations report was reviewed by the committee.

ACTION: AD to create sub-headings within the report to group together statistics on each channel.

9. Issues to and from the Central Executive Committee not elsewhere on the agenda

The Publications Committee would like to propose in principle a change to a blog format for ALT News Online. If agreed in principle the committee will put forward a proposal for consideration at the next Central Executive Committee.

10. AOB

None.

11. Date(s) of next meeting(s)

To be agreed.

ACTION: Anna Davidge to circulate dates for next meeting.