

Approved Minutes from the 26 January 2012 Meeting of the ALT Further Education Committee (FEC) – PUBLIC VERSION

1. Participation

David Dyet (DD), Ellen Lessner (EL), Peter Gwilliam (PG), Nick Jeans (NJ), Rob Englebright (RE), Claire Donlan (CD), Sarah Williams (SW), Seb Schmoller (SS).

2. Apologies

Joan Walker, Ann Hill, Karen Ver, James Clay

3. Welcome and Introductions

David Dyet welcomed members of the committee to the meeting.

4. Committee Chair

Members noted that David Dyet would be standing down as Chair owing to work pressures stemming from the re-organisation and merger of several FE colleges in Scotland including his own. Normal practice is for individual committees to nominate by election a chair from amongst their members, who is then considered for appointment by ALT's Trustees and for cooption as a Trustee of the Association. (Alternatively ALT's Trustees could appoint someone to Chair a committee from amongst ALT's elected Trustees.) Members of FEC who might be interested in serving as Chair are encouraged to discuss their interest with SS or DD. In this connection EL indicated that she is not currently considering putting herself forward as Chair.

5. Ann Hill

Members noted that Ann Hill had, with regret, decided to stand down from FEC. Ann had asked FEC to note that she will continue to champion the sterling work that ALT does for the sector. FEC put on record its thanks to Ann for her several years of involvement in the committee's work.

6. Minutes of the 25th October 2011 meeting

Approved as a true record.

7. Matters arising

7.1 FE Action Research Special Interest Group [6.1]

This remains ongoing and will be raised at the Research Committee during w.b. 30 January. The possibility of some there was the suggestion by SS that he would liaise with Rachel Harris who is now a member of the RC to help move this forward over the next six months.

7.2 Review of FEC Terms of Reference [6.2]

DD, EL, and SW will jointly examine and amend the TOR document circulated by SS (he will now send this to FEC as a whole), taking account of the model relating to the Research Committee that John Slater had previously distributed at SS's suggestion. Both documents will be circulated to FEC by SS.

7.3 Webinar about pre-course/post-enrolment student engagement using social media [6.3]

EL reported that she has been in touch with City of Bristol college whose David Morley has confirmed his willingness to contribute to an ALT webinar. EL is keen to hear suggestions for other potential contributors, and SS confirmed that Becca Currant had indicated a willingness to present to such a webinar. EL to progress this, liaising with Caroline Greves who is newly appointed as ALT's Events Manager.

7.4 FE teacher training in England – poor preparation to make use of TEL [6.4]

FEC noted that ALT has continued to develop its relationship with IfL (which has assisted ALT in the small survey of preparedness that had underpinned the document written by Malcolm Ryan and the short paper that various FEC members had presented at ALT-C 2011. SS will raise with BIS the possibility of the latter funding further work in this area.

7.5 AoC/ALT event on large scale curriculum re-design [6.5]

SS reported that efforts are being made to secure Birmingham Metropolitan College as the venue for the event, and that Geoff Rebbeck has come forward from the Membership Services Committee to help shape the event.

7.6 Ofsted consultation – Common Inspection Framework [7.]

SS reported that ALT's had submitted a response that a fruitful meeting immediately prior to deadline had been held under the auspices of IfL with Matthew Coffey that had helped to shape the ALT response. The response is at <http://repository.alt.ac.uk/2197/>.

7.7 Scottish Government consultation on post-16 education [8.3]

DD reported that he had contributed to ALT's response to the Scottish White paper. The response is at <http://repository.alt.ac.uk/2199/>.

8. Confidential item omitted from this version

9. To and from other committees

FEC noted the Trustees' decision of 3/11/2011:

"Minutes of Operational Committee and Trustee meetings Trustees accepted the recommendation that henceforth the unapproved (and subsequently the approved) minutes of ALT's main committee meetings will be published on the ALT website, with the exception of any parts that are judged to require to remain confidential, with a suitable colour coding to indicate any material that should remain confidential."

10. Confidential item omitted from this version

11. Dates of next meeting

June 2012. Members to be polled on dates via an online calendar.