



The Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth

Annual General Meeting

1pm, 2nd March 2012

Arthur Lewis Building, University of Manchester

Present (17): Simone Abram, Hazel Andrews, Julie Botticello, Megan Caine (Administrator), Matei Candea, John Craig, Cathrine Degnen (Network Officer), Jeanette Edward, James Fairhead (Chair), Ian Fairweather (Learning and Teaching Officer), Lotte Hoek, Raminder Kaur (Hon. Treasurer), Zemirah Moffat, Nayanika Mookherjee (Ethics Officer), Mike Poltorak, Atreyee Sen (Conference Liason Officer), James Staples (Publications Officer)

1) Apologies: Rohan Jackson (NomadIT)

2) Minutes of last AGM 4th March 2011 and EGM 15th September 2011: confirmed as a true record.

3) Matters Arising: None

4) Membership: Megan Caine (MC) showed the list of new members and all were approved, with the proviso of CV request for one applicant that Atreyee Sen (AS) will solicit.

5) Election of Officers:

James Fairhead (JF) thanked all previous post holders for their work, including Gary Marvin (Media Officer) in absentee.

The following were unanimously approved:

Honorary Secretary - Zemirah Moffat

Ethics Officer - Matt Candea

Media Officer - Mike Poltorak

Networks Officer - Rachel Goberman-Hill

6) Matters for Report

All reports will be posted on ASA website. Below is a summary of arising discussions.

a) Chair's Report: James Fairhead (JF) went through his report, with clarifications sought by attendees. A particular discussion on ASA title change ensued –whether to omit 'of the UK and Commonwealth'. Questions were asked as to whether the change in name suggests a change in something else? Are we to be regional or not? Clarification sought on whether committee membership restricted to the UK, unlike association membership which is worldwide. Raminder Kaur (RK) explained that although committee posts are not restricted to the UK, pragmatically, that is how it works. But, for example, Firth and Radcliffe Brown funds now get many applications from Canada. Discussion had on possible changes in election procedures, in order to broaden membership opportunities.

Action: JF proposed and agreement was reached that Committee will implement a consultation regarding 'ASA Name' and bring proposals to next AGM.

b) Treasurer's Report and Accounts: Raminder Kaur (RK) explained that currently the accounts show a surplus of around £5,000, but this has yet to take into account the administrations costs for the JNU conference in April. The main issue is that ASA membership is contracting, because it is aging. This needs to be addressed. RK suggested a small rise in fees (£3-£5) would be appropriate in the next few years to ward off inflation costs. RK thanked all for her time and introduced her successor Lotte Hoek (LH), who had successfully shadowed this past year

c) Publication's Report: James Staples (JS) discussed his work over the past year. Clarification on the peer review process of monographs was sought. JS agreed to keep in post until August 2013

d) Ethics Report: Nayanika Mookherjee emphasised that the ASA's Ethics Document is a *live* document, designed for amendments to be easily added. She hoped everyone would keep this in mind and thanked all for her time and welcomed in her replacement Matt Candea.

7) ASA Conferences

- a) RK gave update on progress of ASA Conference 2012 at JNU, in Delhi
- b) JF announced ASA Conference 2014, STAR consortium, Scotland

8) Members' Resolutions

None received

9) AOB:

a) John Craig from HEA (Higher Education Academy) explained that although HEA have stopped funding subject centres, and as anthropology did not make the top 28 discipline leads, this does not mean that funds are not available. He came to reassure that the HEA can give support. For example there are UK travel grants to attend Teaching and Learning Event - staff/students/accommodation; Teaching Development Grants, for individuals and departments. There are also funds for doctorates specifically on teaching in anthropology. He also drew attention to the Social Science Conference in Liverpool - ways of knowing, ways of learning - the first summit on teaching research methods in anthropology. Furthermore, there are still posts (open til the 31st July 2012) for Associates. For more information visit the HEA website and/or contact ASA's Learning and Teaching officer Ian Fairhead.

b) Ian Fairweather (IF) announced the two winners of the Teaching Awards. There were 6 applications of high standards. The judges were David Mills, John Craig and Ian Fairhead and the winners were Dr Cathrine Degnen from Newcastle and Dr Sam Hearne from Lampeter. A special mention was also made for the Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, for their outstanding contribution to teaching of Visual Anthropology.

10) The next AGM will be decided in consultation with the STAR consortium.

Meeting ended at 2.20pm