



The Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth

Minutes of ASA committee meeting 4th March 2011, 12.00hrs

RAI, 50, Fitzroy Sq., London

Present

James Fairhead, Garry Marvin, James Staples, Raminder Kaur, Cathrine Degnen, Ian Fairweather, Atreyee Sen, Catherine Alexander, Nayanika Mookherjee

1. Apologies

Rohan Jackson

2. Previous minutes

Agreed.

3. Matters arising from last minutes

REF nominations were not circulated in light of Hastings Donovan's advice that it would be better to wait for the announcement. Thanks to all those who were nominated.

ACTION: CA to write to the Chair of South Africa's anthropology association expressing our interesting in collaborating with over a conference in the near future.

4b Unpaid up members to be emailed, incorporating paragraph listing advantages of belonging to ASA e.g. possibility of attending AAA without additional payment; support given to students attending conferences. Reference to C-SAP to be dropped.

Actions: JF to write paragraph; RJ to send email.

4d Blog on cuts: AGM 2011 to vote on how to take forward the discussion on implications of Browne Review and Comprehensive Spending Review.

4e Noted: the Firth Fund can be used to fund journals but it needs to be topped up from royalties.

C-SAP have agreed to donate £1,000 towards web resources.

5. Appointment of new treasurer (Dr Lotte Hoek, Edinburgh) to be ratified by AGM 2011.

6. Film competition: GM in discussion with RAI and Paul Henley.

9. Firth speaker for ASA conference 2011: D Haraway unable to attend.

Actions: JF to invite Prof. Piers Vitebsky; backup Vincent Despres (**Action: GM** to send contact details to JF)

4. Reports

Full reports were pre-circulated and are available on the website.

a. Chair

Blog on effects of Browne Review and Comprehensive Spending Review on Anthropology.

Agreed: to invite bloggers to start the blog.

Action: JF to invite one or more of the following: David Prendergast, Eliza Darling (Goldsmiths); Hugh Gusterson (George Mason); Richard Fardon (SOAS); Jonathan Newman (Sussex)

REF

Noted: Anthropology is in a sub-panel with Development; 10 out of the 16 members are Anthropologists.

Agreed: Thanks to Hastings Donovan for his hard work in enabling a diverse, strong and representative panel membership to be appointed.

RCUK DTC

Noted: As a consequence of the Doctoral Training Centres apportionment, Wales now has no RCUK doctoral funding.

Action: JF to write to Lampeter offering support should a letter from the ASA pointing this out to Welsh government representatives be thought useful.

Noted: Anthropology in Glasgow has been closed.

Action: JF to write to Glasgow vice-chancellor deploring closure.

b. Admin

Noted: Continuation of outstanding payments and need for more members.

Actions: RJ to circulate outstanding members list to the committee;

committee to email individuals known to them, copying RJ, offering an amnesty on condition of setting up a DD for 2011 onwards.

RJ to email the remainder offering a one-off amnesty under same conditions.

RJ to liaise with JF and RK to create 'marketing' paragraph listing advantages of belonging to ASA and what it does.

Agreed: Thanks to Rohan Jackson for his advice

c. Treasurer

Noted: Lotte Hoek will be shadowing RK this year before taking over.

d. Ethics

Noted: NM coming to end of term. Matt Candea and Anselma Gallinat proposed as possible replacements.

Action: NM to approach Candea then Gallimat about taking on the job of Ethics Officer.

Ethics Framework

Noted: Version 1 of a draft of proposed revisions was sent to ASA members. Suggested revisions were incorporated into Version 2.

Agreed: to incorporate further comments raised by Committee and AGM 2011; to hold a meeting specifically to discuss the draft framework 4-6pm 5th March 2011; NM to send V3 of draft framework to the ASA Committee before June; to discuss the proposed revisions at the June ASA Committee meeting; NM to send subsequent draft (V4) to all ASA members for information; formal approval AGM 2012. It is to be emphasised, in all these stages that the Ethics Framework is a living document and subject to change to keep it relevant; all such changes would be mooted and approved through the Committee.

Action: NM to propose this process to AGM 2011 for approval.

Action: NM to give RJ a short paragraph describing revision and approval process for the website; this also to be sent to the Membership.

e. Networks

Verbal report:

Noted: January workshop was well attended.

Noted: CD's term of office coming to an end. Replacement to be agreed at next AGM.

f. Publications

Noted: As a consequence of RAE/Ref universities are increasingly emphasising articles and monographs making it harder to produce good edited collections (potential contributors save their best work for journal articles; it is thought – usually erroneously – that edited collections undergo less stringent peer review) and for these to be recognised as such.

Action: JS to talk to EASA about the logistics of producing biannual journals (in place of the ASA monograph).

g. Media

Verbal report

Action: GM

to present a proposal, if appropriate, to the next AGM.

h. C-SAP

9. Conferences

ASA11 and ASA12 proceeding well.

ASA13 will be a Decennial. Suggest April. Same year as World Congress in Manchester.

10. Next meeting

March 2011 at the RAI.

11. AOB

CA will have to stand down early because of other commitments. Nigel Eltringham and David Pratten suggested as possible successors.

Action: CA to contact.

Meeting ended 14.00hrs.