

**Minutes of the BAFTSS Executive Committee Meeting**

 10:00 -13:00 Tuesday 5th July 2022

Online: Microsoft Teams

**Attendance:** Liz Watkins, Johnny Walker, Bella Honess Roe, Eve Benhamou, Gabor Gergely, Shreepali Patel, Kate E Taylor, Louis Bayman, Maria Flood, Emma Morton, Jolene Mairs Dyer

***Open Screens*:** Andy (Editor in Chief)

**Apologies:** MaoHui Deng, Davina Quinlivan, Sanghita Sen, Billy Errington, Einar Thorsen (Chair, MeCCSA)

1. ***Open Screens*** (Andy Moor)

Vol 5:1 at end of month with 4 research articles, one of them a piece of practice research.

Special collection on teaching women’s film probably published as a standalone collection in the autumn, or as Dec issue.

3 or 4 more submissions in the pipeline.

Peer reviewers are sometimes hard to find. AM to send request text to LW, to forward to SIG convenors.

1. **Minutes and Action Points from the April 2022 EC Meeting**

All points read out and minutes agreed

1. **Chair’s Report**(Liz Watkins, Chair)
* Call for candidates to join the BAFTSS EC as co-opted members until the AGM and elections in April 2023 was circulated after the April 2022 AGM. The outcome was decided by online ballot of the BAFTSS EC. Welcome to Professor Kate E Taylor (University of Sheffield) and Dr Jolene Mairs Dyer (Ulster University).
* LW elected Chair by ballot of BAFTSS membership (April 2022). Thanks to Johnny Walker who has agreed to be Acting Vice Chair (May 2022) until the next AGM in April 2023.
* The award and certificate for the Outstanding Achievement Award (2022) has been sent the Prof. Linda Williams. This approach is in keeping with previous years. LW noted that BAFTSS had received several requests for Practice Research and Publications Awards certificates to support applications for funding, promotion and progression thus underscoring the value of the awards section of the conference and raising the profile of work in film, tv and screen studies.
* Eligibility of EC members for BAFTSS Publications and Practice Research Awards was discussed. Consensus that EC members cannot candidate themselves for publication and practice research awards as the BAFTSS EC are the assessment panel and assessment of the awards cannot be done anonymously.
* ECR/ Mid-Career/ Independent Researchers/ Visiting and Affiliated Lecturers (precarious employment) Conference Travel bursaries: this requires separate consideration because being ineligible might discourage precariously employed members from standing for election to join the EC. Proposal to put it to a vote for EC members not to be excluded from funding awards, if they can be assigned randomly, which could be made transparent on the website. BHR strongly believes EC members should be eligible. Vote on whether to change from ineligibility to eligibility is pending (Online vote pending). **If the vote is in favour:** **LW** to draft a consultation email to send out to the membership for comment as the optics are potentially difficult. Definitive decision to be made at next EC Meeting.
* Future call for BAFTSS Conference Hosts: draft documents (call for expressions of interest and an information sheet) were circulated and discussed early in 2022. The open call for conference hosts for BAFTSS 2024 and 2025 was circulated via BAFTSS Jiscmail list in April/ May 2022 with a deadline of 30th June 2022. Three universities submitted further information in response to the call and discussion between potential hosts and LW as BAFTSS Chair. **Rationale:** there are only 2 EC meetings prior to the announcement of the 2024 host at the April 2023 conference. Given the anticipated move to in-person events following the pandemic the circulating the call now , as per other associations, makes sense and allows us to plan ahead. The information and preferred dates (2024, 2025 etc) will be circulated to the EC for further discussion. Questions to be sent to LW to discuss with potential hosts **(LW)**
* The information sheet outlining key dates and the relationship between BAFTSS and the conference hosts to be circulated again for comment (LW)
* Recognition of Brian Winston and the possibility of a specific award to be unveiled in time for 2023 conference. (EC)
1. **Treasurer’s Report** incl. Events fund (Bella Honess Roe)

HMRC registration query: can people who pay dues claim it as a tax write-off? Simple form to complete without tax implication for BAFTSS. However it requires 3 years’ worth of accounts. Remaining question is whether we try to go back over the last three years or do so in 18 months’ time, and do we employ accountant to do the accounts.

Accountant contacted by BHR to discuss. The review of accounts requested (as per the BAFTSS Constitution)

Costs agreed by EC. BHR to follow up.

1. **Membership Secretary Report/ Website updates**(Johnny Walker)

Jiscmail: 1760 subscribers, up from 1718

Membership: 579 paying members before conference down from 645 in Jan; 618 members now, which is a smaller spike than anticipated. A lot of speakers had not paid dues. We should require that speakers have BAFTSS membership with a deadline prior to the conference in future. (EC with Conference hosts)

JW to follow up with speakers now to ensure they have paid.

1. **Social Media Report** Facebook (Mao Hui Deng) Twitter (Sanghita Sen)

About 100 visits to the website which is usual for this time of year

Twitter Followers: 4096 (151 new followers from April)

Facebook: Sanghita Sen to send details

1. **Graduate Network Report**(Emma Morton, Billy Errington)

PGR network has seen a rise in Twitter followers by 6%, up to 1200 followers. Facebook has 2 new followers.

Job opportunities and PhD fellowships are the main tweets. Request to again circulate the BAFTSS poster to get new PhD students or MA students coming to the end of their study.

1. **New Connections and FTC/ Affiliated and Independent Researchers Rep Report.** (Eve Benhamou)

NC programme online; 5 talks this year, one postponed to 2023. 2 of them took place on 15 June. 3 more in October.

£100 per talk, with up to 6 talks, can be confirmed for next year, or at £120 each depending on the number of applicants.

EB to advertise the next talks in September. EB to advertise the next round of 5 places in October and if there are more applicants award 6; or if not, raise amount to £120.

Roundtable took place in conference with 5 speakers, with about 40 attendees. This was a drop-off from the previous year which had been more focused on jobs and post-PhD problems, so something around the theme of job applications could be a worthwhile idea for next year’s conference event.

Ideas for events and for how to reach out to specific members welcomed. Possibly applying to academic jobs internationally (different application requirements, approaches to selection and interviews)? (EC)

1. **ECR Mentoring Scheme** (Mao Hui Deng)

Suggestion of a protocol for mentors and mentees welcomed by EC. It’s a one-year timeframe which should have a certain number of meetings. MD offered to draft protocol. MD

1. **Job Search Support Community** (all EC)

KTJ nominated as organiser. With MHD? Check

JSSC Share your Story idea proposed by Will Kitchen (University of Southampton) circulated; questions remain over the amount of work it will require, what the anticipated outcome is, and whether this makes it feasible.

Discussion on possible forums to discuss job search problems.

Discord app is a possibility for circulating ideas. Mentoring circles guided by a senior colleague. Some kind of pop-up shop with a panel of senior colleagues willing to answer general questions limited to one day per month? Or one day per month for 3 or 4 consecutive months. A workshop could be tailored for international applications. This could be part of the annual conference or separate from it. (EC to discuss further/ LW to contact MHD)

KTJ to take this further in line with the events she is organising in Asian Studies: a workshop on this.

LW to arrange meeting with MD, KTJ, EB and LB to discuss viability and possible future plans.

1. **SIG Research Network Report** (Liz Watkins)

22 SIGs are in the network. BAFTSS SIG Newsletter (June 2022) issue 6 is accessible and on the website <https://www.baftss.org/uploads/1/3/9/8/139813734/sigs_newsletter_june_2022_issue_6.pdf> , listing changes to SIG convenors, past and future events as well as the outcome of the travel bursaries scheme.

Currently updating SIG home pages on the websites. (LW)

Film-Philosophy SIG have sent updated the budget for their next in person event, revised from pre-pandemic plans with a different location. (LW to contact SIG as sent old budget from 2019 and circulate to EC if there are major alterations from 2019)

Science Fiction SIG have submitted an application, which required extra information. The SIG have been asked for additional information and in-light of the timing of the event (5 weeks between application and event the SIG have been advised to plan for a later date.

1. **BAFTSS Conference 2023 update** (Gabor Gergely)

 Proposal for an in-person conference, on the theme of ‘Sustainable Futures in Film, Television and Screen Studies’.

 including draft CFP and information as per the first draft of the ‘Expressions of Interest’ form (feb 2022) have been circulated to EC, who are invited to comment on all aspects of it. (EC)

**Proposed Conference Budget** **is pending submission**. GG and Conference Organising Committee to send the proposed budget to LW, BHR, LB, and JW for discussion.

**Conference Dates: Wednesday 5th – Friday 7th April 2023** **suggested** for Lincoln University The conference dates require further discussion: 7th April

2023 is the Good Friday Bank Holiday**. Alternative dates** are being discussed: Tuesday 4th April 2023- Thursday 6th April 2023 (concerns that this might see delegates travelling close to or during the Bank Holiday. Other possibilities to discuss: Wednesday 12th -Friday 14th April 2023 or Thursday 13th – Saturday 15th April 2023 although these dates clash with SCMS, which may affect BAFTSS Members submitting abstracts for both. The BAFTSS conference usually runs Wednesday – Friday or Thursday – Saturday. **LW to Contact Conference Organising Committee regarding term dates and possibilities to report back to EC**

The School at Lincoln has offered full support for holding the conference, awaiting formal college sign-off.

**Registration fees:** Different fees proposed for number of days and with unwaged members entering free. **LW advises against finalising or advertising registration fees** prior to receipt of abstracts. **Conference organisers to share proposed budget with the LW, BHR, LB, and JW to discuss before it can be finalised.**

Conference Organising Committee considering a submitting a proposal for a special issue of *Open Screens* on Brian Winston as an appropriate arena to mark his contribution, along with the conference. EC welcomes the idea (GG and conference organising committee)

Suggestion of outstanding achievement recipients include the possibility of an organisational recognition, as well as individuals (to remain confidential until the official announcement). (BAFTSS EC and conference organising committee to discuss)

Specific recognition of practice as well as study.

GG to ensure EC suggestions are incorporated into cfp.

Plant-based catering is an aspiration although the influence of the conference committee on this at Lincoln is limited: ask for dietary requirements of delegates etc (GG and conference organising committee)

1. **BAFTSS Publications and practice Research Awards 2023** (Shreepali Patel, Maria Flood, Louis Bayman and Mao Hui Deng)
* Meeting between MF, LB and MHD to take place 06 July for handover of Publications Awards
* Call for practice research and publications awards to go out before next meeting.
* SP has spoken to other colleagues to offer help in practice research awards (Charlotte Crofts and new EC members including KTJ and JMD?) (SP)
* Practice Research: Deadline could be extended to ensure numbers increase – 01 October for call to go out, late February /early March for submission, to be reviewed and announced at April conference (SP and EC to discuss final schedule)
* Publication deadlines also to be reviewed although early Jan is latest feasible submission date for work to be reviewed. Shortlist/outcome for early to mid-March. Outcome to be announced at April 2023 conference (LB, MHD, EC to discuss final schedule as EC are assessment panel)
1. **Any other business?**
2. **Time and Date of next meeting:** tbc. via Doodle poll. September 2022