
BAFTSS

British Association of
Film, Television and
Screen Studies

Minutes for the BAFTSS Executive Committee Meeting

10:00 -13:00 Wednesday 24th November 2021

Online: Microsoft Teams

Attended: Bella Honess Roe, Eve Benhamou, Louis Bayman, Liz Watkins, Gabor Gergely, Johnny Walker, Sorcha Ní Fhlainn, Maria Flood, Sanghita Sen, Billy Errington, Shreepali Patel

Conference organising committee: Lucy Donaldson

Open Screens editorial board: Andrew Moor

Apologies: MaoHui Deng, Emma Morton, Davina Quinlivan

Red text: Action points assigned by initials

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

- Last New Connections talk of 2021 was held 28 Oct featuring Llewella Chapman, 'Bond Undressed: Researching Costume in James Bond Films through the Archives', co-hosted by the 'Visual Communication' and 'Gender and Media' research groups, Uni of Leeds.
- 5 bursaries of £100 to ECRs/FTC applicants for travel costs or book purchases, advertised on list and social media. One application so far, with option to extend the call (like last year). **EB to circulate scheme details among the BAFTSS list.**
- Next year grants to be changed to after talk has taken place.
- Proposal to postpone 'Research beyond Academia' from Nov/Dec planned date to the upcoming BAFTSS conference in April, emulating this year's successful BAFTSS ECR roundtable. Conference theme of 'Collaboration and cross-pollination' ideal for this,

and for considering issues of collaboration between researchers and practitioners. **Anyone with suggestions for speakers is to contact EB by email**

2. *Open Screens* (Andy Moor)

- OS has now closed its contract with Ubiquity Press and migrated to OLH's 'in house' publishing platform (Janeway), aiming for improved functionality and direct support
- OS had two publications in 2021, Vol. 4 Issue 1 (July 2021): 16 items (including Special guest edited Dossier on 'The Asian African Film Connection') and Vol. 4 Issue 2: (December 2021) with 3 or 4 research articles in typesetting (author revisions expected for 4th item) and 6 reviews in typesetting. Vol. 5 Issue 1 (Summer 2022) has 2 review submissions in review stage, dedicated review section on Stars edited by Alice Pember and Neil Archer and a Special Dossier on Teaching Women's Film-making (guest eds: Colleen Kennedy-Karpat & Feride Cicekoglu) to be published when ready in 2022
- BAFTSS Conference team requested to encourage delegates to submit work to Open Screens please. Symposia organised at SIG level may also produce work that could form the basis of a Special Dossier proposal. **AM invited to send advert regarding *Open Screens* to conference team and to LW** then it can be circulated to the SIGS or include it in the next SIG newsletter.
- Ed. Team has seen Lisa Duffy replace Kevin Fullerton as Social Media Assistant. Also considering seeking editor with expertise in digital platforms/media studies to reflect recent submissions in this area. **EC members to contact AM with any editorial board suggestions**
- Potential Opportunity for paid copywriting support: The Centre for Creative Writing, English Literature and Linguistics (CELL) at Manchester Metropolitan is offering to showcase and support journals whose senior editors are based there. Potentially this includes paying postgraduate students to act as copyeditors. **Clarification required on source of funding : Is this funded by MMU ? AM to respond**
- Initial submissions can now be made in any citation style but OS will retain house style and authors of submissions that are accepted for publication will be required to render their work into it before copyediting

3. **BAFTSS Conference 2022** (Lucy Donaldson)

- BAFTSS Conference 2022 to be hosted fully online by St Andrews University on the theme of 'Collaboration and cross-pollination'
- Cfp has been circulated after being agreed among organising committee and BAFTSS EC, with some submissions already received

- Conference organising team is proceeding with conference organisation in contact with SIGs, who are invited to participate with submissions, panels and other ideas for conference participation
- The conference organising team has hired an assistant who is responsible for putting the conference structure in place
- With a similar conception to last year, publishers are being invited to attend ‘virtually’, with a special publishers’ rate and possibilities for contact with conference delegates and publicity material distributed via the conference communications and site
- No final decision has been made yet on the outstanding achievement award, which is due to be communicated and agreed at the next BAFTSS EC meeting in January 2022. **Conference organising committee to communicate final ideas on outstanding achievement award to BAFTSS EC prior to the next EC meeting**
- **The call for submissions to the PGR Research Poster Showcase which forms part of the conference has been circulated by LW.**

4. Minutes and Action Points from the 14th July 2021 EC Meeting

Minutes read out and agreed

5. Chair’s Report (Sorcha Ní Fhlainn)

- The BAFTSS advisory board has been updated in full, retaining a majority of previous members. Some have stepped away either because of retirement or moving on. New members have accepted invitations and this is ready to be announced. The possibility of inviting past chairs of BAFTSS to join the advisory board has been floated. This is still subject to approval and requires discussion about its compatibility with bringing new people in and diversifying BAFTSS. This is to be continued as part of an ongoing conversation. Can the updated Advisory Board be listed on the BAFTSS website? **EC to discuss in Jan 2022/ JW to update website to reflect individuals invited and agreed.**
- The BAFTSS annual publication awards need to be announced at the April 2022 conference. **SNF to send out email in next few days outlining the different categories and assigning EC members to the judging panels**
- BAFTSS EC to have input in the conversation with St Andrews conference organising committee about recipients for the Outstanding achievement award. **EC to circulate thoughts on possible names via email.**
- BAFTSS annual conference 2023 - an informal approach has been made from Staffordshire Uni about the possibility of being host institution for the conference in 2023. Discussion to be had in Jan but other informal proposals welcomed. Lincoln had already been discussed as part of a 10th anniversary conference. Lincoln has not yet been in a position as an institution to make a formal bid yet so will come back to us in January. **GG to report back on this in January**

6. Treasurer's Report (Bella Honess Roe)

- The ongoing problem with accessing the BAFTSS TSB account has finally been resolved, with the current treasurer now fully able to access this existing account. We now have access to two bank accounts, with existing TSB account now accessible and a new Lloyds account also set up.
- Proposal to shut down TSB given the lengthy problems caused by changing treasurers and transfer to Lloyds.
- PayPal account now fine with BHR and JW having access.
- Zoom account has not yet been set up but will be in time for Conf and New connections talks, which is its purpose.

7. Events Fund (Bella Honess Roe)

- The Events fund offers 5 awards of up to £300 each. There have been 8 applications so far so some selection will be required but the criteria for whittling it down needs to be decided upon. Three applications haven't provided full supporting evidence for their costs and can viably be rejected on this basis. One event is outside the temporal limits of the fund
- Vote on proposal to reject and accept on these bases passes with 8 in favour. Proposal to have two deadlines per year, end of March and of October, to avoid any events being ineligible given the current annual timescale and to increase number to 8 evenly divided across year passes unanimously
- Votes to alter cap on wine receptions to £75 (passed unanimously) and honoraria for up to £150 and to remove the stipulation that restricted honoraria to unemployed/ FTC/ independent researchers. Honoraria are agreed at the discretion of the EC (passed unanimously)

8. ECR Mentoring Scheme (Gabor Gergely)

Annual mentoring scheme is underway and ongoing

9. Job Search Support Community (Gabor Gergely)

Job SSC is intended to give peer-to-peer exchange including people in precarious situations and so as to discuss any difficulties that might benefit from community support, such as issues with childcare or other forms of workplace concern. However at the moment it isn't really active. Working group could form tasked in thinking how to enhance this. **Interested people to contact GG**

10. Membership Report (Johnny Walker)

Membership is 649 paying members, up from 643 at last EC. 365 of those are waged, same as last time. 284 unwaged, up from 278. JISMAIL subscribers 1696, up from 1649

11. SIG Report (Liz Watkins)

- SIG newsletter November 2021 Issue 5 is up on website
- 2022 conference cfp has been sent to SIG convenors with updated membership lists
- A two-yearly review of SIGs is due at the end 2022. All SIGs will to be invited to update their information on the webpages with links to their own websites, blogs, materials, events, activities etc.
- Application to the BAFTSS SIG Funding Scheme for the Teaching French Cinema workshop passed unanimously
- Convenors: LGBTQ+ Screen Studies SIG: Amy Harris has stepped down. Screen Industries SIG: Jack Newsinger (University of Nottingham) has stepped down and Kate Nash (University of Leeds) has joined.

12. Membermojo database and SIGs (Johnny Walker)

- Proposal to set up a mailing list for SIG convenors to use via membermojo. The benefit of this is that it would be constantly updated although the downside is that it wouldn't include institutional affiliation details for SIG members.
- Member directories would allow users to click and download up to date member directories.
- This would be separate to the current list which is downloaded by the Membership Secretary (JW) and circulated to the relevant SIG convenors by SIG Coordinator (LW), which contains institutional affiliations but is not constantly updated. If we maintained two lists, then one list would be membership-facing, another internally directed towards convenors. Discussion over whether these two lists would be at odds with each other or if one would replace another. **Agreement postponed until the January EC which will table a wider discussion of how it would operate.**

13. Graduate Network Report (Emma Morton, Billy Errington)

- their activities tend to heat up in run-up to conference and so it is not that active currently
- 1888 followers on Twitter, which is primary method of contact for PG community. Aims to re-circulate poster made in Feb to drum up support for MA students applying for PhD, or UG students applying for MA
- Lucia from St Andrews is conference 2022 administrator and has asked how the PG community can contribute to make it as diverse and inclusive as possible. This ties in to thoughts for a decolonising the curriculum workshop and other wider BAFTSS initiatives on increasing diversity

14. Social Media Report Facebook (Sanghita Sen) and Twitter (MaoHui Deng)

FB 1343 likes, a lot of movement when account was posting information. Job postings, ECR opportunities posted, given their rarity! PGR poster showcase has a later deadline so request to please push it out via social media.

15. AOB

Majority of EC support changes to the website and the migration of the old website over to the new one.

NOTE: the BAFTSS website is the archive of BAFTSS. All of the information on the 'old' site must be moved to the new site.

Logo: proposal agreed to design a new logo with high res and longevity and share some ideas by JW

16. Time and Date of next meeting: tbc. via Doodle poll