

**The Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research
CSEAR Council**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CSEAR COUNCIL HELD ON 27th AUGUST 2014

1. Council Members Present
<i>In person</i> Jan Bebbington (Co-Director), Lorna Stevenson (Co-Director), Ian Thomson (Chair), Massimo Contrafatto, Matias Laine, Robin Roberts, Carmen Correa, Nola Buhr, Charles Cho, Jesse Dillard, Colin Dey and Jeffrey Unerman
<i>via WebEx:</i> N/A <i>also present:</i> Lynn Christie
2. Apologies for Absence: John Ferguson
3. Minutes of Previous Meetings
The minutes of the 24th June meeting were approved by the Council.
4. Matters Arising from above minutes (not on main agenda)
The question as to why CSEAR was not named on the recent ESRC Large Centres Grant application was raised. In response it was noted that as not all members of CSEAR were involved, and that CSEAR is international (not just national), a research grouping sitting alongside CSEAR was agreed upon to satisfy both of these issues. If the grant had got through the 1st stage then CSEAR would have been more involved and the application would have been made available to the membership. The grant would have been a subset of CSEAR, separate, but with a secretariat shared with CSEAR. From feedback received on the application it was evident that there was confusion around this point and this would have needed greater explanation beyond the 1st round.
5. Grant Applications: ESRC Centre Grant update
The news that we did not get through the first round was met with disappointment and relief in equal measure! However the work put into the application was not for nought. The application can be split into smaller capacity building applications for submission elsewhere, and some of the work will go ahead anyway. The State and Non-State Governance packages point to a Horizon 20:20 application but will need roughly another year to be application ready. It was agreed to: Revisit the COGA application in 2 years' time, identifying a process to get it ready by then, bringing it back to council soon; go for smaller 'wins' as CSEAR to strengthen the bids eg ESRC seminar series, looking at the last proposal offline to define these smaller packages; Do another meeting like the Heriot Watt meeting to define the 2 year plan ACTION
6. CSEAR UK 2014 AGM (points to note)
Ian, Charles, Nola will do a small presentation each; Jesse will do a section on mentoring; John and Carlos similarly for SEAJ along with Matt Cannon. Colin will do a piece about the website and social media. The running order will be Ian, SEAJ, Website, Charles, Nola , Jesse, open floor then CSEAR UK 2015, closing with Future work/direction
7. Mentoring
Jesse was thanked for all his work on mentoring and for the document that was circulated in the June e-newsletter. To date neither Jesse nor Lynn has received any feedback from the document. The call will be sent out again in the September newsletter. ACTION
8. CSEAR UK 2015 update [standing Item]
This has been booked at Royal Holloway University of London from 24-27 August 2015. The first day will again be the Emerging Scholars Colloquium. The following actions need to be undertaken:

- Rotate the ESC organising Committee – Carmen will stay on but 1 other volunteer is needed
- Conference Committee – again this needs to be rotated with half of the 2014 committee staying in place with 2 or 3 volunteers from RHUL (and nearest other institutes) needed

The ESC and Conference Committees for 2014 were thanked for all their hard work. Progress on the Committees for 2015 should be reported back at the next meeting.

ACTION

9. SEAJ Update [Standing Item]

Jeffrey provided the following update from the SEAJ Board:

- John and Carlos have put together a governance document and the document submitted to the Council is final and for information
- The international advisory board has been/will be disbanded with the structure now being a smaller (ex officio) editorial board with a wider editorial board
- The publishing contract with Routledge is up for renewal in 2015 but has a built in automatic renewal for a further 5 years. However they or we can terminate this agreement in the next 4 months. Institutional subscriptions are not as expected when the contract was signed in 2010. There are only 42 out of the expected 115 subscribers. As a result Matt Cannon needs to convince Routledge to keep publishing SEAJ. He is proposing the roll over for the next 5 years with a 2 year break probably in 2017.
- We need a plan to help them to increase institutional subscriptions, however due to data protection laws we cannot simply hand over the lists of conference delegates that we have from the previous 2 years. Equally Routledge may not be allowed to hand over the list of current subscribers for us to compare to our membership / delegate lists. A marketing strategy/set of ideas will be developed by the SEAJ board who will then bring it to Council to see if we can add to/ or supplement. However we also need a business plan from Matt that we can feed into.

ACTION

10. Vision/Mission/Values Statement [Standing Item]:

Nothing new to report/discuss

11. Outstanding Items Relating to the By-Laws [Standing Item]

Council duties including: job descriptions for co-directors and research fellows, annual reviews of co-directors and self-assessment procedures are still outstanding but how do we address these? Simple anonymous checklists may be appropriate; happy with progression and contribution etc., and this can potentially be achieved via a survey. These items are required for the next council meeting.

ACTION

12. Website and Social Media [Standing Item]:

Colin provided a brief update:

- The CSEAR blog is receiving a good number of hits
- An automated RSS feed for the blog is used to feed through into the CSEAR Facebook page
- A strategy for website redesign in 2 years is required. The design will require a fresh pair of eyes to decide what we want and how we want it to appear and this will cost money.
- Colin and Shona will begin the development of this strategy by December and 1 hour of the January meeting will be turned over to discuss this.

Everyone who has inputted in the recent new look was thanked for all their efforts and hard work.

ACTION

13. Teaching Case Study Update [Standing Item]

This new initiative was launched at the recent North American CSEAR Conference in Quebec City during the teaching workshop. It will be promoted extensively during the remainder of 2014 and the earlier part of 2015. The teaching

workshop held during the NA conference yielded some interesting material and this will be uploaded to the CSEAR website soon.

ACTION

14. AOB:

There was no other business to discuss

15. Date of meetings for 2014 - 2015

The following dates were agreed for council meetings during 2014 – 2015:

Tuesday 4th November 2014

Tuesday 13th January 2015

Tuesday 3th March 2014

Tuesday 5th May 2014

Tuesday 23rd June 2014

Tuesday 25th or Wednesday 26th August 2015 [during CSEAR 2015 Conference]

All meetings will begin at 1.30 UK time and members will again be able to participate via WebEx

Lynn Christie
26 September 20

APPROVED