



## UK Committee (UKC) Report 2020

### UKC Overview

The Association is overseen by an Executive Committee (Exec) who typically meet three times per year, and who report into the UKC. Trustees of HELOA are the Executive Committee and the Group Chairs. For 2020, this consisted of the following elected officers:

Executive Committee: UK Chair: Jonathan Atkinson (Liverpool)	UK Vice-Chair (Finance): Michelle Terrell (Edinburgh)
UK Vice-Chair (Membership and Administration): Steven Walsh (Hope)	UK Vice-Chair (Communications): Rebecca Montgomery (Edge Hill)
UK Vice-Chair (Partnerships): Rebecca Hollington (Wolverhampton)	UK Vice-Chair (Training): Reena Kaur (Edge Hill)
UK Vice-Chair (Group Development): Helen Walker (Hallam) then Amanda Kenningley (Huddersfield)	UK Vice-Chair (Governance and Policy): Jo Marchant (King's)

### Group Chairs

Anglia: Rachel Cox (Cambridge)	London: Becky Robson (Roehampton)
Cymru / Wales: Rebecca Bowen (South Wales)	Midlands: Dylan Cozens (Coventry)
North East, Yorkshire, & the Humber: Amanda Kenningley (Huddersfield) then Jen Barton (Durham)	North West & Northern Ireland: Chris Mullen (Edge Hill)
South East: Steph Coogans (Chichester)	South West: Rebecca Oliver (Bournemouth)
Scotland: Ali Clark (Stirling) then Grant Cullen (Napier)	

The UK Committee (UKC) also comprises non-voting members in the following areas: Conference and Training Managers, Marketing and Web Managers, Finance Managers, Partnership and Engagement Managers. Other invited members also attend such as group VCs when relevant. HELOA operates an office at Edge Hill University, which is managed by Dawn McClintock.

**Business of the UKC**

To meet at least three times per year and discusses business relating to the management and governance of the Association. Decisions taken by Exec and UKC are communicated back to membership via Group meetings, and through the HELOA communication channels. Committee meetings are also an opportunity for the membership to feed issues into the committee for discussion and resolution. UKC, as the main decision-making body of the Association, reports to members via the AGM each year. Minutes of Committee meetings are available to members.

## **UKC Business and developments during the Pandemic March 2020 onwards**

Typically, the Exec meet three times per year, and the UKC three times. 2020 has not been a typical year. Following the pandemic, the Exec moved to weekly meetings to ensure the organisation adapted quickly to support our members and facilitate communications and reactions in constantly changing physical, political and digital environments. Now meeting fortnightly we continue to work closely to define actions that will bring our current strategy to completion, whilst maintaining a series of training offers and communications to support you.

The dedication and power of HELOA has been evident throughout the entire UKC, whose actions and communication remain a daily source of information and support. The resilience of the 30 volunteers who form the UKC and Exec has resulted in increased training sessions, online engagement, group activities and communications such as the Digest and Facebook group.

### Our key developments this year have been:

- Progressing our strategic objectives through defined actions evidenced in the Organisation Development Plan.
- The creation of a comprehensive Risk Register to identify and mitigate any factors posing risk to the organisation, RAG rated and with input from all areas.
- Adopting name blind elections to increase the equality of our election processes as part of ongoing reviews of our wider actions to increase inclusivity and participation in all aspects of HELOA.
- Establishing and strengthening our relationships with a variety of external organisations including progressing Memorandums of Understanding with The Student Room and UCAS, in addition to the one which exists with Student Loan Company.
- Ensuring a strong and stable financial position in the face of large scale changes to our income and expenditure.

Please take your time in reviewing the individual reports for our Exec Vice-Chairs and the Office, as well as reviewing the financial reports. This information will give you detailed understanding of how HELOA is organised and how we have developed in the last year.

## Conclusion

2021 may yet hold more changes, as it stands HELOA and its 1600+ members are in a solid and established position to tackle the changes. We will keep on supporting progression to Higher Education, from home offices, in school classrooms and where safe and sensible, our own campuses.

I cannot overstate how proud I am of all our volunteers who have worked to ensure HELOA remained relevant and useful, and even more so how our everyday members have supported each other and strengthened our ability to support Higher Education progression.