

Minutes of the JMC Council meeting held at the Royal Society on Tuesday 24 February 2009.

The JMC is grateful for the financial support of the Royal Society.

Present

Officers

Ros Sutherland	Chair
David Martin	Honorary Secretary
Adrian Oldknow	Honorary Treasurer

Members

Peter Johnston-Wilder	Association of Mathematics Education Teachers
George Knights	Association of Teachers of Mathematics
Marie Joubert	British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics
Tony Mann	British Society for the History of Mathematics
Elizabeth Winstanley	Conference of Heads of Departments of Mathematical Sciences (also London Mathematical Society)
Colin Campbell	Edinburgh Mathematical Society
Nigel Steele	Institute of Mathematics and its Applications
Elizabeth Winstanley	London Mathematical Society (also Conference of Heads of Departments of Mathematical Sciences)
Stella Dudzic	Mathematics in Education and Industry
Sally Barton	National Association for Numeracy and Mathematics in Colleges
Brian Robinson	National Association of Mathematics Advisors
Gerald Goodall	Royal Statistical Society
Barry Lewis	The Mathematical Association

Observers

Fiona Allan	Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education
Diana Coben	Adults Learning Mathematics
Tony Holloway	Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills
Stephen Stanton	Department for Children, Schools and Families
Neville Davies	The Maths, Stats & OR Network of the Higher Education Academy

Celia Hoyles	National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics
Sue Pope	Qualifications and Curriculum Authority
Paul Scruton	School Mathematics Project
John Harris	Sector Skills Council for science, engineering and manufacturing technologies in the UK
Martin Dore	Training and Development Agency for Schools
Bill Richardson	United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

Visitors

Anthony Bastiani	London Mathematical Society
Nick Bowes	Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education
Lynn Churchman	National Association of Mathematics Advisors
Aileen Clement	Department for Children, Schools and Families
Norma Honey	National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics
Vanessa Thorogood	Institute of Mathematics and its Applications

3. Welcome to new representatives, alternates, guests and visitors

New representatives: Fiona Allan (ACME), Martin Dore (TDA), George Knights (ATM)

Alternates: Neville Davies (MSOR), Stella Dudzic (MEI), Marie Joubert (BSRLM), Tony Mann (BSHM), Elizabeth Winstanley (HoDoMS)

Guests: none

Visitors: Antony Bastiani (LMS), Lynn Churchman (NAMA), Aileen Clement (DCSF), Norma Honey (NCETM), Vanessa Thorogood (IMA)

Item	Action
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>Janet Ainley (BSRLM), June Barrow-Green (BSHM), Paul Harper (ORS), Jane Jones (Ofsted), John Marriott (MSOR), James Nicholson (BCME), Andrew Osbaldestin (HoDoMS), Roger Porkess (MEI), Sue Sanders (ICMI), Teresa Smart (NS), Nick Von Behr (RS)</p>	
<p>2. Appreciation of departing representatives</p> <p>John Connolly (TDA), John Hibbs (ATM)</p>	
<p>3. Welcome to new guests, representatives, alternates and visitors</p> <p>New representatives: Fiona Allan (ACME), Martin Dore (TDA), George Knights (ATM)</p> <p>Alternates: Neville Davies (MSOR), Stella Dudzic (MEI), Marie Joubert</p>	

<p>(BSRLM), Tony Mann (BSHM), Elizabeth Winstanley (HoDoMS) Guests: none Visitors: Antony Bastiani (LMS), Lynn Churchman (NAMA), Aileen Clement (DCSF), Norma Honey (NCETM), Vanessa Thorogood (IMA)</p>	
<p>4. Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 13 November 2008 These were accepted</p>	
<p>5. Matters arising from the minutes Nick Bowes outlined progress on the pair of mathematics GCSEs. He observed that this was still under discussion. There had been representations that the proposed time scale was too protracted: pilot in 2010 / teach from 2015 / awards from 2017. Tony Holloway commented that the Welsh position was that this timescale was acceptable, that the change should be evidence-based and that a reduction in time would be a bad thing. Nick Bowes outlined developments with A level mathematics and that the ACME position statement was now available in its final format. He described how it has been a difficult process, and that there remain some disagreements across the community but that ACME believes that, on the balance of opinions, their position statement captures the majority view. Tony Holloway disagreed with the ACME position on no choice and regretted the loss of flexibility that would ensue. Sue Pope reminded the meeting that a public consultation on this would begin in April 2009. Nick Bowes commented briefly about the Diploma proposals and there was a short discussion.</p>	
<p>6. Reports from Executive Reports from Executive a. <i>Chair from November 2009</i> The Executive has discussed the successor to Ros Sutherland. Professor Duncan Lawson has agreed to have his name put forward as the Executive nomination. Participating Societies were able to nominate others. The closing date is 30th April 2009. If necessary, an election would be held in October. <i>International</i> Ros Sutherland and David Martin representing JMC met with Peter Cooper and Elizabeth Winstanley representing LMS, Sue Sanders (ICMI representative) and Celia Hoyles (ICMI Executive) on Wednesday 21 January 2009 to identify the best way forward to support the UK link with ICMI and ICME.</p>	

<p>b. Secretary</p> <p>i. <i>Response to Rose Primary Curriculum Interim Report</i></p> <p>David Martin would be meeting with ACME to discuss a possible joint response to the Rose Primary Curriculum Interim Report later today.</p> <p>In general on responses JMC would coordinate various responses from members but this would not prevent individual organisation responses being submitted. Lynn Churchman had serious reservations about limitations of response time.</p> <p>ii. <i>CfSA</i></p> <p>This umbrella group had been set up over the past two years. Its stated aims were to encourage teachers to become members of subject associations (across all subjects) and to act as a vehicle for responses. Barry Lewis enlarged on this but observed that the initial pump-priming funding was nearing its end and that future finance was a major issue.</p> <p>c. <i>Treasurer</i></p> <p>Adrian Oldknow reported that the CfSA membership subscription had been paid for 2009/2010. Participating and Observing Societies had now been approached for their annual payments with 19 of the 28 left to receive.</p> <p>The Executive had discussed the matter of organisations sending more than a single representative to Council, which some do routinely, as this practice imposed a cost.</p> <p>The funding for the JMC secretariat had been received from ACME and the Royal Society grant had been increased.</p> <p>d. <i>Chair of Nominations Committee</i></p> <p>Brian Robinson observed that there were few requests for JMC representatives at present. This might well be attributed to the proliferation of website consultations.</p>	
<p>7. Report from ACME</p> <p>Fiona Allan reported that the ACME annual conference on Tuesday 2 March 2009 would enhance existing links and develop new ones.</p> <p>Nick Bowes said that he had met with Carol Vorderman and was much impressed by her knowledge of the mathematics education scene and her enthusiasm.</p>	
<p>8. Report from NCETM</p> <p>Celia Hoyles commented, in addition to the wealth of information provided, that the NCETM Annual Conference would take place on 18th June 2009. There was a great deal of work going into the web portal and that a National mathematics CPD committee was being established.</p>	

<p><i>Numeracy Challenge</i></p> <p>Norma Honey spoke briefly to the previously submitted report on this initiative.</p>	
<p>9. Standing Committees</p> <p>BCME</p> <p>There was a brief discussion of the report sent by James Nicholson. Bill Richardson (BCME treasurer) made a very strong plea for all present to support the BCME7 event (http://www.bcme7.org/) and that any who normally had their conference at Easter, not do so in 2010.</p> <p>Several suggestions were made:</p> <p>ICMI studies should be included in the programme.</p> <p>BCME should be seen as an opportunity to coordinate input for ICME 2012 in South Korea.</p> <p>It should be made clear that the Research Sessions were relevant to classroom practitioners.</p>	<p>All: Support BCME7</p>
<p>10. Higher Education</p> <p>In addition to her submitted report, Elizabeth Winstanley painted a promising picture of student numbers in the mathematics and science areas (with the exception of chemistry).</p>	
<p>11. MoreMathsGrads</p> <p>Nigel Steele reported that the project was in its final year. It had received positive feedback and in addition to a range of activities was going to provide some financial support for the 2008 MEI conference and for the National Summer School (Tony Gardiner).</p> <p>Nigel felt that although this phase of the project was beginning to taper off, MoreMathsGrads still had a worthwhile future.</p>	
<p>12. Teacher Education</p> <p>In addition to his submitted report, Peter Johnston-Wilder was pleased to be able to report that across the country, recruitment was up and this increase included mathematics.</p>	
<p>13. Update on current developments.</p> <p>a. <i>TDA</i></p> <p>Martin Dore was pleased to echo the comments made by Peter Johnston-Wilder. ITT mathematics numbers were up by 25%. Overall numbers were up by 10%.</p> <p>There followed a discussion as to whether such a considerable increase might indicate any reduction in quality but reactions from those with knowledge about this suggested that this was unfounded.</p>	

<p>b. <i>QCA</i> Sue Pope added a few comments to her written report.</p> <p>c. <i>DCELLS</i> In addition to his submitted report, Tony Holloway remarked that there seemed to be some evidence of ‘piloting fatigue’, as there was increased difficulty in getting enough schools to take part in pilots.</p> <p>d. <i>OFSTED</i> In the absence of Jane Jones, there was a brief discussion. It was noted that the Ofsted STEM conferences mentioned in her report had been withdrawn due to lack of uptake.</p> <p>e. <i>The National Strategies</i> No report</p>	
<p>14. Reports from meetings No additional reports</p>	
<p>15. Dates of future meetings at the Royal Society Thursday 11 June 2009 Tuesday 10 November 2009 Tuesday 23 February 2010</p>	
<p>16. AOB: None</p>	
<p>Discussion Items</p> <p>1. Masters in Teaching and Learning (Ros Sutherland) Ros Sutherland led a brief discussion about the Masters in Teaching and Learning (MTL). It transpired that not many members of the JMC were aware of developments in this area. Currently a Masters in Teaching and Learning is being offered to NQTs in the North West region of England. From January 2010 a MTL will be offered to NQTs in National Challenge schools within 3 regions of England. The long-term aim is that the MTL will be mandatory for all NQTs in England. Concern was expressed about whether the proposed MTL would be able to incorporate elements of professional development for teachers of mathematics. The proposed structure seems to leave no space for subject-specific pedagogy which relates to excellence in teaching and learning in mathematics. RS agreed to write a letter to the key architects of the MTL expressing this concern.</p> <p>2. JMC developments (David Martin) The JMC additional role of Executive Secretary does not require a constitutional change or a restriction that it must be performed by someone</p>	<p>Ros Sutherland Write MTL letter</p> <p>Executive Consider time limit to all Offices David Martin</p>

other than the Honorary Secretary, though we need to satisfy funders that this role is adding value. Consider a time limit to the offices of Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary. Investigate developments in the use of web including a secure web space for discussion, direct access to our web space and other options such as hosting by another University. Consider holding an occasional meeting in Edinburgh and Cardiff, better use of our meeting room and holding meetings in hotels. Review subscriptions. Put 'Working groups' on the June agenda so ACME can inform JMC of their focus over the next 18 months and JMC can identify opportunities for possible JMC working groups.

Investigate web and meetings options

Adrian Oldknow

Review subscriptions

David Martin

Working groups on June agenda