

British Forum for Ethnomusicology

AGM, Oxford, 10 April 2010

MINUTES

1. Apologies: Peter Cooke (PC), Jay Deeble (JD), Ruth Hellier-Tinoco (RHT), Laudan Nooshin (LN), Hwee-San Tan (HST).

Present: Caroline Bithell (CB) – Chair, Georgina Born (GB), Lonán Ó Briain (LOB), David Bridge (DB), Emma Brinkhurst (EB), Katherine Butler Brown (KBB), James Butterworth (JB), Lúcia Campos (LC), Alexander Cannon (AC), Maria de São José Côrte-Real (MCR), Stephen Cottrell (SC), Beverley Diamond (BD), Fiorella Montero Díaz (FMD), Byron Dueck (BD), Jan Fairley (JF), Juniper Hill (JH), Angela Impey (AI), Tala Jarjour (TJ), Simon Keegan-Phipps (SKP), M. Keller (MK), Andrew Killick (AK), Kirk King (KK), Simone Krüger (SK), Carolyn Landau (CL), Matthew Machin (MM), Fiona Magowan (FM), Hettie Malcomson (HM), Guilnard Moufarrej (GM), Alvin Peterson (AP), Bea Prentiss (BP), Suzel Reily (SR), Liselotte Sels (LS), Tom Solomon (TS), Anna Stirr (AS), Henry Stobart (HS), Jonathan Stock (JS), Martin Stokes (MS), Maisie Sum (MS), Nicholas Tochka (NT), Kathleen Van Buren (KVB), Tom Wagner (TW), Richard Widdess (RW), Trevor Wiggins (TW), Iren Kertész Wilkinson (IKW), David Wong (DW).

2. Approval of minutes of last meeting, Liverpool, 17 April 2009

The minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising

Matters arising will be covered under this meeting's agenda items.

4. Chair's report

CB highlighted last year's successful Liverpool conference organized by SK. The current conference in Oxford has proven to be another record breaking conference. Thanks were given to MS.

CB noted that membership, and particularly the number of student members, has increased over the past year. Thanks were given to everyone who participated in the membership survey for their helpful suggestions. We also have many members from North America, and more US institutions are accessing the journal. Current interest is in increasing European membership. Publicity packs are available for members to distribute.

The journal is doing well. Routledge article downloads have increased. CB noted that themed issues may be useful for developing new modules.

Sue Miller was awarded last year's student prize. A call was given for this year's prize. Online submissions are due to MS.

BFE has been involved in REF consultations. A BFE response was submitted, and members have also been involved in the NAMHE response. The issue of impact is important. This theme will be taken up at the upcoming NAMHE meeting.

The BFE committee is pursuing collaboration with other institutions. We will be hosting a BFE tea party at SEM in LA. We are also connected with ICTM.

5. Officers' reports

a. Treasurer

SC circulated and discussed the figures for the last year. Income increases have come largely from the journal and also from JSTOR.

We are pursuing two administrative positions. More information is forthcoming.

SKP volunteered to audit and sign the financial report.

b. Membership

SK reported that membership is on the rise, partly due to conference participation. She circulated data on BFE membership numbers and on current issues. Hopefully membership problems (e.g. repeat invoices and incorrect data in letters to members) have now been sorted with Routledge. HS asked about direct debits, some of which were dropped. SK explained that this problem should also have been addressed. A query was also presented on whether membership cards could be issued. This issue will be taken up by the committee.

c. Journal

AK reported that the number of submissions has increased. The change of name to *Ethnomusicology Forum* seems to have been appropriate, as the journal is becoming increasingly international.

The move to three issues a year is good due to the high volume of submissions. The three issues will include both themed and non-themed issues, with at least one themed issue (and possibly two) per year. A themed issue on music industries is currently in press.

Reviews for a new editor to replace AK are currently being held. The journal is also moving to a new system of using ScholarOne for submissions.

CB noted that Routledge has been keen for some time to move to three issues per year. This change will involve renegotiating our contract. BFE will receive additional income from royalties. Membership costs will also increase, but we are trying to keep increases minimal.

CB thanked AK for his work as editor.

d. Website

SK explained that the new website was developed to address issues such as who owns the domain name. The website was designed by SK. She invited comments, especially on ease of use. The website includes a news page which will be uploaded on a monthly basis. The BFE committee is discussing whether to send occasional news digests to members via email.

CB thanked SK for her work on the website.

Following a query on the status of the newsletter and whether this could be put online, it was noted that committee members would discuss the newsletter at their next meeting to decide how best to proceed.

6. Committee membership

With KVB's term ending, the committee will be back to twelve members, which is the number stipulated in the constitution. In future meetings, the committee will be reviewing regulations for appointing members.

KB, who had been co-opted as a committee member, stood for election and was voted in.

7. Amendments to constitution

Following minor amendments passed at the previous AGM in April 2009, CB proposed that we add the following single sentence to the constitution: "A member who chooses to disregard this [showing courtesy and civility to other members] may be regarded as working against the interests of the organisation." This motion was passed. People who are uncivil will be considered for termination of their membership.

8. New projects

Several projects are in progress, including possible collaboration with the BL sound archive and developing either a section of the BFE website or a new website dedicated to resources for teaching.

It was proposed that BFE consider supporting projects that publishers will not support, e.g. digitisation or translations of material. Routledge has suggested possibly hosting

translations of EF articles. HS suggested making available additional resources which do not fit into books or which publishers will not include.

The recent BFE survey indicated member interest in developing the website further. More links on the website could attract additional traffic.

BFE has already assisted in defraying copyright costs for EF articles. This could be brought to the attention of members as a possibility for future articles.

Another possible project could include documentation of the history of ethnomusicological research in the UK.

9. Future conferences

SC announced the one-day conference at the IMR on 4 December 2010. One possible theme is Impact. A call for papers will be circulated and discussed amongst committee members.

TW announced the next annual meeting at University College Falmouth on 7-10 April 2011. The theme is *Mediation*. A call for papers will be out shortly.

CL announced the graduate student conference at the IMR on 20-22 September 2010. The theme is Doing Ethnomusicology. A reminder will be sent out via email.

Other upcoming events include ICTM, IASPM, and the South Asia Music and Dance Forum at the IMR.

10. AOB

KB announced that a coalition has been set up to contest UK libel law. She encouraged members to join the campaign.

11. Date of next AGM

To be held during the Falmouth conference, April 2011.