BALEAP Accreditation Scheme Chair Report 2017 – 2018

1. The Scheme currently has 25 members with Coventry University and the University of Northampton joining in 2017. Cardiff University is in the process of joining. The full list of members is available online at <https://www.baleap.org/about-baleap/accredited-institutions>
2. Six institutions will be visited for reaccreditation in summer 2018. Additionally, Sheffield University is applying to accredit its year-round provision and the first international accreditation applicant, Xi’an Jiaotong Liverpool University, is due to be visited in July 2018.
3. The Scheme has greatly benefitted from the services of Yvonne Cavanagh, the BALEAP Administrator. A new online reporting system, set up by Richard Telford of Moon Digital web design company, has facilitated the production of assessment visit reports.
4. The scheme finances are in reasonable shape with around £13,000 paid in membership fees and around £4,000 paid in expenses (as at March 2018). Expenses in previous years have included travel, accommodation and subsistence for trainee assessors to shadow assessment visits, which will no longer apply. Other expenses include the Scheme May event, which is seen as part of BALEAP’s charitable return to the EAP community, and administrator and web developer costs.
5. The Scheme handbook revisions were completed in time for the assessment visits in 2017. A new category for the accreditation visits, exceeded standards, was trialled in 2015 and 2016. However, it was hard to apply to all criteria and was dropped for 2017. Instead assessors were asked to use the comment function in each section to highlight particularly good practice. The assessors’ handbook is currently in revision and should be available for 2018 assessment visits.
6. A certificate of accreditation has been designed and is awaiting the decision about the revised logo. All accredited institutions can display the accreditation logo on their websites and promotional materials.
7. The May event in 2017 was held at Sheffield Hallam University on 13th May, attracting 76 delegates. The theme was Incorporating Graduate Attributes into EAP syllabus design. The May event for 2018 will be held at Goldsmiths University of London on May 12th and will highlight Best Practice in EAP with colleagues from Sheffield, Edinburgh and Coventry presenting aspects of their EAP programmes. More details are available at <https://www.baleap.org/event/best-practice-eap>
8. We have been in contact with Maddalaine Ansell, the Chief Executive of the University Alliance, who has shared information about the Scheme with their members. Ian Dunn who is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience) at Coventry University has been very positive about their assessment visit in 2018 and is encouraging others to engage with the Scheme.