**Research Officer and Publications Officer Report**

**BALEAP AGM 2017, 8th April, Bristol**

**Dissertation Award**

**The following announcements went out on the d-list.**

1. I am happy to announce that the winner of the BALEAP Dissertation Award (2017) is **Alasdair Braid** whose dissertation “An Exploratory Study of Rater Orientations on Pre-sessional Academic Conference Presentations through Verbal Report Protocols” was submitted to the University of Nottingham, School of Education.

2. BALEAP is happy to announce that **Eilidh Webster** has been awarded the BALEAP Dissertation Award for 2016. Eilidh’s dissertation is entitled *Critical thinking and EAP writing: A meta-synthesis of research on teaching approaches to critical thinking in the EAP writing class.* It was submitted to the University of Glasgow as part of her MEd in TESOL.As coordinator of the award,

Both awards were judged by the following panel: Sarah Brewer (Reading University), Joy Robbins (Bradford University), and Diane Schmitt (Nottingham Trent University). JW administered the process. The marking team reaches the decision after an email exchange.

**2018 Award**

BALEAP will be inviting applications for the eighth Masters Dissertation Award shortly. The competition will be open to colleagues who have successfully completed an EAP-related dissertation between September, 2016 and September, 2017.

The Exec has agreed that the winning writer is awarded the sum of £250 and a guaranteed presenter’s place at a BALEAP event. The event price is also covered by the award.

1. The marking team will be refreshed at the Conference. We have had several offers to serve on the marking panel. A decision will be made at the conference.
2. There has been a challenge to the process. We currently have a stage 1, where we read application forms and a summary of the dissertations, and stage 2, where we read the full dissertations of the three best applications. It has been suggested that the best dissertations may be progress. Henceforth we will ask for the introduction, aims and conclusion of the submitted dissertations.
3. Two pictures of the dissertation award emerged in discussion about the process at the final stage. (a) a ranking of the submissions with the top ranked dissertation for that year getting the award; Award always given; All submissions mentioned in web page with runners up noted; (b) winning dissertation is evaluated to criteria across years with only ones of a sufficient standard being given the award; award may not be given if the judges decide that submissions are weak. We’ll need to review the criteria depending on which system to use. The exec agreed to follow the norm rated system with the change to the process noted in ii.

**ResTES**

**The BALEAP ResTES Programme**

The ResTES programme sees scholarship as an umbrella term encompassing a range of activities. At one end of the continuum is research. But there is also a place for modest activities (perhaps in terms of time commitment) which nonetheless deliver significant public contributions to knowledge and understanding. All these endeavours are worthy of public use and scrutiny. Examples include: case studies, exploratory research, narrative accounts, action research.

ResTes should, we believe, be a vehicle for promoting and sustaining transitions from practitioner to scholar/researcher. ResTES continue to support research especially PhD students, but widen its constituency and relevance.

Alex Ding and Bee Bond facilitated two successful ResTES events, one in Glasgow and one in Leeds. Both are archived on the webpage. Alex and Bee will take the ResTES events forward based on the following schedule.

**Planning Schedule**

ResTES events will be planned around other BALEAP events.

10 June 2017INTO Exeter University, *The Specificity of pedagogies*

18 November 2017 Nottingham Trent University *Intercultural Communication and EAP*

March 2018 University of the Arts, London, Pre*-sessional courses*

9 June 2018 INTO Newcastle University *Speaking in Academic Environments/Speaking for University Purposes*

As a guide to organizing ResTES (and events in general) the Exec agreed at May meeting:

1. All BALEAP Events must cover their costs
2. The ticket price for a full-day event (e.g. PIM)) is £75 for members and £100 for non-members; three-hour ResTES is £45
3. We expect 20 participants giving an income of £900
4. Expenses for Alex and Bee should be covered (indicative £200 each) when making a significant contribution to the presentation of the event.
5. Expenses for presenters should be covered (indicative £200 each)
6. Monies saved at one even can subsidise later ResTES events
7. ResTES events would typically be on the afternoon before a PIM and be provided free by the host institution.
8. Organization of the ResTES beyond booking a room is for Alex and Bee
9. Publicity and setting up payment to go to Bella

**PIM Presentation Archiving**

Two podcasts are on line from presentations at the Glasgow PIM.

The Exec agreed to support the production and dissemination of further podcasts

**Book Reviews**

A set of reviews has been posted on the webpage. Chris Foggin is contacting publishers for review copies.

**Conference Proceedings**

The Leicester conference proceedings have been delivered on time for the Bristol conference.

Maxine Gillway will edit the 2017 Bristol conference proceedings. Jean McCutcheon will copy-edit them following the contract drawn up for the role. Funds will be made available from the Bristol Conference budget.

**R&P Meeting**

Five thirty on the 8th April at the BALEAP Conference.

John Wrigglesworth

Friday March 31th 2017