

# Chair's Report April 2018-2019

## GOING GLOBAL

This has been the main focus of the final year of my term as Chair, since it was the platform on which I initially stood for election as Ordinary Member back in 2012 and is close to my heart as I started my career in EAP in organisations in Turkey and the UAE, where I worked for 11 years without any knowledge of BALEAP's existence. Although we have only held two webinars this year, I do believe that this will open up BALEAP's activities to a wider global audience and I hope that the idea of following up PIMs with webinars will be taken forward. It is also heartening to see participation on the JISC discussion list from more global members. We have had increased global participation at PIMs. As Chair, I had the opportunity to represent BALEAP in four face to face events outside of the UK this year as part of a push to go global.

In March 2018, I led a day of workshops on EAP Curriculum and Assessment Development for the newly formed organisation, EAP in Ireland. Delegates came from all over Ireland and one or two from the UK.

In April 2018, I was invited to Shanghai by the Chinese EAP Association to judge an EAP teaching competition and to give a lecture and three workshops at Jiatong and Tongji universities.

In June 2018, I was invited to give a plenary at the Berlin regional EAP Association's EAP Conference on Integrating Language and Content in EAP and represented BALEAP on the closing panel discussion. About 100 delegates came from all over Germany and other countries in Europe.

Also in June 2018, the incoming Chairs of BAS and BALEAP accompanied me to Bilkent University in Turkey, where we held a pre-Conference Event focussing on what BALEAP could offer its global members. Delegates came from Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and China. This event led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the British Council in August 2018 to provide expertise in selecting and training assessors for a pilot External Review Scheme for English Preparatory Programmes. I collaborated with colleagues from the British Council and EAQUALS to plan and deliver the assessor training in October 2018. In November, I was one of three BAS assessors who participated in the pilot scheme with 10 universities. In April, I represented the BALEAP perspective on this scheme at the IATEFL ESP SIG PCE on Quality Assurance.

## MEMBERSHIP

This is growing steadily despite some complications caused by new regulations that prevented us from contacting members to remind them to renew if they not opted in. Currently there are 382 memberships with 83 non-GB.

Criteria for honorary membership have been established. On this basis we would like to ask the members at the AGM to approve honorary membership for Diane

Schmitt who has give generously of her time and expertise to BALEAP over the years and has recently retired from her role at Nottingham Trent University.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The executive committee met face to face this year before the PIMs in Newcastle June 2018, Essex November 2018, and Birmingham February 2019. I met with the incoming chair, Sarah Brewer, in Bristol in February 2019 to plan the transition.

The committee was at its largest this year (14 members) due to an unplanned overlap in the presence of incoming Chairs for both BAS and BALEAP. It is perhaps time for a review of the roles of the executive committee as work goes forward with the development of a new SIG structure.

Elections were planned for the role of Web Officer. David Read also stood down as Ordinary Member resulting in an unplanned vacancy that was also put up for election. Three expressions of interest were received for ordinary member but none for web officer. There was an election for ordinary member: Lisa Hanson from the University of Bristol was elected for a three-year term from 2019-22.

#### JEAP

Sarah Brewer, the incoming Chair, took over writing the BALEAP news items for JEAP at the end of 2018. JEAP will now be available electronically, with back copies, as an option for individual members.

#### BALEAP CONFERENCE

Work continued with Jean McCutcheon on the compilation of the proceedings from the BALEAP conference in Bristol in April 2017. This will be available at the next conference in Leeds in 2019. Liaison with Melinda Whong on the organisation of the Leeds conference in 2019 continued. The 2021 BALEAP conference will be held in Glasgow. There is a need for more effective channels of communication with this conference organising team. This may be facilitated by the presence of Anneli Williams from Glasgow on the executive committee.

#### ANNUAL TRUSTEES REPORT

This has been written for the period August 2017 – July 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 and is presented here along with the accounts for this period.

Maxine Gillway  
April 2019