

 A Registered Charity (No 275082)

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*Promoting Quality in Teacher Education*

**Note of the Interim UCET Executive Committee meeting, held on 29th May 2020**

**Virtual Online Meeting**

Attendance

Sean Cavan; Caroline Daly; Max Fincher; Amy Godsland; Des Hewitt; Alex Kendall; Linda la Velle; Rachel Lofthouse; Kevin Mattinson; Jo McIntyre; Jackie Moses; Margaret Mulholland; Trevor Mutton; James Noble-Rogers; Tanya Ovenden-Hope; Jim Pugh; Cat Scutt; Simon Thompson; Matt Varley.

Apologies:

Rachael Harding; Emma Hollis; Karen McGrath; Roisin McPhilemy; Malcolm Thomas; Alison Winson; Roger Woods.

Key Issues & Action Points

* UCET is drafting a statement to keep in reserve should DfE and OfSTED take a particular line on the CCF and new inspection framework.
* JM has produced summaries of the survey results on how HEIs are being affected by COVID in relation to recruitment, CPD programme changes, the PCET sector, and QTS assessments.
* UCET is currently in the process of electing new chair and vice chair forum positions. Jenny Wynn has already been elected the new chair of the ITE Secondary forum and Hazel Bryan the new chair of the Research and International forum. There are also elections for 4 places on the UCET Executive Committee.
* There is now flexibility on the number of school days trainees are required to do going forward in to AY2020/21, however there are concerns around what is meant by this flexibility in terms of programme restructuring, risk assessment in schools, deferral of course start dates.
* JNR proposed issuing another survey on HEI’s plans for programme re-design and asked the EC about the timing of asking about this; it was broadly agreed that it would be best to defer issuing a survey until institutions are clearer on the logistics and their plans.
* JG offered to write an opinion piece on promoting the professionalism of teachers and teacher development during COVID-19 – the EC agreed and thanked JG for this.
* The CCT announced last month a hub of resources for early career teachers and asked if EC members could promote this to their institutions/networks.
* For students not recommended for QTS, there are proposals to support them in the pipeline, awaiting approval the Treasury.
* There are serious concerns that there will be a big shortfall in the number of students securing placements in September and also that schools (who were already struggling) do not have the time/resources/management in place to support new and existing trainees.
* It was agreed that UCET would set up a ‘commission’/roundtable group, inclusive of the DfE, with other interested stakeholder organisations to take a long-term view on the key issues facing the sector in a neutral, anti-controversial way.
* ONVU Learning will be providing professional technical support for this year’s online annual conference; the programme will be adjusted to allow adequate breaks between workshop sessions; there will be open chat areas or ‘tents’ that allow people to network and entertainment, probably a pub-style quiz.
* ToH and Rowena Passy will do an online book launch of their new edited collection of essays; LlaV would like to do a session on how to write effective reviews as a peer-reviewer.
* JM suggested a workshop on changes in practice due to COVID-19; SC asked if colleagues could send any suggestions for potential workshop sessions to JNR and AG.
* There has been an uplift in recruitment applications to ITE; members will provide more details at upcoming Primary/Secondary forums.
* There is a potential risk that some universities may not renew their annual subscription membership for the year ahead, due to the increasing control on budgets that HEIs are facing.
* The new UCET strategy has been generally well-received and will be signed off at the next EC.

Date of the next meeting: 30th June 2020.