**From:** Alex Bols [mailto:[alex.bols@guildhe.ac.uk](mailto:alex.bols@guildhe.ac.uk)]   
**Sent:** 07 October 2020 17:12  
**To:** James Noble-Rogers <[J.Noble-Rogers@ucet.ac.uk](mailto:J.Noble-Rogers@ucet.ac.uk)>; Peter Neil <[Peter.Neil@bishopg.ac.uk](mailto:Peter.Neil@bishopg.ac.uk)>  
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**Subject:** Re: Education research issues

Dear James,

Many thanks for your email, it is an important issue and would be worth discussing at TEAG. Indeed given the uniqueness of the situation that we are currently experiencing it is even more important that we have a strong evidence-base to underpin our approaches so that we understand the impact of, amongst other things, shifting to online learning and the impact of digital poverty on both pupils but also teacher training students themselves. Anyway I have copied in Peter, both so that you have his email, and to involve him in this discussion.

 I look forward to meeting again face-to-face in the (hopefully) not too distant future,

 All the best,

 Alex

 On Wed, 7 Oct 2020 at 09:54, James Noble-Rogers <[J.Noble-Rogers@ucet.ac.uk](mailto:J.Noble-Rogers@ucet.ac.uk)> wrote:

<https://www.ucet.ac.uk/10988/ucet-position-paper-building-research-informed-teacher-education-communities-july-2019>

Hi Alex,

 I hope you are well.

 I promised some colleagues that I would bring to your attention, and through you Peter Neil’s in his capacity of TEAG chair, concerns about the impact Covid is having on education research in some education departments within HEIs at the moment. These were expressed at yesterday’s meeting of the UCET Research & International Forum.

We all of course realise the extreme pressure that HEIs are facing at the moment, with those involved in teacher education facing particular challenges. Temporary re-prioritisation and changes to what is done, and by who, are inevitable. But it is important that we do not lose sight of the need to protect and nurture education research, maybe now more than ever. The intellectual base of teacher education, and the role that research plays in what HEI teacher educators do, is in some ways our unique selling point and a key reason why HEIs need to have a continued and significant role in ITE and CPD. The attached ‘Intellectual Base of Teacher Education’ paper, and the link to a paper produced last year by members of the UCET R&I forum, explain this much better than I can.

I think that UUK and Guild HE, through TEAG, may want to keep an eye on this. Although it may not be possible to do much at the current time, we will need to make sure that reactive changes made to working practices, and the time and resources giving to research, do not become part of a new normal.

Any thoughts that you or Peter (whose email  don’t have) on this would be welcome. Maybe we can have a fuller discussion at the next TEAG?

Many thanks and I hope you are well. Maybe we will meet face to face again ne day!

James