

BASES Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Wednesday 4 September 2013 (12.15 – 13.30) – University of Central Lancashire
(Darwin Lecture Theatre)**

DRAFT

Attendees: I Campbell (BASES Chair), K Tolfrey (Chair of the Division of Physical Activity for Health), S Ingham (Chair of the Division of Sport and Performance), C Hitchings (BASES Executive Officer), J Buckley, A Jones, M Coyle, E Newell, D Micklewright, G Howatson, C Twist, C Hydes, D Gordon, G Whyte, G Tew, S Parnell, J Lomax, P Russell, B Wainwright, B Baltzopolous, S Atkins, C Williams, J Scurr, M Price, V Cox, P Smith, D Pui-Lam Wong, D Perry, A Greenhalgh, C Karageorghis, L Jones and J Bairstow (Minutes).

Only Professional members are eligible to vote. A Professional member can appoint a proxy to vote on his or her behalf at the AGM. L McNaughton, S Biddle and R Godfrey contacted the BASES office requesting proxy votes via J Buckley.

1. Apologies

R Tong (Chair of the Division of Education and Professional Development), D Fletcher, M Sallam, C Stock, S Gilchrist, F Didymus, J Bringer, N Mutrie, P Terry, G Parfitt, S Biddle, J Batten, T Dutt, D James, J White, R Ramsbottom, M Smith, C Mahoney, R Cox, D Kingsbury, T Holder, C Brackenridge, L Burwitz, A Smith, R Shave, M Cosgrove, L McNaughton, R Godfrey, C Smith, Z Knowles, S Winter, S Blacker, R Denis, G Picknell, N Kentzer, A Flack, G Sandford, J Saxton, S Rowell, B Bowd, C Sellars, C Harwood, S Griffiths, S Bird and J Whitehead.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

Brief report on the activities of BASES including BASES financial statements 2012-2013

I Campbell gave a presentation highlighting the activities of BASES over the past year and said all details were included in the BASES Annual Report. He outlined the following key achievements:

- Licensed Body of the Science Council – 120 x awarded
- New webinar programme – 3 x ran to date
- Social Media – 6,000 Twitter followers / 1,200 Facebook fans
- The BASES Position Stand on Graduate Internships
- The BASES Heads of Department Forum
- Five new BASES expert statements – 2 x published in The Sport and Exercise Scientist Autumn issue
- The Voluntary Code of Good Governance.

Business as usual

- ICSEMIS in Glasgow in July for the joint Annual Conference
- Cardiff Metropolitan University hosted the BASES Student Conference 2013 in March – next year University of Portsmouth 8-9 April 2014
- 12 workshops attended by 151 delegates
- The *Journal of Sports Sciences* and *The Sport and Exercise Scientist*
- Implementing the new structure
- BASES Conference 2014.

Financial Statements 2012-13

- Surplus for the year = £36,276
- Total reserves = £191,032 (reserves policy: £116k - £232k)
- Re-investment into the expert statement grant scheme and the BASES Position Stand on Graduate Internships. BASES also employed a Human Resources Consultant.

3. Member vote on the Proposal to Re-structure BASES

IC thanked all those members who had participated in the July-September consultation and who had provided very valuable feedback. IC highlighted that the original consultation went out to members in Dec 2012. Feedback was received from 40 members.

Twenty eight members responded to the July-September consultation. 23 were supportive, 2 were not supportive and 1 responded 'Don't Know'.

IC then presented information regarding the first proposal:

1. To form six Divisions

Biomechanics and Motor Behaviour

Performance Analysis

Physical Activity for Health

Physiology and Nutrition

Psychology

Sport and Performance.

Rationale: The structure of BASES needs to be better – provide a network for members to engage with like-minded sport and exercise scientists. Support effective strategy implementation and reflect the world of sport and exercise sciences.

Purpose: Provide CPD opportunities and quality networking opportunities for members to engage with like-minded sport and exercise scientists. No limit on the number of Divisions that a member can engage with.

Membership of each Division Committee: Chair, Secretary, CPD Representative and Membership Services Representative. The Chair and CPD Representatives must be Professional members of BASES. The Division will work together to ensure the specific areas of responsibility are met.

Comments:

J Buckley asked how many current members we have – IC responded that membership had flat-lined between 2,200-2,300.

J Scurr asked if we were still supporting the interest groups alongside the new divisions? – CH responded that the interest groups that were distinct from the proposed divisions would remain (for example, Paediatric Exercise Science). However, if there was obvious duplication then the interest group would not remain (for example, Biomechanics).

D Micklewright commented that it seemed premature to re-structure BASES before setting the new strategic plan.

B Baltzopolous said he supported the change as he felt Biomechanics had split as a group and that BASES needs to keep the core scientific disciplines.

G Whyte asked if we were confident that we would find these committed individuals to form the divisions.

Vote:

Support x 14

No x 5 (inc 3 x proxy)

Abstain x 6.

IC stated that the proposal to form six Divisions had been supported.

IC then presented information regarding the second proposal:

2. To use competency-based selection processes to establish membership of the Divisions.

Members will be asked to demonstrate competencies on an application form. The Board will then appoint members (based on recommendations from an 'Appointments and Remuneration Committee').

Rationale: Evidence that competency-based selection processes work for BASES. Manifesto-member voting process (members are elected by a majority vote prior to the AGM); Low number of candidates. Popularity vs competency. Threatening.

Comments:

IC highlighted that we have had very few female members on Divisions and never had a female Chair. This structure could perhaps encourage them to apply.

An 'Appointments and Remuneration Committee' would be setup to appoint the division committee members. This committee will comprise of Chair, Executive Officer, 2 x Fellows (elected) and Non-Exec Director(s). Recommendations will go to the Board.

J Buckley expressed concern that we were taking away members' say in voting for elected officers. He also asked if we had sought legal advice. CH said BASES had sought advice from Companies House.

Vote:

Support x 19

No x 4 (inc 3 x proxy)

Abstain x 3.

IC stated that the proposal to use competency-based selection processes to establish membership of the Divisions had been supported.

C Hitchings then presented information regarding the third proposal:

4. Approval of amendments of the Articles for the Association

CH explained that because the two proposals had been supported changes were required to the BASES Articles of Association with respect to changing terminology regarding:

- Honorary officers (appointed, not elected)
- Powers of Directors

The required changes were presented.

Comments:

It was suggested that clause 13.4 should be changed to provide greater clarity (13.4 Applications will be invited from the Association and a closing date will be given for all applications). It was agreed that CH would change this. [*Post meeting note.* This has been changed to: 13.4 Applications from the membership will be invited and a closing date will be given for all applications].

Vote:

Support x 18
No x 4 (inc 3 x proxy)
Abstain x 1.

CH stated that the amendments of the Articles for the Association had been supported.

CH then presented information regarding the fourth proposal:

5. Approval of amendments of the Rules for the Association

CH presented four proposed changes to the Rules:

1. Student membership more inclusive
2. Procurement process
3. Reserves policy
4. Deputy Chair

Vote:

Support x 19
Yes for points 1, 2, 3 but not for adding the position of Deputy Chair x 4 (inc 3 x proxy)
Abstain x none.

CH stated that the amendments of the Rules for the Association had been supported.

6. Any other business

G Howatson asked if the Board could look at hosting a joint event for student and annual conference and gauge members' feelings on this. Students would have a sense of belonging into the Association and we could attract more speakers and put BASES on the map internationally. IC said we had considered this previously but for the coming year we want to focus efforts on changing the way the annual conference is

run. BASES will be setting up a Scientific Programme Committee to organise the programme and will bring in an Events Organising Company for the venue and house-keeping aspects.

S Ingham reported that the Division of Sport and Performance had put a proposal forward a while back to the Board highlighting the need for the annual conference to be consistent, high quality speakers, with an attractive venue and programme.

C Karageorghis highlighted that the student conference is a huge success for BASES and stands really well but felt greater integration for students at the annual conference could be half-way house.

J Buckley asked if we could try the joint conference one year as we are competing with ECSS/ACSM who do it really well and offer a good package.

G Whyte agreed we need a more professional approach for the conference and not have it in a university. He wondered if it was a membership voting right to decide on this? – IC said the Board would further discuss the student and annual conference.

J Lomax suggested having the AGM at a more suitable time in future to give more time to listen to members' views. This was noted.

M Coyle said she had recently been accredited and gone through SE under the psychology discipline and asked if we had any links/future plans with The British Psychological Society (BPS)?

E Newell asked where BASES were at with the Health's Profession Council (HPC) and if any plans were set for the future with them.

End of AGM.