

THE ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION

Quality and Audit Committee Report Annual General Meeting 8 January 2022 Item 7

Once again this has been an unusual year for all concerned owing to COVID-19 and has resulted in this online AGM with limited promotion time. The 22 December 2021 email Update had 2,020 opens, with 72 click throughs from the AGM item.

The Quality and Audit Committee has met remotely on two occasions, in July and November 2021. Much business has been transacted, some of it via email between meetings. Our purpose is to monitor the Trustee Body's management of the Association's resources and to report accordingly to the members in a General Meeting.

My first and pleasant duty is to thank Dennis Sutton for his dedication, expertise and guiding hand, latterly as Chair, until 31 July 2021. He retired after serving nine years on Q&A. The advertisement for a Q&A member in February Education in Science sadly did not produce any nominations. We are currently four. There will be two vacancies to be filled from 1 August 2022; the details will appear in February EiS.

The Chief Executive Officer has attended each of our meetings and reported on activities at headquarters. The committee has been impressed by the response to the situation we have been placed in by the pandemic. You will have heard the details in the report earlier in the meeting. The committee wishes to place on record its grateful thanks to the headquarters staff for the way they have continued to offer a relevant and valuable service to members (and many non-members) over the past year. They deserve our congratulations for their awareness of member needs, their imagination and hard work.

Dennis Sutton and Alan Rhodes, representing the Q & A Committee, attended all the Trustee Body meetings as observers and were able to participate in discussion and ask questions. Members of Q & A receive copies of the draft minutes of Trustee Body meetings which assists them in their monitoring role.

Unusually there were no nominations for Honorary Membership to scrutinise this year other than the new President. Q & A was represented at meetings of the Remuneration Committee.

Representing Q & A Dennis Sutton contributed to the response to the Science Council survey on Inclusion and Diversity.

Q & A continues to work with the Education Group in reviewing the committee structure and the remits of those committees. Dennis Sutton monitored aspects of the nominations and appointments to committees and the application process to committees is being reviewed.

The review of the relationship between Trustee Body and Education Group of responsibilities and reporting back is ongoing, particularly in the areas of common membership of the two groups.

Those of you who visit the "About us" page of the website will have noted that the Operating Procedures are now in draft form and dated March 2020. As you can imagine, there have been higher priorities during 2021.

Alan Rhodes (Chair of Quality and Audit Committee from 1 August 2021)

Dennis Sutton (Chair of Quality and Audit Committee from 1 January 2021).

(Current Q & A members Maggie Hannon, Martin Hollins, Jonathan Ling, Alan Rhodes).