PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

TRUSTEES’ ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The aim of the Society is to promote for the public benefit the advancement and teaching of philosophy of education.

Structure and Governance
The Society’s affairs and activities are managed by an Executive Committee. Previously all voting members were listed as Trustees. In 2018 it was decided, to provide a clearer focus of accountability, that the Trustee role would be held by the three senior office holders: the Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Following our usual practice, the Executive Committee met twice during 2018 (March and November) and the AGM was held during the Annual Conference (also in March). 564 members were listed in the Society’s register as of 15th February 2019.

The Society’s sub-committees are: Finance and General Purposes; Development, inc. Teacher Education; Large Grants; Race and Ethnicity; Annual Conference. A member of the Finance and General Purposes Committee oversees the Small Grants scheme. A Website and Social Media Steering Group also coordinates and develops the Society’s online activity.

Administration
The Society contracts an association management company to provide a range of administrative services, including servicing the AGM and the meetings of the Executive Committee, Finance and General Purposes Committee, and the Development Committee. They also maintain the membership list, handle member communications, manage day-to-day finances, maintain the website, and handle delegate registrations and submissions for the Annual Conference. Since December 2009 these services have been provided by SAS Event Management. The contract is reviewed every three years.

Sources of income
Members pay an annual membership fee, which varies according to their employment and financial status; there are concessionary rates for students and other unwaged members as well as overseas members not in receipt of Western incomes. The Society’s other principal source of income is the royalties it receives for the Journal of Philosophy of Education, published by Wiley. The Society is grateful to Wiley for their sponsorship of the dinner on the first evening of the Annual Conference.
Conferences
The Annual Conference is held in March/April at New College, Oxford. In 2018, the conference was attended by 187 delegates from Britain and abroad. It is preceded by a pre-conference seminar for postgraduate students and early-career academics. The conference papers are posted online in advance of the conference, accessible to delegates only in order that their availability does not impede authors’ future publication options. In addition to the main Annual Conference, the Society convenes a smaller annual conference at Gregynog Hall, Wales, and a Summer School for, alternately, postgraduate and undergraduate students. This is convened by one of our branches; currently Birmingham. Other small conferences are organised by the Development Committee.

Members and officers of the Society remain actively involved in other learned societies and their conferences, namely the British Educational Research Association (BERA), the European Educational Research Association (EERA), the Philosophy of Education Society (US; PES), and the International Network of Philosophers of Education (INPE).

Grants and Awards
The Society’s Grant Schemes are open to applicants who have been a member of the Society for at least one year, and are awarded to members to assist them in the pursuit of research and other activities that further the aims of the Society. The Society’s Large Grant Scheme is currently administered via the British Academy/Leverhulme Trust. In 2018 awards totalling £15,000 were made to support research projects in the field of philosophy of education. Small Grants totalling £10,482.56 were awarded. Small Grants support conference attendance and small-scale collaborative activities in line with the aims of the Society.

Journal and Communication
The Journal of Philosophy of Education continues to flourish, and the Society is grateful to the Editor, Assistant Editors, and the Editorial Board for their ongoing hard work. Hard copies of the journal are distributed to all members of the Society as it is included in the cost of membership. Members also receive free online access. It is also available in more than 4,000 libraries around the world through paid access and around 7,000 more through philanthropic initiatives (free or very low cost). In an era in which academic scholarship is increasingly read online, the journal had around 130,000 article downloads in 2017. As at September 2018, downloads were running slightly ahead of 2017.

The Society also publishes the open-access, policy-focused IMPACT series. Downloads for IMPACT have grown strongly, increasing 60% from 2017 to 2018.

The Society produces an Annual Newsletter, published online, which publicises the Society’s activities. Hard copies are available to members on request.

The Society’s website (www.philosophy-of-education.org) provides details of the Society’s structure, governance and history, conferences and events, membership, grants, book reviews and publications, resources for students and teachers, and links to
other relevant external organisations and sites. The Society also communicates its activities via Facebook and Twitter social media channels.

**Regional Branch Activity**
The Society has 22 regional branches at Bath and Bristol, Bedford, Birmingham, Cambridge, Devon and Cornwall, Dundee, Durham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ireland, London, Netherlands and Flanders, North-West (Liverpool), Nottingham, Oxford, Roehampton, Sheffield, South Coast (Winchester), South East, South Wales, Warwick, and Yorkshire (Leeds Trinity). Levels of branch activity remained healthy in 2018, and included a number of day and evening seminars and one-day and residential conferences, featuring both UK-based and international speakers and participants.