

BAME Widening Participation Committee meeting 5th November 2021 (zoom)

Welcome/Present

Katherine Joy (Chair), Rhian Jones (Admissions Tutor), Mike Burton (HoD), Bart van Dongen (DoTL), Russell Garwood, Julian Mecklenburgh, Chris Jackson, Sarah Crowther, Katherine Harrison (Outreach Lead), Marissa Lo, Cecilia Medupin, Rob Sansom, Nick Marsden, Romain Tartese, Christopher Jackson, Emma Nichols, Mike Turner, Dawn Buchan, Simon O'Meara, Tucker Gilman, Annette Barker (minute taking).

Actions Points from last Meeting (May 2021)

Committee Name – There was a discussion around the use of the word BAME in the committee title. The use of BAME is problematic as it puts people from different backgrounds, cultures and ethnicities under one homogenous umbrella. There was a discussion whether to keep the name as it is, or change it to 'Widening Participation committee'. Feedback was that the term widening participation captured a lot of what we do, but there was a feeling from some committee members that it is good to retain the term BAME (or use new wording) to keep focus of why the committee was initiated.

Update from widening participation fellows.

KH Sent e mail out to dept advising on what sort of activities they are looking for long-term projects with schools involving the children looking for long term projects no feedback on this at present. There is a 'Explore your Planet Day' coming up 8th Dec Chris Jackson is doing a talk & also can send a link direct to A level by Feb online.

Discussion around field trip inclusivity. They is concern to give more support Mental Health on field trips they have worked on a new risk assessment which is very compressive & it is now live would welcome feedback what the students think of it.

Bart asked where are the minutes kept all the minutes go on the DEES Intranet at <https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/ees/committees/> .

Action for KJ- Please ask Helena to send out communication to let people know where they can find the minutes.

Science X festival was a great success Emma Nicholas appreciated everyone's time who worked on this event but there was concern about 3-4 people got infected with Covid after the day. They are looking to having it back at the Trafford Centre as more room. If they have further events at the library there have taken on board ticketed entry & exit so they could control how many people come in at one time.

Widening Participation Fellow s- Helen Grant explained how she had done a few things in person about the solar system in person in Primary Schools which went down very well. Emma put in the chat they are reducing the recruitment for Fellowes & none form Earth.

Rhian has been involved discussions around in how a major donation will be supported 3 students preferably from the greater Manchester Area to attend Earth/Law for the full 3 years.

Katherine Harrison gave a update on the Widening Participation School programme – She has contacted schools & offered various activities but yet have no take up's for this offer. It might be an idea to let the school know we can do this remotely for them. They have the rock cycle key stage 2 ready to go & they can provide the school the information to do this themselves. There is a careers event at Trinity coming up which this is the 1 st time we have been there.

Catherine Walton in FMBH has been encouraging her students in the last year to do projects which could used to develop outreach materials, could there be a possibility this could be done in DEES.

Action CW to speak with Bart & the pathway leads & see if this would fit in the remit of the learning outcomes of the undergraduate research projects.

Discussion about provision of field equipment for WP students. Would it be possible to get into next year teaching budget the costs for waterproofs /boots for WP Students. Mikes opinion was it would be better for all the students as it is a health & safety issue.

Would there be a possibility of having a pot of money hardship fund for boots? It might be better to only offer the students only take if needed.

Action MB- Going to get costings for waterproofs with logo on & see if this can be put in place for next year.