

Association for Learning Development in Higher Education (ALDinHE)

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ALDinHE Steering Group: Posts and Membership Roles

These notes are designed to inform Association members about the roles, responsibilities and expectations of Steering Group (SG) posts and membership. Being on the SG implies commitment and active support for the Association's aims and activities. We recognise that individual availability is subject to other working commitments, and that the points below imply a substantial commitment from SG members, but at the same time those taking part will be joining an experienced and very supportive group of colleagues. We hope you will consider putting yourself forward.

According to our current constitution the SG will consist of seventeen places from 2020. Four of these are the named officer posts of Co-Chair (2 posts), Secretary and Treasurer. Those four posts are described separately in part B. below. The SG may also co-opt additional members throughout the year as it sees fit, to fulfill particular tasks.

The SG is elected annually. Election is on a self-nomination basis, supported by a current member of the SG or a Working Group co-chair, with membership ratified at the Association's AGM. Normally, no more than 2 employees of any one institution will serve on the SG at the same time. The "working year" of the SG runs from AGM to AGM, typically June to June. Usually, a SG member will hope to spend at least two years in the role, with many SG members serving longer. SG members can rely on the full support of the SG officers to help balance their commitments and responsibilities to the Association, but should things prove difficult then a SG member may withdraw at any time.

A. For all SG members

- 1) Membership of the SG, including involvement in meetings and Working Groups (see point 5 below) normally represents a commitment of between 3-8 hours per month. At certain times this may rise – e.g. during preparations for the annual conference.
- 2) SG meetings are held monthly on the last Thursday of each month from 9.30am - 11.00am throughout the year, and are conducted as video conference via Google Meet. Members should make every effort to attend these monthly meetings. As far as possible, we expect SG members to ensure their diaries are free for this slot for the year ahead.
- 3) The SG receives reports from its various Working Groups and takes strategic decisions about the use of available resources and the overall direction of the Association. SG members will normally be expected to get involved with, or take a leading role in, at least one of these Working Groups, each of which holds their own meetings from time to time.
- 4) In order to take part effectively in the SG monthly meetings, some associated preparatory work is involved. This will normally consist of reading the minutes and undertaking any agreed actions from the previous meeting. From time to time we expect SG members to read, comment upon and / or help with the drafting of documents relevant to our work. These may include communications with our membership, press releases, or statements in relation to policy issues.

5) The Association SG currently has the following Working Groups (membership of these may also include other colleagues from the Association, the LDHEN or LearnHigher networks):

- Communications Coordination Group
- Conference Committee
- Events Working Group
- Learn Higher Working Group
- Partnerships and Collaboration Group
- Peer Mentoring Group
- Research Funding Group
- Journal Editorial Board
- Professional Recognition Group

The membership and terms of reference for each of the Working Groups are available on request.

6) Each year we hold two SG residentials; one during the summer and one during the winter. These are strategic planning events which prove to be extremely useful in consolidating our thinking about the Association's work. It would be very helpful if all members of the SG could attend.

B. Named Posts

There are currently four named officer posts: Co-Chair (x2), Secretary and (see brief descriptions below). In general, the Co-Chairs shall expect to serve for three years, and other officers no more than 4 years, with succession planning in place. The main responsibilities of the named posts are as follows:

Co-Chair

- Acts as a figurehead for the Association; signs letters and press-releases on its behalf; promotes the Association and its objectives.
- Chairs meetings of the Steering Group and the AGM.
- Takes an overall coordinating role and leads the strategic development of the Association's activities.
- Reports to the membership via the AGM.
- To aid succession planning, the Co-Chairs will stagger their periods of office.

Treasurer

- Maintains records of all income and expenditure for the association and produces an annual financial report for the AGM.
- Draws up an annual budget for the association and its working groups.
- Liaises with the secretary regarding payments for membership.
- Coordinates bookings and payments for the annual conference.
- Acts as the first point of contact for all financial queries from member institutions, suppliers and banks.
- Facilitates financial audits as defined in the constitution.

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Secretary

- Facilitates and supports steering group meetings.
- Prepares membership report for the AGM.
- Contributes to the proper administration and governance of the Association.

The current members of the steering group roles are as follows:

Position	Role holder
ALDinHE Co-Chair	Christie Pritchard
Journal lead editor	Alicja Syska
Research funding lead	Maria Kukhareva
ALDinHE Co-Chair	Paul Chin
Recognition lead	Sheryl Mansfield
Learn Higher lead	Jennie Dettmer (Interim)
Peer mentoring lead	Sandra Sinfield
ALDinHE Secretary	Kate Coulson
ALDinHE Treasurer	Carina Buckley
Conference lead	Melanie Crisfield
Events lead	Maddy Mossman / Alistair Morey
Communications lead - defunct from 2022	Jacqui Bartram
Steering Group Member	Erika Corradini
Steering Group Member	<i>To be appointed</i>
Steering Group Member	<i>To be appointed</i>

SELF-NOMINATION* FORM FOR ELECTION TO STEERING GROUP

Steering Group membership to be ratified at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

<i>Name of Nominee:</i>	Dr Karen Lipsedge
<i>Institution</i>	Kingston University
<i>Email</i>	K.Lipsedge@Kingston.ac.uk
<i>Supported by**</i>	Melanie Crisfield

*** We are currently recruiting for the two Steering Group Member Posts.**

**** Please ask a current member of the Steering Group or a working group co-chair to support your nomination. Please contact admin@aldinhe.ac.uk if you require support in contacting a member of the Steering Group.**

***** All nominees must be current members of the Association with the exception of the two Steering Group Member Posts.**

Personal statement of up to 250 words: (e.g. outline of professional role, interests and what you offer to the Association). **Or, if re-applying**, include a summary of your contributions to ALDinHE over the past year.

I would like to nominate myself as a member of the ALDinHE Steering Group. I am an Associate Professor in English Literature at Kingston University, with a research expertise in the 18th century. I also work with Access, Participation, and Inclusion (Students) as a Senior Teaching and Learning Adviser. My twenty-year career, as well as my expertise and diverse portfolio of skills, demonstrate why I am the ideal candidate to be a member of the ALDinHE Steering Group. My commitment to enhancing teaching and learning development, to fostering a community of research and practice, and to creating an inclusive and diverse network of academics and support and professional staff, also chimes with the values and ethos of ALDinHE.

As part of my role as a Senior Teaching and Learning Advisor, I have created and lead two University-wide initiatives; the Writing and Oral Skills Project, which helps students to reach their full potential, and the KU Reading Group, which enhances staff and students' sense of belonging at KU. In 2017, I was also awarded the SU Staff and Student prize for Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning at Kingston University. In 2020, I helped to establish the KU BAME Staff Network; I am an Academic Rep for the Harassment Contact Scheme and, until 2019, I was the Chair of the Race Equality Charter (REC) Self-Assessment Team and led the successful 2019 Bronze Renewal submission. I continue to be a member of the REC SAT and, currently, I am supporting the completion of the 2022 REC Renewal application. I also help to support the University's student outreach programme.

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Association for Learning Development in Higher Education

Due to the length of my full-time service at Kingston as well as my work with other universities, I have in depth knowledge of strategic design and policy writing, as well as how to work effectively with Senior Leadership and Management Teams by providing advice and guidance on academic activities and strategic direction. As a member of the ALDinHE Steering Group, I would be committed to deploying my knowledge to enhance the development and strategic direction of the Association. I would also welcome the opportunity to be involved with one of the Working Groups, such as Communications Coordination Group, Conference Committee, Events Working Group and the Journal Editorial Board. I am a passionate advocate of equality and social justice and I committed to promoting the importance of equality of opportunity in HE, and work to ensure that the voices of all, regardless of background, are listened to and heard. Thank you for considering my nomination.