

## 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 four 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):

- Conference Committee
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group
- Events Working Group
- Journal Editorial Board
- LearnHigher Working Group
- Peer Mentoring Group
- Professional Recognition Working Group
- Research and Scholarship Development Working 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	Kate Coulson
ALDinHE Co-Chair	Christie Pritchard
ALDinHE Secretary	Maddy Mossman
ALDinHE Treasurer	Carina Buckley
Conference lead	Melanie Crisfield
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion lead	Kiu Sum
Events lead	Alistair Morey
Journal lead	Alicja Syska
Learn Higher lead	Helena Beeson
Peer mentoring lead	Sandra Sinfield
Professional Recognition lead	Sheryl Mansfield
Research and Scholarship Development lead	Ian Johnson
Steering group member without portfolio	Bernard Aidoo
Steering group member without portfolio	Steve White

## SELF-NOMINATION\* FORM FOR ELECTION TO STEERING GROUP

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

Name of Nominee:	Kiu Sum
Institution	Solent University
Email	<a href="mailto:Kiu.sum@solent.ac.uk">Kiu.sum@solent.ac.uk</a>
Supported by**	Carina Buckley

**\* We are currently recruiting for the three 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](mailto:admin@aldinhe.ac.uk) if you require support in contacting a member of the Steering Group or Working Group for support.**

**\*\*\* All nominees must be current members of the Association with the exception of the three 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 started my role on the ALDinHE Steering Group as a member without portfolio, and through this time, I learned more about ALDinHE and the learning development field. Shortly after joining the Steering Group, I took the lead in developing and running the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Working Group. In late 2023, we held our first EDI Working Group meeting with colleagues from the ALDinHE network. Since then, we have consistently had group meetings to discuss how we can best work to raise awareness and understand what EDI means to us in learning development. Currently, we have about 36 members on our mailing list. Below are things I have done so far as part of leading the EDI Working Group:

- We have a core group of colleagues joining the regular (once every six weeks or so) meetings.
- We are developing a seminar series as a space for colleagues to discuss EDI in the context of learning development.
- We have agreed on our short, intermediate and long-term goals and on what we want to achieve yearly (with a forecast of the next 2-3 years)
- We are co-creating a project to understand what EDI means to us in the context of learning development, which will lead to a paper, hopefully, being published in JLDHE.

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Association for Learning Development in Higher Education

The deadline for nominations is Tuesday 28 May 2024.

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