



**AHUA: Communications Working Group**  
**Monday 24 April, 9.30 – 10.30**

Via Teams

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 371 121 026 828

Passcode: gPd5i5

**Attendees:**

Stephen Dudderidge, Registrar and Secretary, University of Brighton (Chair)

Hugh Martin, Registrar and Chief Administrative Officer, The British University in Dubai

Louise Nadal, School Secretary, LSE

Tracey Slaven, University Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, University of Aberdeen

Helen Watson, Chief Operating Officer, City, University of London

Catherine Webb, Executive Secretary, AHUA

Tamsin Dyson, Media and Communications Officer, AHUA

*Apologies*

Wendy Appleby, Vice President (Operations), University of Southampton

Colin Campbell, Registrar, Newcastle University

**Agenda**

**1. Welcome**

**2. Notes from last meeting for approval ([pages 3 - 4](#))**

**3. Report on action points from the last meeting 28/09/2022**

Action 1: TD continuing to reach out to press for opportunities to comment on cost pressures.

Action 2: TD outreached to journalists on student immigration. Potential interest from Pie News.

Action 3: TD outreached to Colina Wright and Ben Vuillamy to develop a blog following their 'Universities are from Mars and Students' Unions are from Venus' workshop and awaiting blog.

Action 4: TD outreached to Livia Scott, SUs Community and Policy Officer at Wonkhe. Livia showed interest and awaiting confirmation.

Action 5: SD to outreach to the SU president at Brighton for potential blog

**4. Update on media initiative and position papers; consideration of further activity ([pages 5 - 7](#)) (TD and SD)**

Six pieces of national coverage secured so far.

18 spokespeople participated in media training.

**5. AHUA blogs (TD)**

To discuss ideas and authors for features or topical blogs.



**6. AHUA metrics report, March 2023**

March report circulated, please be prepared to discuss and comment on the latest.

**7. AHUA Update**

To discuss thoughts and ideas on developments for Update.

**8. [Terms of office](#) (page 8)**

To note members' terms of office

**9. Suggestions for new members**

There is availability for up to three more AHUA members to join the Communications Group.

**10. Date of next meeting:**

28 September 2023 9:30-10:30

**11. Any other business**

# NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

## AHUA Communication Group Meeting Notes, 28 September 2022 (online)

### Attendees:

Stephen Dudderidge, Registrar and Secretary, University of Brighton (Chair)  
Hugh Martin, Registrar and Chief Administrative Officer, The British University in Dubai  
Louise Nadal, School Secretary, LSE  
Wendy Appleby, Vice President (Operations), University of Southampton  
Colin Campbell, Registrar, Newcastle University  
Tracey Slaven, University Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, University of Aberdeen  
Catherine Webb, Executive Secretary, AHUA  
Tamsin Dyson, Media and Communications Officer, AHUA

### Apologies:

Helen Galbraith, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student Experience, University of Chester  
Christine Fraser, University Secretary and Clerk to the Board, Cardiff Metropolitan University

#### 1. Welcome

- SD welcomed new members, Colin Campbell and Tracey Slaven, and accepted apologies from Helen and Christine.

#### 2. Notes from the last meeting

- The notes were approved.

#### 3. Report on action points from the last meeting 12/04/2022

- Action 2: Three Final Thoughts. Wendy Appleby volunteered to contribute.
- Action 3: TD approached new members to join the group and welcomed Colin Campbell, Tracey Slaven and Christine Fraser.

#### 4. Update on media initiative and consideration of further activity

- TD discussed media update along with coverage and potential leads with journalists.
- Discussion regarding devolved nations and how each can work together to offer different political approaches.
- Scope to comment on the cost of living crisis on behalf of students in trade press but caution regarding staff.
- Discussion on current immigration process which impacts student experience.
- Agreement that current outreach to journalists would continue but also that the role of the AHUA in regard to media comment had to be seen in the context of contributions from UUK, mission groups and individual institutions.

Action 1: TD to outreach to trade press for opportunities to comment on cost pressures.

Action 2: TD to outreach to journalists for potential comment on student immigration.

#### 5. AHUA blogs

## **NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Opportunity to bring in a student voice to the AHUA blog through Student Union presidents. Some of Wonkhe's SU's content is behind a paywall so there is an opportunity to showcase the student voice further through AHUA.
- One idea is to create a series for SU presidents to develop on 'What I achieved...' at the end of the academic year.

Action 3: TD to outreach to Colina Wright and Ben Vuillamy to develop blog following on from their 'Universities are from Mars and Students' Unions are from Venus' workshop at the Autumn Conference.

Action 4: TD to outreach to Livia Scott, SUs Community and Policy Officer at Wonkhe, for potential blog

Action 5: SD to outreach to the SU president at Brighton for potential blog

### **6. AHUA metrics report, August 2022**

- Report now includes media relations update as well as link to media evaluation grid.

### **7. AHUA Update**

- Group members agreed they liked the new format of Update.

### **8. Terms of office**

- The terms were noted.

### **9. Date of next meeting**

- The date of the next meeting is 24 April 2023.

### **10. Any Other Business**

- N/A

TD September 2022

## MEDIA SPOKESPEOPLE AT APRIL 2023

### AHUA Media Spokespeople

Subject	Spokesperson	Job Title	Institution
Access and Participation	Ester Ruskuc	Director of Strategy & Planning	University of St Andrews
Admissions	Tim Westlake	Chief Operating Officer	University of Sussex
DfE	David Duncan	Chief Operating Officer and University Secretary	University of Glasgow
Essay Mills	Paul Greatrix	Registrar	University of Nottingham
FOI	Michaela Boryslawskij	Registrar	Sheffield Hallam University
Free Speech	Paul Greatrix	Registrar	University of Nottingham
Funding	Helen Watson	Registrar and Secretary	City, University of London
Governance	Matthew Andrews	University Secretary and Registrar	University of Gloucestershire
HE Efficiency	Steve Denton	Chief Operating Officer and Registrar	Nottingham Trent University
HE policy	Nicola Owen	Deputy Chief Executive (Operations)	Lancaster University
International 1	Patrick Hackett	Deputy Vice-Chancellor	University of Manchester
International 2	Hugh Martin	Registrar and Chief Administrative Officer	The British University in Dubai
NI HE	Clare Jamison	University Secretary	Ulster University
OfS	Nicola Owen	Deputy Chief Executive (Operations)	Lancaster University
OIA	Dave Hall	University Secretary	Open University
Pensions	Mike Shore-Nye	Registrar and Secretary	University of Exeter
Prevent	Louise Nadal	School Secretary	LSE
Quality and Standards	Steve Clayton	Registrar and Chief Operating Officer	Arden University
Regulation	Amanda Wilcox	University Secretary	Durham University
Research			
Scottish HE	Jim McGeorge	University Secretary & Chief Operating Officer	University of Dundee

## MEDIA SPOKESPEOPLE AT APRIL 2023

Student Discipline	Rachel Sandby-Thomas	Registrar	University of Warwick
Student Experience	Lynda Brady	University Secretary	Edge Hill University
UKVI issues	Mike Shore-Nye	Registrar and Secretary	University of Exeter
Wellbeing 1	Helen Galbraith	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience)	University of Chester
Wellbeing 2	Rachel Sandby-Thomas	Registrar	University of Warwick
Welsh HE	Christine Fraser	University Secretary and Clerk to the Board	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Widening participation strategies	James Rolfe	Chief Operating Officer	Anglia Ruskin University

### Media evaluation grid

Date	Publication	Publication type	Topic	Reach
01.06.2022	Wonkhe	Online	<a href="#">Aspirations, attainment, and algorithms</a>	96,939
28.06.2022	The Guardian	Online	<a href="#">Warnings of mental health crisis among 'Covid generation' of students</a>	102,000,000
29.07.2022	The Times Higher Education	Online	<a href="#">QAA's departure leaves English sector 'lacking expertise' at crucial time</a>	2,209,671
04.08.22	The Times Higher Education	Print	QAA's departure leaves English sector 'lacking expertise' at crucial time	17,054
18.08.2022	The Times Higher Education	Online	<a href="#">A-level results: cautious university offer-making 'here to stay'</a>	2,277,831
14.11.2022	The Guardian	Online	<a href="#">Pandemic still affecting UK students' mental health, says helpline</a>	384,100,000
15.11.2022	The Guardian	Online	Pandemic still affecting UK students' mental health, says helpline	105,134

[See full evaluation grid here](#)

[Back to the agenda](#)

## AHUA COMMUNICATIONS GROUP TERMS OF OFFICE

### AHUA Communication Group Members (April 2023)

All terms are for two years, renewable for one additional term.

Position	Name	Job title	Institution	Term (+ year started first term)	From	Until
Chair	Stephen Dudderidge	Registrar and Secretary	University of Brighton	2 / 2020	01/10/2022	30/09/2024
AHUA Member	Wendy Appleby	Vice-President (Operations)	University of Southampton	1 / 2021	01/10/2021	30/09/2023
AHUA Member	Helen Watson	Chief Operating Officer	City, University of London	1 / 2022	01/10/2022	30/09/2024
AHUA Member	Hugh Martin	Registrar and Chief Administrative Officer	The British University in Dubai	2 / 2020	01/10/2022	30/09/2024
AHUA Member	Louise Nadal	School Secretary	London School of Economics	1 / 2021	01/10/2021	30/09/2023
AHUA Member	Colin Campbell	Registrar	Newcastle University	1 / 2022	01/10/2022	30/09/2024
AHUA Member	Tracey Slaven	University Secretary and Chief Operating Officer	University of Aberdeen	1 / 2022	01/10/2022	30/09/2024
AHUA Executive Secretary	Catherine Webb					
AHUA Media and Communications Officer	Tamsin Dyson					

[Back to the agenda](#)