Higher Education Information Directors in Scotland (HEIDS)

Confirmed Minutes

Monday, 4 February 2013
Glasgow Caledonian University

Present:

Chair

Steve Watt	University of St Andrews	SW

Vice-Chair

Brian Mullins	The University of the West of Scotland	BM

Secretary

Fraser Muir	University of Edinburgh	FM
David Beards	SFC	DB
Mark Cockshoot	Heriot-Watt University	MC
Stuart Dobbie	Glasgow Caledonian University	SD
Alan Doyle	APUC	AD
Dean Drew	University of St Andrews	DD
Jim Dunsmore	Glasgow Caledonian University	JD
Brian Gilmore	University of Edinburgh	BG
Alun Hughes	University of the Highlands & Islands	AH
John Maher	University of the Highlands & Islands	JM
Simon Marsden	University of Edinburgh	SM
Andy McCreath	RGU	AM
Sandy McDonald	Glasgow University	SMD
Catherine McMillan	University of Strathclyde	CM
Raymonde Murphy	Glasgow Caledonian University	RM
Frances Neilson	JANET UK	FN
Brian Robertson	University of Aberdeen	BR
Mike Roch	Heriot-Watt University	MR
Fraser Ross	RCS	FR
Jem Taylor	University of the Highlands & Islands	JT
Mark Toole	University of Stirling	MT
Colin Watson	Glasgow School of Art	CW

In attendance

Kevin Ashley	DCC	KA
Anna Matthews	UCISA	AM

1. **Apologies were received from the following:**

Caroline Cochrane	RCS
Gerry Dougan	Scotland's Colleges
John Maher	University of the Highlands & Islands

Simon Marsden   University of Edinburgh
Kathy McCabe   University of Stirling

		Action
2.	**Minutes of the previous meeting:**	

The minutes of the meeting held at Heriot-Watt University on 29 November 2012 were approved.

Matters arising not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda were covered.

RM reported on progress with the Register of Interests and advised of its imminent launch.   RM

AMC endeavoured to check and send the SCURL survey to members.   AMC

BM suggested that no further input was required from him regarding the item on Digital Economy Act however FN volunteered to circulate a recent presentation from Andrew Cormack on this subject.   FN

3.   Research data management

The Chair advised members that agenda items would be taken in a slightly different order than previously stated and would commence with the item on research data management.

KA presented the DCC view on research data management and then opened discussion to the floor.

The group discussed points and issues raised by the DCC presentation with numerous questions. KA offered advice and assistance to groups to aid ability to tackle issues in member institutions.

BG offered a meeting at University of Edinburgh to share their RDM journey.   BG

4.   BYOD

BR introduced the item and a round table discussion on the topic. Questions discussed included What is BYOD? Obstacles? Support? Collective approach?

Members discussed the issues around BYOD. The UCISA event on May 7 was promoted and BG described the various steps taken at Edinburgh, in particular around information security. Members discussed the issues of security and how BYOD presents risks in this area. Control is non-existent and blocks result in workarounds very quickly, often even less secure. DG described how QMU has separated the data and application from the device allowing for BYOD and remote access to be supported securely.

Members discussed support policies at other institutions and BR agreed to facilitate a sharing of institutions policies. Members agreed to have a follow up item on this topic on the agenda for next meeting.   BR

5.   Reports from shared services report progress groups

The Chair asked each of the sub-group convenors to report on any progress with their relevant shared services work.

5a. IT Continuity and Storage
This item was covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5b. Collaboration tools
AMC summarized progress in this area so far and reminded members of the report circulated earlier in February from the mobile event in Hamilton in August 2012.

The joint HEIDS/SCURL survey on this area was described and AMC will endeavour to circulate proposed questions to members for comment before finalisation of the questionnaire. Engagement with FE via community of practice was undertaken through Gerry Dougan.

AMC

AMC welcomed expressions of interest in a joint approach to the JISC NEXUS service which connects software applications to transfer data securely between educational establishments and select external partners.

5c&d. Blackboard; licensing and hosting
MT described the initial offer from Blackboard. Further clarification is needed on certain aspects of the proposal and an offer will go to the steering group in due course.

MT reminded members of the scope of the proposed service being investigated.

5e. Moodle
No report was available for this strand of work.

6. Reports from groups
6.1 SFC (DB)
DB attended the recent Janet stakeholder meeting. HE is currently a flat cash position, FE funding for renewal and updates following regionalisation. Outcome agreements will be light touch this year. Framework based on benefits and efficiencies.

6.2 UNIVERSITIES SCOTLAND (DT)
No update received.

6.3 JISC (MT)
MT reported on the JISC new company, BG is on the JISC Collections and JANET board of directors. New strategy is being developed and changes to the way calls for projects will be handled; UCISA, RUGIT, SCONUL being consulted.

6.4 JANET UK (FN)
FN updated members on various aspects of JANET work. Event on February 18 at Glasgow to be attended by Tim Marshall and Bob Day.

Verizon are offering consultation on cloud readiness via Ian Corden at JANET brokerage. Project Moonshot will be in pilot from April 2.

6.5 SWAN (MT)
SWAN procurement is on-going. BM highlighted issues of capital funds for inter-institutional links. DB responded that there would be no cut to JISC/JANET budget this year from SFC but that this is not sustainable in the long term. No decisions have been taken as yet.

FN reported that JANET is looking at inter-site connectivity and inputting into regionalisation agenda with respect to campus links.

6.6 RSCs (CC)

FM reported on behalf of CC that the new single RSC service is now up to full staffing (12 people) and the major plank of work continues to be supporting regionalization in FE. There is still no further news from central JISC on any changes to the role of the RSC as a result of the new JISC structure.

6.7 SCURL/SCONUL

MT updated members on the JISC shared LMS project in Scotland – SCURL has initiated a task and finish group to deliver this. HEIDS representation should be registered through the HEIDS secretary. SCURL collaborative procurement around eBooks is progressing.

FM

MT then updated members on the SCONUL pilot of shared system for open access APCs. A national service is of interest to the sector with an expression of interest to University librarians last week. An event in December on Kuali open source library management system, a possible vehicle for a Scottish national LMS.

Finally, SCURL and SCONUL are both launching new websites.

6.8 UCISA

AM reported on the new UCISA CISG sub-group on enterprise architecture, a case study for off-shoring IT services in Universities. Discussions are underway with UCISA-IG to progress the infrastructure survey.

6.9 APUC

AD updated members on progress with the IP handset tender which is due in mid-April, Finance/HR system framework for Edinburgh College but available for general use, NDNA agreement including tablets; iPad plus commercial offering, SUPC framework for software and finally a new procurement group, UKUPC to co-ordinate regional procurement groups.

6.10 FE/HE ICT Sector oversight

AH updated members on progress with this body. Strategy is almost complete subject to minor alterations and that there were no substantial amendments to the previously circulated strategy.

Formative work on areas like benchmarking are being developed. ICT operating framework document due to complete at the end of the week – AH to circulate.

AH

MT also reported on JANET work on benchmarking led by UUK. AM to circulate update.

AM

7 AOCB

No OCB was noted.

8 AGM

The Chair convened the AGM and reminded members of the purpose. FM was re-appointed Secretary until February 2015.

The Chair and Vice-Chair agreed to draft a new constitution for consultation by members electronically, that would better reflect the current work and aims of the HEIDS group. This would be agreed at the next meeting in Edinburgh.

SW/BM

Fraser Muir
04/02/13