UKALTA

UK Association for Language Testing and Assessment

Annual report 2021

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Annual General Meeting 2021

To be held on Tuesday, 14 December 2020, 1-2pm via Teams

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10. Any other business (AOB)

- The online AGM will be recorded to facilitate minute-taking.

- To submit your apologies for the meeting, contact the UKALTA secretary (Judith Fairbairn) by email (Secretary@UKALTA.org).

- To submit a topic for item 10 (AOB), contact the UKALTA secretary (Judith Fairbairn) by email by Friday, 10 December 2021 (Secretary@UKALTA.org).

President's report

Introduction

When I first took on the UKALTA Presidency in January 2020 no-one anticipated a global pandemic that would take hold within just a few weeks and last at least 2 years, leaving behind it a trail of unforeseen devastation! At the time of writing (Nov 2021), we are facing yet another pandemic wave and the next 6-12 months remain for all of us uncertain in many respects.

Nevertheless, despite the ongoing challenges, since LTF online in November 2020 we have found creative ways to celebrate the conference's 40th anniversary and I believe we have continued to make steady progress in UKALTA to strengthen and expand our professional association.

As last year, it has been a pleasure and privilege to work with my fellow officers on the Executive Committee as we sought to deliver an interesting programme of activities and events. I wish to record my thanks to fellow committee members for their hard work and public service to our field throughout this challenging year for them, not just professionally but also personally in various ways.

General administrative and organisational matters

We have made further progress in some key areas, including communicating with the UKALTA membership and strengthening the reputation and positioning of UKALTA as a UK professional association and learned society.

We have continued regular Mailchimp messages throughout the year to communicate key information to members in a timely way and to keep them in touch. This channel also serves as a way to inform members of important administrative matters, such as the AGM. We also use Twitter for advertising events.

The Executive Committee meets every 4-6 weeks via MS Teams, depending upon the programme and volume of business, and we correspond regularly by email in between business meetings. To help build our organisational capacity, we welcomed 2 new co-opted members onto the Executive Committee in early 2021: Olena Rossi (PGR Network Officer) and Muhammad Tayyab (Events and Liaison Officer). We also purchased a one-year subscription to MS Teams Business to allow us to manage UKALTA business more easily and to be able to offer online events in future.

The Expert Advisory Group (EAG) has met twice in 2021, serving as a valuable sounding board for the Executive Committee and an advocate for UKALTA more widely.

A Constitutional Working Group was established this year to review the UKALTA Constitution. Changes to the original 2016 Constitution were needed partly due to the

impact of the Covid19 pandemic in 2020 (holding an online rather than in-person AGM). A small invited Working Group (John Pill, Evelina Galaczi and myself) reviewed the current wording to make specific proposals, including the addition of 4 new Officer roles: Postgraduate Research Network Officer; Events and Liaison Officer; and 2 Ordinary Members. As we seek to offer more to members and to the wider field, UKALTA urgently needs to expand its small Executive Committee and bring it more closely into line with the size of executive boards for similar professional associations. Profiles for the new roles have been developed and will be brought to the 2021 AGM for approval by the membership before elections can take place and formal appointments can be made during 2022. In the interim, co-opted individuals can serve in any of these roles temporarily and informally as needed.

The UKALTA Membership Survey project this year aims to collect data on the current demographic make-up of UKALTA's membership, and members hopes and expectations of UKALTA. The project began earlier this year led by the Membership & Nominations Committee (Ide Haghi, Daniel Lam and Tony Clark, with the generous support of Benjamin Kremmel as a former UKALTA EC member). A draft survey was reviewed and revised in light of feedback from the Executive Board and the Advisory Committee. The main survey is partnered with a supplementary survey to gather anonymous data concerning equity, diversity and inclusion. It is increasingly important for professional associations to monitor their EDI status, especially if we wish to seek grant funding for the organisation in the future. Following piloting, the survey was disseminated to all members in November and preliminary findings will be reported at the AGM in mid-December.

The 2021 AGM will once again be held online in December and open to all who wish to attend. The agenda will be notified to members at least 10 days in advance and a full report made publicly available on the UKALTA website for members and others to read prior to the meeting.

Election of UKALTA officers is once again online as a separate members-only activity and allows for electronic online voting by the whole UKALTA membership.

The remainder of this report is structured under the 5 subheadings which I introduced last year and which broadly correspond to the 5 aims and objectives of UKALTA as set out in our Constitution (subsections 2.1-2.5).

1. Exchange of information and research

1.1 Online Symposium on Learner-Centred Assessment– October 2021

In October 2021 UKALTA sponsored a 2-day online symposium on the topic of 'Learner-Centred Approaches to Language Assessment', organised by Dr Sin Wang Chong of Queen's University Belfast. The programme included 2 keynote speakers, 2 roundtable discussion sessions and a wide range of invited presentations. This event was supported with grant funding set aside by UKALTA for activities that align with our stated aims. Approximately 50

people attended the event over the 2 days and a full report is available on the UKALTA website: https://ukalta.org/events/ . The updated Terms of Reference for 2022 grant funding is also available from the UKALTA website.

1.2 Language Testing Forum (LTF) - November 2021

Despite hopes of returning to an in-person LTF event onsite in Lancaster in 2021, the continuing Covid pandemic threatened to derail our plans once again. In June the Local Organising Committee, with the support of the Executive Committee, took the decision to survey members' views on whether LTF should be run in-person in Lancaster or online this year. The results showed that views were split - with roughly half preferring an in-person event and half an online event. It was clear that some UKALTA members continued to face barriers to attending an in-person event, and that if we were to hold such an event this year a proportion of UKALTA members would not be in a position to attend.

After much deliberation and discussion, we decided that LTF2021 would be an online conference for 2021. We knew this would be disappointing but we felt an online conference would be accessible to all members and would provide the best opportunities for participation in a time where uncertainties around travel, safety, and financial support remained. As I write this report, we are looking forward to an excellent 2-day conference on Friday 26th November and Saturday 27th November.

2. Training and professional development
2.1 Network for Postgraduate and Early Career Researchers

Plans to set up a PGR Network for UK-based/linked postgraduate students and early career researchers came to fruition this year. The Network aims to bring together UKALTA postgraduate members to meet each other and collaborate in a supportive environment. This new initiative was a direct response to the challenges that faced our UK-based or UK-linked PGRs over the past 2 years due to the Covid19 global pandemic. Many experienced both academic and personal isolation - unable to meet up with departmental colleagues, attend conference events or conduct the fieldwork needed for their research.

The UKALTA Executive Committee is very grateful to the 3 members of the UKALTA PGR Network steering committee for getting this important project underway: Elin Arfon (PhD student at the School of Modern Languages, Cardiff University); Jane Lloyd (part-time PhD student at CRELLA, University of Bedfordshire); and Dr Olena Rossi (the Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University).

PGR Network events in 2021 included: an online inauguration event in May 2021; online monthly / bi-monthly coffee sessions over the summer to provide an informal meeting space for UKALTA postgraduate members; an online UKALTA PGR seminar in October 2021 with invited guest speakers (Dr Vahid Aryadoust and Dr Chihiro Inoue) providing training in

quantitative and qualitative research methods. This first online seminar for Network members also included work-in-progress sessions from PGR/ECR participants themselves.

At present, Network activities are being conducted through the Microsoft Teams online platform, but in future, they envisage offering both online Microsoft Teams-based events and face-to-face events. A dedicated [PGR Network webpage](#) has been added to the UKALTA website.

3. Collaboration across UK language education
3.1 Higher Education Academic Literacy (HEAL) Working Group - update

The HEAL WG was originally set up at the 2018 AGM to investigate the use of English language tests in UK higher education. Frustratingly, their progress was severely impacted by the effect of the 2020 global pandemic on UK universities and English language testing worldwide. Despite this, Carolyn Westbrook and Mark Griffiths were able to complete Phase 1 of a UKALTA-sponsored research study investigating Higher Education Assessment Literacy (HEAL). Their final report has been reviewed by the Executive Committee and the Expert Advisory Group and is currently being prepared for online publication via the UKALTA website. The Project Team plan to bring forward a funded proposal for a second phase to conduct further work in this important area.

3.2 Collaboration with peer organisations – sharing news, working on joint projects

We continued to interact positively with peer organisations and networks (IATEFL TEASIG, BALEAP TEASIG, BAAL TAFSIG, EALTA, ALTE), sharing news and engaging in collaborative projects where possible. When invited, we provide reports on UKALTA activities for publication in the newsletters of other professional associations, e.g. ILTA, IATEFL TEASIG.

From March 2021 onwards, I made personal contact on behalf of UKALTA with over a dozen UK-based professional associations in language education, including language/linguistics societies and MFL teaching organisations as well as ESOL associations. The aim was to introduce UKALTA via a short briefing document and to explore opportunities for future interaction and possible collaboration. Positive and appreciative responses were received from almost all contacts and the approach led to several conversations about building/strengthening relationships between our respective associations, e.g. through event promotion, speaker invitations, joint workshops as well as shared outreach/advocacy work.   This is something we can build on in the coming year.

4. Awareness-raising and advocacy
4.1 UKALTA's standing as a learned society and professional association

As the UK's leading learned society and professional association for language testing and assessment, UKALTA is recognised by the British Academy (BA) and is also a member of the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS). We receive regular email communications and invitations to network meetings for learned societies and professional associations, which give us access to documentation and expert discussion on relevant topics, e.g. EDI,

association governance, etc. As President, I regularly attend meetings of both these Academies on behalf of UKALTA.

4.2 Nominations to AcSS Fellowship

As a member society of AcSS, UKALTA has the right to submit up to 10 nominations annually for academics of established status and reputation in our field to be considered for Academy Fellowship. We have several such Fellows among us, including Prof Constant Leung, Prof Tess Fitzpatrick and Prof Barry O'Sullivan.

In December 2020, we submitted 3 names of individuals from our field for nomination to AcSS Fellowship. This followed initial suggestions sent in by the UKALTA membership which were then considered by an independent appointed subcommittee, chaired by Prof John Slaght of Reading University in accordance with AcSS guidelines. This was UKALTA's first attempt at submitting nominations for AcSS Fellowship and thus something of an unknown. Although the 3 nominations were not initially successful, the AcSS encouraged us to resubmit all 3 names following revision of the documentation with the advice and assistance of an experienced AcSS Fellow. This 'mentoring' and revision process enabled us to resubmit later in 2021 and we await the outcomes in early 2022. Further information on the AcSS Fellowship principles and nominations process is available at: www.acss.org.uk/membership.

4.4 UKALTA's advocacy work in 2021

We continue to look for opportunities for public engagement and advocacy in matters of language education and the wider social sciences.

In March 2021, the UKALTA Executive agreed to support the AcSS **response to the UKRI announcement on ODA funding cuts,** given their negative impact on research that benefits UK society and the wider international community: Academy responds to UKRI announcements on funding cuts - Academy of Social Sciences (acss.org.uk)

In May 2021, UKALTA joined with over 1000 other voices to add our support for the statement of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Modern Languages concerning the Department of Education's proposed review of GCSE MFL subject content: APPG ON MODERN LANGUAGES - Home (weebly.com) .

Also in May, I collaborated with senior language testing colleagues at Lancaster (Tineke Brunfaut, Luke Harding and John Pill) to submit a formal response on behalf of UKALTA to Ofqual's public consultation on the proposed changes to assessment arrangements for GCSE French, German and Spanish. We hope to make this document available via the UKALTA website in the near future.

5. Outreach and public engagement
5.1 Handbook for Aligning Language Education with the CEFR

Since the CEFR Symposium in February 2020, a small Steering Group has continued to collaborate on drafting a new *Handbook for Aligning Language Education with the CEFR*, taking account of the new CEFR Companion Volume published in 2020. The Steering Group includes key participants from the original symposium representing a range of organisations: Neus Figueras (EALTA), Barry O'Sullivan (British Council), Nick Saville (ALTE), Lynda Taylor (UKALTA), and David Little, with his long background in and knowledge of the Council of Europe. Additional input to the project has been provided by a range of informants from across Europe and beyond. A full draft of the handbook is now available and has been sent out for review by a wide range of additional representatives of the bodies involved so far – ALTE, EALTA and UKALTA. Feedback from the bank of reviewers will be considered by the Steering Group in December 2021.

5.2 Language Testing Glossary Project

In January 2021 I made a tentative approach to colleagues in the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE) to explore a potential collaborative project to revise and update the 'Multilingual Glossary of Testing Terms', first published in 1998. UKALTA is particularly interested in updating the glossaries for UK national languages in the first instance (e.g. English, Welsh and Gaelic in the first instance), but we would also be keen to help develop a methodology for a wider revision project.

Following further discussion, ALTE offered to host a collaborative meeting on 11 November as part of the 56th ALTE Meeting and Conference, with myself as Chair. Invitations, together with a short briefing paper, went out to over 25 ALTE members and UKALTA Members who had expressed an interest in joining in the initial scoping discussion for the project. The meeting expressed broad support for some sort of Glossary Revision Project from across a wide range of European language communities, together with suggestions for what such a project might look like and aim to achieve. From the UKALTA perspective, there was specific support for the idea of a revised Irish Gaelic glossary and new glossaries for Scottish Gaelic and Welsh, including ideas about local funding sources for a glossary development project.

The 45-minute discussion was recorded and will be used to form the basis of a set of notes to help us discern how to take this project forward. It will hopefully start in 2022 and probably take the form of a long-term, multiphase project with multiple partners.

Final comments

Looking ahead into 2022 (and the third year of my UKALTA presidency), there remain some important future initiatives I would like us to explore and embark on as a professional association and learned society. I look forward to touching upon some of these at our forthcoming AGM in December.

Professor Lynda Taylor – President, UKALTA – November 2021

Treasurer's report

UKALTA Treasurer's Report (AGM 2021) (as of 16 Nov 2021)			
Details	**Income**	**Details**	**Outgoing**
Opening Balance (*2020 report*)	14,837.35	Website maintenance	69.71
LTF 2020 Sponsorships /Fund raising	3,000.00	Microsoft Teams	112.8
UKALTA Sponsored Activity- Symposium "Learner-centred approach to Language Assessment" Oct 2021 (Registration)	395.00	EALTA sponsorship	500.00
		HEAL Task Force Research	1000.00
Total (income)	**18,232.35**	PGR Network speaker x 2	215.00
		AcSS membership	300.00
		Total (expense)	**2,197.51**
		Closing Balance	**16,034.84**

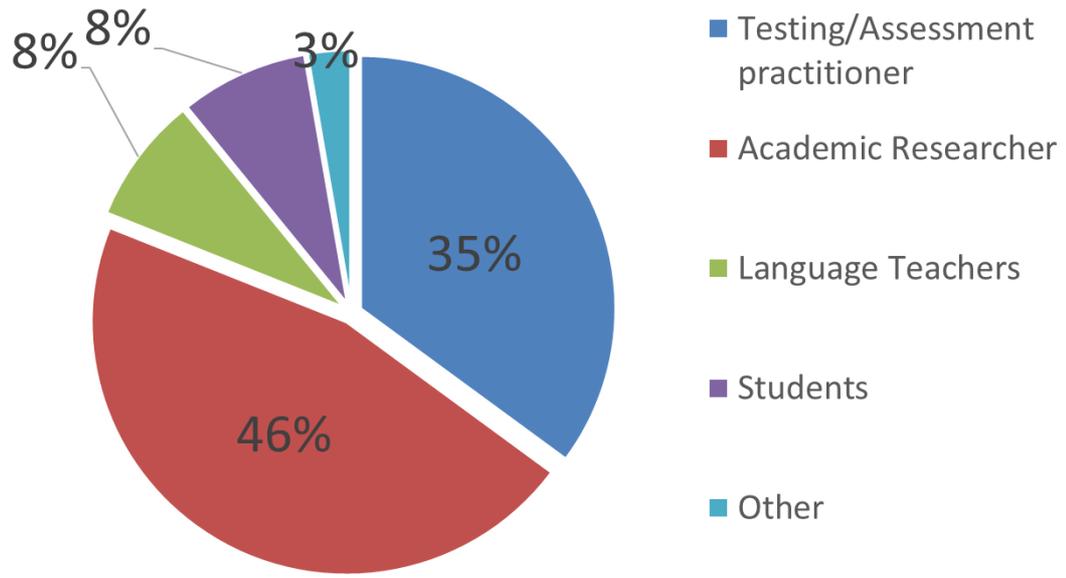# Website and Communication Coordinator's report

Website:

- The website has continued to grow in line with the evolving work of UKALTA, for example a new PGR area was added and a number of the sub-areas of the site were refocused and refined.

Communications:

- President's messages were sent out to March, April, June, September, and a final one for 2021 to be sent out during December.
- Support for the local organisers of LTF in Lancaster was provided, with messaging to share the schedule of events and to promote registration.
- Activity on Twitter remains buoyant, with promotional messages being sent out for UKALTA-supported events and LTF, plus re-sharing of Tweets of interest, such as other events, open-access publications and funding opportunities of interest to membership and followers.
- An Office 365 license was purchased during the year to facilitate the delivery of online events (via MS Teams) and file sharing between EC members as well as additional functionalities.

Membership and Nominations Chair's report

Membership Report (25th Nov. 2021)

Total member number: 408 (as of 25 Nov)
New members since LTF 2020: 46
Professional roles of new members:

Pie chart legend:
- Testing/Assessment practitioner — 35%
- Academic Researcher — 46%
- Language Teachers — 8%
- Students — 8%
- Other — 3%

PGR Network Officer Report

The PGR Network was established in early 2021.
The PGR Network aims to bring together postgraduate students (those who are in the process of completing their master's or doctorate) as well as ECRs (early-career researchers who have completed their studies within the past 5 years) to meet each other and collaborate in a supportive environment. PGR Network's aims and objectives are:

1. to offer an accessible opportunity for UKALTA PG and ECR members to network
2. to further build an online and face-to-face community of practice of UKALTA PG and ECR members
3. to support the language testing research community and new and emerging researchers working in the field of language testing
4. to encourage greater partnership between postgraduate students and early-career researchers to exchange information and research as well as to encourage discussions on language assessment on a broad range of languages in the UK

Current PGR Network steering group members are Elin Arfon (University of Cardiff), Jane Lloyd (Cambridge Assessment) and Olena Rossi (Lancaster University).
PGR events in 2021:

1. An inauguration event, held on 19th May. Included a presentation of PGR aims and proposed activities and networking in groups. All participants were invited to respond to a questionnaire that asked for participants' preferences for the types of activities to be hosted by the PGR Network, suggestions for the topics to discuss and recommendations for invited speakers.
2. Regular (every three weeks) coffee meetings to provide an informal meeting space for PGR Network members.
3. A workshop 'Quantitative and Qualitative Methods for Language Testing and Assessment Research', held on 6th October to discuss methodological and practical considerations related to the field of language testing and assessment. The event was opened with papers by two invited speakers, Dr. Vahid Aryadoust and Dr. Chihiro Inoue, followed by presentations by UKALTA PGs and ECRs.
4. An AGM & networking event, held on 27th November. Included a presentation of PGR aims, past and future activities, as well as networking in groups.

AGM 2020 minutes

Minutes of the UKALTA Annual General Meeting 2020

Held online via Zoom, 1.00pm, Thursday, 3 December 2020

Executive committee membership: Lynda Taylor (President), John Pill (Secretary), Nahal Khabbazbashi (Treasurer), Ide Haghi (Membership and Nominations Chair), Karen Dunn (Communications Officer)

1. Welcome and apologies

Lynda Taylor welcomed everyone to the AGM, held online due to the Covid-19 pandemic. She thanked the British Council and Richard Spiby for hosting the meeting. Apologies were received from Constant Leung. Lynda noted that the agenda and reports had been circulated in advance.

2. Approval of AGM 2019 minutes

The minutes of the 2019 AGM were approved.
Proposed: Ardeshir Geranpayeh, seconded: Nahal Khabbazbashi

3. President's report

Lynda highlighted her current goals: communicating with the UKALTA membership and strengthening the reputation and positioning of the association. Visibility has been increased through a refreshed and expanded website and with regular updates from the president sent to members, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic. An expert advisory group with clear terms of reference is now established to act flexibly as a sounding board for the committee.

Lynda reviewed the five aims and objectives for UKALTA and presented a slimmed-down version to characterise the association. These phrases provide the structure for her report.

1. Exchange of information and research

> The CEFR Symposium (February 2020) was held in collaboration with the British Council and EALTA to discuss future development of the CEFR following the publication of the Companion Volume. A steering group is revisiting the 2009 Manual, seeking to create a new handbook for aligning language education with the CEFR for a wide range of stakeholders. UKALTA members are involved in drafting chapters for this text.

> John Pill represented UKALTA in a symposium at the British Council New Directions East Asia online conference (October 2020), presenting information provided by UKALTA members on Covid-related disruption to testing and assessment.

> Lynda noted the success of the online Language Testing Forum event (November 2020).

> The goal of initiating a second UKALTA activity each year was held up by the disruption of 2020. Applications for 2021 are now sought.

> UKALTA is submitting a report for the ILTA newsletter and an article for the next IATEFL TEASIG newsletter.

2. Training and professional development

> UKALTA was invited by Bilkent University, Turkey to recommend two UKALTA members as presenters for a one-day pre-conference workshop to be held in June 2020. Dianne Schmitt and Huahui Zhao were to attend; however, the event was postponed to June 2021. Lynda noted the value of UKALTA acting as a conduit for such opportunities.

> Postgraduate student researchers have been affected by the challenges of 2020. UKALTA supported two events organised by others: Lancaster University's Language Testing Research Group offered a session for UK PhD students (May 2020), and CRELLA, University of Bedfordshire held an online research seminar (July 2020).

3. Collaboration across UK language education

> The Higher Education Academic Literacy (HEAL) Working Group presented an interim report at the AGM 2019 and was mandated to prepare specific costed proposals for follow-up action. This project has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent pressure on UK tertiary institutions. A position paper is in development setting out the kinds of evidence about language tests universities should collect to satisfy government bodies. The project will continue over the coming year.

> UKALTA contributed to the REF 2021 research audit process by making two nominations – for Parvaneh Tavakoli and Lynda Taylor – in addition to two prior nominations made in 2017. An equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) statement for the association was required as part of this process. Barry

O'Sullivan added that the panel lists are to be published very soon and he has been asked to join the panel for education (23c) as an impact assessor. Lynda congratulated Barry on this appointment.

4. Awareness-raising and advocacy

Lynda noted UKALTA's standing as a learned society and professional association and her ongoing involvement as UKALTA president in meetings of the British Academy and the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS). The initiative for an EDI policy for UKALTA was prompted by discussion at one of these meetings.

UKALTA has the right to nominate academics for Fellowship of the AcSS. The membership was asked to make suggestions for nominations, which have been considered by an appointed sub-committee chaired by John Slaght. Nominations have been made. Lynda thanked John and his committee for their work.

UKALTA submitted a letter of support of the British Council (whose funding was affected by the Covid pandemic) to the UK Government. Lynda noted the contribution of the British Council to the field of language testing and assessment.

5. Outreach and public engagement

Lynda noted the publication on the need for assessment literacy in the media that she authored with Luke Harding for the Campaign for Social Science Covid-19 online hub (an initiative of the AcSS).

Barry O'Sullivan formally thanked UKALTA for the letter of support for the British Council.

4. Treasurer's report

Nahal Khabbazbashi presented the annual report for 2020. See Appendix 1. She noted the generous sponsorship the association has received as sponsorship for LTF 2019 at Swansea University and the income generated by conference registrations. Apart from the conference, the main expenditure was a consultancy to update the UKALTA website, including its security.

Nahal noted that because LTF 2020 did not run in its full form, this opportunity to generate income has been lost. She thanked sponsors for their contributions to the online LTF event (offered at no cost to attendees). Nahal thanked Lynda for the president's sponsored walk which has generated further funds for UKALTA.

5. Communications Officer's report

Karen Dunn reported the full revision of the UKALTA website with updated security features to protect members' details. A member area is a new facility which can be exploited further. Mailchimp is now used for mailing, which provides a cleaner database and a clearer opt-in/opt-out function.

Karen has been seeking information about the last 10 years of LTF to present on the website. She thanked Ardeshir Geranpayeh for sharing his photographs from many previous LTF conferences.

She is keen to continue building the reach of the UKALTA Twitter account and asked for contributions.

6. Membership and Nominations Chair's report

Ide Haghi reported a total membership of 362 with 43 new members of UKALTA since the 2019 AGM. See Appendix 2.

7. Results of election for 2021 office holders

Ide announced the results of the election for committee roles starting in 2021:
- Secretary (2021-2023): Judith Fairbairn
- Two members of the Membership and Nominations Committee (2021): Tony Clark, Daniel Lam

She thanked all those who made nominations and those who agreed to stand for election. The elections were carried out online and candidates provided video introductions available on the UKALTA website.

Lynda noted that an investigation of online voting had been requested at the 2019 AGM and invited feedback on this from members.

Lynda thanked each committee member for their work this year.

8. Plans for LTF 2021

Luke Harding announced again the plan to hold LTF 2021 at Lancaster University. This was the intended venue of the 2020 event which was postponed. The conference will go ahead in 2021 as either an in-person event or, if this is not possible, a fully online event. The planned conference dates are 26-28 November 2021. It will conclude the 40th anniversary year of the Language Testing Forum.

9. Future UKALTA initiatives

Lynda presented a series of initiatives and encouraged members to share their views and priorities and to get involved in areas of interest.

Short-term initiatives:

- Learning more about the existing UKALTA membership – a survey is planned for 2021
- Further website development (reports, links to AGM/policy/procedures, affiliations)
- Constitutional amendments, including some to reflect experience of 2020 disruption
- Expanding the UKALTA Executive Committee, including members at large, for example
- Developing an equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) policy
- Building a UKALTA postgraduate researcher (PGR) network for UK-based students
- More UKALTA media/public advocacy work to promote language assessment literacy (LAL)
- Input to and support for LTF 2021
- Collaboration with 'peer' organisations: BAAL TEASIG, BALEAP TAFSIG, etc.

Longer-term initiatives:

- A 3-5 year strategic plan for UKALTA – who we want to be and what we want to be doing
- Seeking to ensure financial viability and sustainability for the association
- Developing the UKALTA membership structure, including member area on website
- Building a publicly available bank of UKALTA-badged, accessible resources (guidelines, policy documents, links to other sources) to support LAL in society more widely
- Developing a UKALTA research grant funding scheme

Karen Dunn asked if a new committee member might have the responsibility of developing a postgraduate researcher network. Lynda agreed that this would be the route to explore.

10. Any other business

Nahal thanked Lynda for her leadership of UKALTA in a difficult year.

Jamie Dunlea commended the connection made with the field of modern foreign language teaching community through the plenary talk at the LTF event. He asked for concrete actions to extend UKALTA's outreach in this direction in UK schools and universities.

Lynda noted that one of the plenary speakers has invited her to talk at a UCML event and encouraged other UKALTA members to continue developing such links. Further areas might include community language learning, heritage language learning and signing. By being strategic, UKALTA will be able to achieve a great deal.

Jamie pointed out the need for assessment expertise in the current situation in UK schooling and the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Lynda promoted relationship building but was cautious about UKALTA assuming it can provide the answers.

Lynda thanked everyone for attending. The meeting ended at 2.05pm.

Appendix 1 – Treasurer's report (2020)

UKALTA Treasurer's Report (AGM 2020)			
Details	**Income**	**Details**	**Outgoing**
Opening Balance (*2019 report*)	15,008.75	LTF 2019 Catering & Venue Hire	7281.53
LTF 2019 Sponsorships	6,400.00	LTF 2019 speaker expenses	246.50
LTF 2019 Registration *includes dinner and workshop*	5,180.73	LTF 2019 Workshop	300.00
		LTF 2019 committee expenses	1601.18
Total (income)	**26,589.48**	Consultancy (website)	2000.00
		Website maintenance	22.92
		AcSS membership	300.00
		Total (expense)	**11,752.13**
		Closing Balance	**14,837.35**

Appendix 2 – Membership report (2020)

UKALTA
UK Association for Language Testing and Assessment

Membership and Nominations Chair's report

Total member number: 362 (as of 25 November 2020)
New members since LTF 2019:   43
Professional roles of new members:

Pie chart legend:
- Testing/Assessment practitioner — 16%
- Academic Researcher — 14%
- Language Teachers — 12%
- Students — 23%
- Administrator — 2%
- Other — 33%