

## UK Dimensions

This paper updates on recent developments surrounding HE sport at UK level.

### UK Universities Sport

- New Chair: Ed Smith has been appointed as the first chair of UKUS. He will take up his new position in January after retiring from his current role as Global Assurance Chief Operating Officer with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Ed comes with a rich experience of high level business and committee working, and will lead the formation and launch of UKUS, including the appointment of its new CEO.
- BUSA and UCS are continuing the structural planning of UKUS. This will be fuelled by the formation of three 'task and finishing groups'. Each group will establish its own terms of reference ~ membership and remits are:
  - Finance ~ Neil Park to convene, with inputs from Dave Rogers and Tay Attwell. Membership of Stew Ross, Zena Wooldridge, Jim Aitken, Nigel Mayglothling, Tom Noble and Phil Attwell. Group will propose operating budget for 2008-09, including membership subscriptions.
  - Marketing/Brand/Name ~ Hannah Marshall to convene. Membership of Neil Mosley, Glendon O'Donovan, Stuart Wade, Chris Lightfoot and Andy Refearn. Remit to marketing strategy and launch plans.
  - Structure ~ Fiona Rennie to convene, with input from Neil Park/Legal Advisor. Membership of Vince Mayne, Karen Boag, Sarah Hogg, Jenny Brown, Ed Nicholas and Hannah Poulton. Remit is to set out terms of reference for committees (titles, membership, meeting cycles etc).
- UKUS goes 'live' from January'08 and will 'shadow' UCS/BUSA until they are dissolved in June. The new organisation will be adopted formally at the UKUS Conference (formerly BUSA/UCS) at the University of Sussex in July.

### National Activity Student Survey

- This year's NASS survey census week will take place from 26 Nov-2 Dec'07. HEIs will be asked to complete and return three discreet elements: facility footfall; sporting representation and general activity survey. Full details will be posted on UCS' web site and mailed direct to lead Department and AU contacts. Every University will be encouraged to take part (with incentives) and UCS is hopeful of exceeding the impressive results of last year's inaugural survey (c 22,000 individual responses).

The information below has been supplied by Neil Park in his role as consultant to UKUS.

### Volunteering

- BUSA agreed to commit to spend £20,000 to fund a new post to support the increasing opportunities for volunteering within the sector and their onward retention and development.

- This will be matched by £20, 000 from UCS and we would hope that this would be for a three year period, with potential additional significant financial input from other partners.
- This would be a post with a UK wide remit, supporting ongoing work within Scotland and working in tandem with the proposed HEFCE funded regional posts throughout England.
- The specifics of the remit will focus on the role being more project co-ordination than development as such, ensuring that the work done in this area across the country is of a consistent high standard, develops best practice and provides a range of robust and generic resources for implementation in the nations and regions.
- A job description and person specification have been developed and will be finalised shortly for recruitment in the next few months.

## **Disability**

- With support from the Podium programme, ParaSport and other partners, including BUSA/UCS, the needs and terms of reference for a new post to support the development of opportunities for participation within HE for disabled athletes are being worked up.
- An initial scoping meeting for such a role was held on 12 October in Nottingham to hear of the findings of research into this area by Nottingham University and to discuss the need etc for such a post, again to work on developing participation, access, best practice and communication.
- It is hoped that this will be a two year post initially, again to link with what's happening nationally / regionally on behalf of disabled athletes at university.

<b>Actions</b>
<p>Executive is invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the progress being made in establishing UKUS.</li> <li>• Decide how SUS' structure can best fit with UKUS, including financial/membership contributions.</li> <li>• Commit the dates of NASS into diaries and support data gathering during 26 Nov-2 Dec'07.</li> <li>• Note the information supplied by Neil Park concerning Volunteering and Disability</li> </ul>