

## **Report from 2008 for Academy of International Business, UK and Ireland Chapter**

### **Introduction**

The Chapter had a very successful year. The annual conference continues to be very healthy and it attracts high quality papers and outstanding keynote speakers. The doctoral colloquium, under the leadership of Professor Marian Jones, has been developed in terms of numbers and quality. The colloquium provides panels of experts in international business research to give help and advice to doctoral students in the field of international business. Professor Jones completed her term as doctoral convenor, and was replaced by Dr Anna Morgan-Thomas. Marian has created a very successful doctoral colloquium and has established systems and networks that have substantially enhanced the contribution of the Chapter to promoting high quality training in International Business research. This forms a good basis on which we intend to build our contribution towards training the future generation of researchers in International Business. The chapter continued to develop links with Learned Academies in the UK in order to enhance the ability of the Chapter to further the interests of International Business research, teaching and engagement with user communities in the UK. We were especially pleased that the School of Business at Trinity College Dublin had agreed to host the 2010 annual conference. This will provide a further opportunity to develop links between the International Business communities in the UK and Ireland.

### **Current and Incoming Officers**

The Annual Members Meeting elected Dr Anna Morgan-Thomas of the University of Glasgow as doctoral convenor. A list of the current Officers of the Academy of International Business, UK and Ireland Chapter with their contact details is available on the web site of the Chapter <http://www.aib-uki.org>

### **Summary of Financial Status**

The annual meeting was presented with a Statement of Accounts for the year 2008. These accounts reveal that the financial position of the Chapter is very healthy and provides a good basis to develop the work of the Chapter. A copy of the statement of accounts for the year 2008 is attached to this report.

### **Annual Conference Report**

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the UK Chapter of the Academy of International Business was held at Portsmouth Business School on March 28-29<sup>th</sup> 2008. The conference chair was Colin Wheeler and members of the organising committee included Valerie Anderson, Chris Fill (Portsmouth Business School) and Rudolf Sinkovics (University of Manchester). There were 110 registered delegates who came from all over the world.

The theme of the conference was 'Challenges to International Business'. Michael Stephenson from the Climate Change Programme at IBM UK gave the keynote address

on 'The response of international business to climate change'. In a lively presentation he set out the challenges facing international business and the options for change. His address was followed by a panel discussion. Panel members were Peter Buckley (Centre for International Business, University of Leeds), Stephen Young (Centre for Internationalisation and Enterprise Research, University of Glasgow) and Niina Nummela (Turku School of Economics). As a result of these deliberations 'The response of international business to climate change' will be a standing item at future AIB (UK&I) conferences.

In total, 72 competitive papers were accepted for presentation at the conference, and there were 25 submissions to the Doctoral Colloquium which was organised by Marian Jones (University of Glasgow). The *Palgrave Award for the Best Competitive Paper* was awarded to Angelika Zimmermann, Xiaohui Liu & Trevor Buck (Loughborough University). The *Michael Z. Brooke Doctoral Prize*, awarded to the doctoral researcher who presented the best paper in the competitive stream of the Doctoral Colloquium, was awarded to Elena Beleska-Spasova (University of Sheffield) and the *Neil Hood and Stephen Young Prize for the Most Original New Work*, awarded to the doctoral researcher who presented the 'best new research', went to Sigrun Wagner (Loughborough University).

Kevin Ibeh (University of Strathclyde), Sheena Davies and Ray French (Portsmouth Business School) will now produce an edited volume of papers from the conference, to be published in 2009 as volume 16 in the Palgrave book series. The papers will all be related to the conference theme of 'Challenges to International Business', and the book will be published in time for the 2009 Conference to be held at the University of Glasgow.

Finally mention should be made of the conference dinner held on board HMS Warrior, an iron-clad, sail and steam battleship built in 1860. Now part of the Royal Naval Historic Dockyard at Portsmouth she provided an elegant setting for what was a special evening.

Colin Wheeler  
Conference Chair,

### **Plan for Future Meetings**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual conference of the Academy of International Business, UK and Ireland Chapter will take place in March 2009 and will be hosted by Centre for Internationalisation and Enterprise Research at the University of Glasgow. Professors Marian Jones and Stephen Young will chair the organising committee for the conference.

The Call for Papers and an outline of the Doctoral Colloquium for the Conference are available on the web site of the Chapter <http://www.aib-uki.org>

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Academy of International Business, UK and Ireland Chapter will take place in April 2010 and will be hosted by the School of Business at Trinity College Dublin and Professors Colm Kearney and Frank Barry will chair the organising committee.

## **Other Initiatives**

### **The relationship the Chapter to other Academies in Business and Management in the UK**

The Academy of International Business UK and Ireland Chapter has been engaged in discussions with UK Learned Academies in the Business and Management area. This group includes the British Academy of Management, Academy of Marketing, Operations Research Society and the Institute of Small Business and Entrepreneurship. This informal group is seeking to establish an umbrella organization to represent the Business and Management Studies community in the UK and to seek to develop joint approaches from the Learned Academies to boost the status of Business and Management Studies in UK governmental and research circles. The Chapter will be part of this umbrella organization and will promote, through this umbrella organization, the interests of International Business in research, teaching and user community engagement in the UK.

## **Future Plans**

The Chapter plans to continue to develop our successful conferences to attract significant numbers of academics that have interests in international business research but that are also connected to other research areas. We will also seek to expand our doctoral colloquium to help to develop the future generation of researchers in international business. On the basis of the interest, expressed at the Portsmouth Conference, on International Business research and sustainability issues connected to climate change, the Chapter will seek to promote the development of research agendas and research programmes on this important issue. A special track at the Annual Conference in Glasgow in 2009 will seek to further this objective. The Chapter will continue to seek to work with other Learned Academies in the UK to promote the area of international business research and teaching within the wider framework of Business and Management Studies in the UK. The Chapter will seek to continue to develop Irish membership of the Chapter and to stimulate increased cooperation between Irish and UK based International Business academics.

Frank McDonald

Chair of the Academy of International Business UK and Ireland Chapter

**Academy of International Business  
(UK & Ireland Chapter)  
Accounts presented at the Members' Meeting  
Portsmouth, March 29<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Income and Expenditure**

Income

Surplus from Manchester Conference (April 2006)	£3250.00
Surplus from King's College London Conference (April 2007)	£6752.42
Advance royalties from Palgrave for book from KCL Conference	£400.00
Net interest	£100.05
	£10502.47

Expenditure

Attendance at Meetings of Executive Committee	£2751.72
Attendance at BAM Conference on Research Excellence Framework	£225.30

£2977.02

**Balance Sheet**

Balance brought forward @ 31/12/2006	£19266.71
Income	£10502.47
Expenditure	£2977.02
Balance carried forward @ 29/3/2008	£26792.16

Roger Strange  
Treasurer  
March 29<sup>th</sup> 2008