Report from the RSS Academic Affairs Advisory Group

COPS Annual Meeting 2014

AAAG membership

- Currently:
  - Kevin McConway (RSS Vice-President for Academic Affairs),
  - Deborah Ashby
  - Bill Browne
  - Michael Goldstein
  - Valerie Isham
  - Fiona Steele
  - Charles Taylor.
- *We need at least one other member for 2015*.
  - Any RSS fellow who is interested in the work would be welcome.
- Olivia Varley-Winter (RSS Policy and Research Manager) provides administrative and policy development support for AAAG.

AAAG (and related) activities in the past year

- Advice to RSS representatives on the Council for the Mathematical Sciences (CMS):
  - *Discussions on education (encouraged by Adrian Smith, the new CMS Chair).*
  - *Discussions with EPSRC (including CDTs/doctoral training, 'people pipeline', research funding).*
  - *Shared research policy.*
  - *Parliamentary events.*
  - *Alan Turing Institute.*
  - *Turing Gateway.*
- Input to EPSRC Statistics and Applied Probability Review Day.
- 'Big data' and data science.

AAAG (and related) activities in the past year

- 5 AAAG meetings, including presentations and discussions: Mark Gittoes (HEFCE) and Gordon Marshall (Leverhulme Trust)
- Sessions at RSS conference in Newcastle (September 2013), on research funding and on careers/people pipeline (with RSS Professional Affairs).
- Internal RSS matters:
  - *Read paper meetings.*
  - *Methodology at RSS Conference.*
  - *Applied probability in RSS journals.*
- Input to consultations (BIS, HEFCE, UUK, ESRC, EPSRC, QAA, EU, British Academy, and I've probably forgotten some).
- Co-ordinating nominations to EPSRC and NERC strategic bodies.

Future AAAG work includes…

- More of the above!

- Sessions at RSS Exeter conference.

- Meetings with research funders.

- Further development of higher education policy.

- Some implications from implementation of Long Term Strategy Group recommendations for change.

Kevin McConway

Department of Mathematics and Statistics
The Open University
Walton Hall
Milton Keynes
MK7 6AA

kevin.mcconway@open.ac.uk