UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMPUTER LABORATORY

Chairman: Ms J M Samols   **Secretary: Ms J M Samols**

Minutes of the thirty-seventh meeting of the Outreach Committee held at 16:00 on Wednesday 13th January 2016 in the Computer Laboratory, William Gates Building, JJ Thomson Avenue.

Present   Dr RK Harle
                 Mr T Levinson
                 Mrs D Pounds
                 Dr B Roman
                 Mrs M Sammons
                 Ms JM Samols

1. **Coding Summer School**

   Jan Samols thanked Tom Levinson, from CAO, for attending the meeting. She explained that the committee wished to understand what the CAO required to allow it to fully endorse a Computer Lab coding summer school for girls.

   Tom Levinson explained that the CAO encompassed three distinct entities: Widening Participation; Student Recruitment and Information; and Admissions. He noted that Widening Participation would only endorse the summer school if it met both strict applications criteria and was fully funded by sponsorship (or donations), thereby obviating the need to charge any fees. However, Tom suggested that Student Recruitment and Information were not bound by such rigorous access criteria and would be able to provide some publicity.

   Jan Samols explained that the Laboratory would need to secure substantial sponsorship to enable it hold a summer school without recourse to fees. She suggested that adequate sponsorship would likely only be forthcoming if sponsors saw that the school had full support from the University. Therefore she asked Tom to provide precise details of the requirements demanded by Widening Participation.

   Tom Levinson expressed the CAO's disappointment that the Computer Laboratory was not participating in the Cambridge Sutton Trust Summer Schools 2016. Jan Samols confirmed that the department fully supported the initiative and she hoped that it would be able to participate in 2017. Rob Harle asked whether there was flexibility in the number of students offered places; he noted that the Laboratory would favour a summer school that offered at least 40 places (against the 20+ commonly available). Tom Levinson suggested that there was a degree of flexibility and that any issues could be addressed.

2. **Oxbridge Conferences**

   Jan Samols noted that CAO required the names of those participating in the Oxbridge Conferences. Rob Harle agreed to send an email to all DoS to enlist volunteers.

3. **DfE funding**

   Bogdan Roman informed the committee that he had been in conversation with DAMTP about STEP support; he noted that the DfE funded a STEP correspondence course. The committee supported his proposal to approach the DfE about possible support for the Lab's widening participation initiatives.

4. The date of the next meeting is dependent upon the receipt of further detailed information from Tom Levinson.