

## **Engagement, Policy and Communications Committee: Terms of Reference**

The primary responsibilities and functions of BISA's Communications, Engagement and Policy Committee are as follows:

1. To further BISA's strategy of achieving greater presence, participation and influence in policy debates relating to higher education, research and teaching
2. To oversee its activities in engaging with relevant policy developments, and advise the Chairs and the Board of Trustees appropriately
3. To identify and develop opportunities to support the discipline in non-academic engagement and the achievement of 'impact' for research in international studies
4. To pursue opportunities for 'outreach' activities, including in relation to schools, with a view to promoting international studies and membership of BISA
5. To oversee the development of the necessary capacity and a clear vision for BISA's communications, including through social media, to promote international studies, enhance membership of BISA, and communicate effectively with members, the discipline and wider communities.

Due to present constraints on capacity, our short-term aims need to remain realistic. For 2016/17, our key priorities are:

1. To continue concerted engagement, in cooperation with PSA as appropriate, with policy processes surrounding REF and TEF
2. To explore possible partnerships which would facilitate opportunities and platforms for BISA (and the discipline) in relation to non-academic engagement, such as with Chatham House or similar partners
3. To develop imaginative ways of promoting BISA and the international studies community in the non-academic world
4. To further the agreed priority of enhancing our capacity for effective communications, both within the discipline and beyond it, and oversee the development of a clear vision for our communications strategy.

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