

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2007

Dear Colleague



**Re: BEFRED changes and BEF Research Portfolio Update**

Further to the letter circulated in June I am writing to update you with changes to BEFRED and provide an update on the BEF Research Portfolio.

BEFRED has recently undergone an upgrade, made up of several facets. The first gives Authors the ability to include more information on their work. Authors can now specify whether the work uploaded has been peer reviewed, and the level at which this has occurred. A further box entitled "Publication Link" has been added, with additional functionality which has also been extended to the "Additional Information" box. This functionality enables the Author to format, spell check and include hyperlinks in the information about their Abstract. Full details about these changes can be found on the updated Author and AEP Instructions included within this letter.

BEFRED also has three new pages:

1. Journals and Organisations
2. Research Opportunities
3. Conferences

The Journals and Organisations page will contain information about those Journals and Organisations who are linked to BEFRED. As more Journals and Organisations are approached, and approve links with BEFRED, this page will grow. The Research Opportunities and Conferences pages have been created to be populated with information that you would like advertised to the equestrian public, whether it be the academic community or general public. For example, if you have a vacancy for a PhD studentship this can be advertised through BEFRED. If you have a conference to be publicised details can be included. It is also anticipated that these additional pages will increase the numbers of hits to the website. Please contact me if you would like to upload anything onto these pages.

Abstracts are currently being uploaded onto BEFRED by a number of Institutions. Some of these are from the recently completed academic year, whilst others are historical. If you would like to be able to upload Abstracts from your Establishment, and you are yet to register for an AEP account, please contact me and I will set one up for you.

The process of uploading Abstracts will be reviewed later this year. If you wish to have input into this you will need to be registered for an AEP account, and have uploaded a number of abstracts.

A poster is currently being created to encourage students to upload Abstracts in the coming academic year. It has been designed to be a part of dissertation module handbooks, and also to be displayed on relevant notice boards. It will be circulated at the end of August or beginning of September.

The first group of Journals and Organisations have been contacted to establish whether they would be happy for their abstracts to be uploaded onto BEFRED. So far the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the British Society of Animal Science have both replied positively. Responses are awaited from the rest of the group. When positive replies have been received the Journals and Organisations will be posted onto the new page of BEFRED. If you have any suggestions as to Journals and Organisations to be contacted in the next round please let me know.

The concept of the Research Lead Body, as discussed at the meetings in November, is actively being pursued. I have been approached by a number of people who would like to be involved with this. The BEF is also planning to establish an Advisory Group for BEFRED. If you would like to be involved with either of these groups, please contact me by the end of September.

To keep abreast of developments, please log on to the BEF's website at [http://www.bef.co.uk/Equine\\_Research](http://www.bef.co.uk/Equine_Research)

If you would like any further information, or to discuss the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

*Georgina*

Georgina Crossman  
MBA BA(Hons) PGCE(FAHE) CGLI  
[gkcrossman@hotmail.com](mailto:gkcrossman@hotmail.com)

Enc Updated AEP Instructions  
Updated Author Instructions