



Wednesday 15th October 2008

Dear Colleague

Re: BEFRED changes and BEF Research Portfolio Update

Further to the letter circulated in April I am writing to detail recent changes to BEFRED and provide an update on the BEF Research Portfolio.

A number of Abstracts have been uploaded over the summer, by various Institutions. Thank you to those Institutions who have taken part and supported BEFRED. You can upload Abstracts any time of the year – if you would like an AEP account please contact me. Abstracts from EVJ, EVE and Comparative Exercise Physiology are also periodically being uploaded. Keep an eye on the “Research Items in BEFRED” box, which can be found in the menu on the left hand side of the screen on BEFRED, to watch the numbers creep up. I am still compiling a further list of journals to approach, so if you have any other suggestions please let me know.

During the summer two meetings were held at Stoneleigh to progress the BEF’s Research Portfolio. Both of these groups comprise representatives from FE/HE Colleges, HE Equine Colleges, HE non-Equine Colleges, Vet Colleges, Vets, Research Institutions and the Commercial/Industry sector. A full list of representatives is attached to this letter. The first, in July, was the initial meeting of the Equine Research Steering Group. This meeting was very fruitful – a number of action points were created and are being worked upon as we speak. The next meeting of this group will be held in December. September saw the inaugural meeting of the BEFRED Advisory Group – this meeting will be an annual meeting, held at the beginning of the academic year to review the previous year’s activity. Both of these groups will communicate through a secure forum that has been set up. If you would like any further information about either of these groups please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Conference page on BEFRED is currently being well utilised – details of three future conferences can currently be found there. If you would like details of a conference you are running, or a research opportunity you have, to be included on BEFRED please contact me.

To keep abreast of developments, log on to the BEF's website at 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

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