



Friday 25th April 2008

Dear Colleague

Re: BEFRED changes and BEF Research Portfolio Update

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

As I mentioned in January, we have been given permission to upload Abstracts from the EVJ and EVE. We now also have permission to upload Abstracts from Comparative Exercise Physiology (formerly Equine and Comparative Exercise Physiology). The BEF would like to thank David and Katy for making this possible. Abstracts from 2007 and 2008 from EVJ have been uploaded, while all those available from the first to current publications of Comparative and Exercise Physiology have been uploaded – links to the full paper on the journals' respective websites are provided. I am still compiling a further list of journals to approach later in the year, so if you have any other suggestions please let me know.

Mid-April saw a meeting at Stoneleigh of all those who had expressed an interest in being involved in either the BEFRED Advisory Group and/or Equine Research Group. This was an extremely positive meeting, with many ideas coming forward for the progression of BEFRED and the representation of Equine Research within the BEF. As a result of this meeting the BEFRED Advisory Group has been established, and will hold its first annual meeting in September. An Equine Research Steering Group has also been formed, with its first meeting in July. 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 will be circulated after the inaugural meetings of each group.

Undergraduate dissertation deadlines are currently passing up and down the country, please encourage your students to upload their Abstracts onto BEFRED at the appropriate time. Remember, no Abstract will be available to the public on BEFRED without the approval of the Authorised Establishment Personnel (AEP). If you would like your Establishment to be included on BEFRED, or would like an AEP account to authorise Abstracts, please email me. I will be contacting Establishments to let them know when they have had Abstracts on the system that have been unauthorised for four weeks. Attached to this letter are updated instructions for the uploading and authorisation of Abstracts onto BEFRED – the changes are minor and have been introduced to help the process.

The Journals and Organisations, Research Ops and Conferences pages on BEFRED are beginning to be populated – encourage students to use this facility by viewing the pages. If you have anything you would like to add to these sections send me an email with details.

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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