**The Entrepreneurship in Minority Groups Special Interest Group (SIG)**

**of the Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ISBE)**

Chair’s report for the 1st AGM: Thursday 14 November from 4.50 – 5.30pm at the ISBE Annual Conference at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Newcastle.

1. **Background**

The SIG concept was proposed at the Entrepreneurship in Minority Groups conference track at ISBE 2018 – one year ago. The proposal was submitted to the ISBE Board in January 2019 and accepted in February.

SIG aims and objectives.

The SIG aims are:

- To facilitate knowledge exchange between researchers, academics, policymakers and the business community internationally

- To provide space for the development of research ideas and collaboration between doctoral students, early career researchers to senior colleagues; and to aid the dissemination and publication of work of under-represented groups

Its objectives are:

- To promote research and knowledge networks and events which facilitate research, development and information exchange within and between minority groups.

- To advance publication of excellent research in journals and other publications, through and beyond the annual conference track.

Committee

The committee proposing the SIG included:

Proposed Chair(s): Professor David Rae & Dr Tom Domboka

Proposed Organising Committee additionally included:

Samuel Ebie, Seun Kolade, Olutayo Korede

David Rae, Tom Domboka

The founding committee stand down at the AGM and individuals may stand for re-election.

1. **Activities over past 6 months May-November 2019**

The launch of EMG SIG took place at DMU on 9 May 2019. It was addressed by Prof Kiran Trehan and Prof Monder Ram as honoured guests representing both ISBE and the best traditions in Minorities Entrepreneurship research. The launch was attended by over 30 people.

The SIG was represented at the ‘Frontiers of African Entrepreneurship Research’ conference held at De Montfort University on 13-14 June 2019. Members have also represented the SIG by their contributions to conferences and seminars by CRÈME, BAM, and other organisations.

The scope for additional events between the launch and the ISBE conference was limited by the Summer and the decision to focus on supporting the EMG conference track through proposing and reviewing papers. We see the results presented here.

**3. Membership**

47 members are registered with ISBE. All contributors to the Track are invited to join and membership is free to all researchers in the field, specifically including PhD students.

1. **Financial report**

The budget for year 1 allocated from ISBE was £1500. Costs incurred at the launch of catering and travel were £371 leaving a balance of £1129. A social/networking event for members was scheduled at the conference. The unspent budget is undesirable and the aim will be to commit the full budget to activities consistent with the SIG goals in 2020.

1. **Proposed activities for the next year**

At least two events will be organised in 2020. The Open Forum at the AGM will generate suggestions for these.

Update: There will be an event hosted by CRÈME at Aston University in May-June 2020.

Offers are invited from any members who wish to organise and host a small event, such as a seminar or Doctoral workshop on a topic such as writing for publication, between January-April 2020.

Chairs: Professor David Rae, Dr Tom Domboka, 11 November 2019

The Minutes of the AGM held on 14 November 2019 are appended.