From: Evan Dawson
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Dear RPS Trustees, staff, volunteers and friends

Some nice things to share with you this week, so I'll keep my own summary quite brief.

On **Monday**, **Andy Golding** and I reviewed the RPS's developing approach to inclusion; together with **Nikki** and **Michael**, I met with a potential developer for our **CRM** project, which was very promising; and I spoke with **Mike Taylor** about his work on the **governance** review.

On **Tuesday**, we had our monthly **all-staff meeting** online, which was really good. We covered lots of ground, in particular sharing ideas from the front of house team about the changes we could make to the building next year to make it more attractive and interactive. I think we all felt very excited about it. I also caught up with **Emily** about the use of photographs on the RPS website, and with **Michael** and **Nikki** about a potential partnership with the **Open College of the Arts**. In the afternoon, we had our **Monthly Managers Meeting** (mmm) at which we shared lots of useful experiences and concerns. Finally, I met up with the PR company that does all the marketing for Paintworks, to see where we might fit better into their plans.

On **Wednesday**, **Mike** presented his interim governance work to the trustees for discussion. It was great to finally see where he had reached, after so many conversations with people within the RPS and beyond it. In the afternoon, I had a catchup with **Simon Hill** during which we tried to count all the different "balls in the air" that we have at the moment. It's a lot!

On **Thursday**, **Mike** presented the governance work to the **Representatives Committee**, and it was really heartening to see such a supportive and informed conversation. I feel it's the sign of a very healthy organisation that so many people are prepared to be interested in its governance, and help us to improve it.

This morning started with another trustees meeting, to review the comments we'd received yesterday, and plan the next steps. Also, I sent out the first "Trustee Talks" document, which I hope you all received and enjoyed. I've had some very good feedback to this already.

Also this week, I watched the following fascinating talk from the Digital Imaging Group this week, with Brook Jensen:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A90MVqgV-hc&feature=youtu.be

Emily wrote this today:

> Hi everyone, I just wanted to say how extraordinarily proud I was of all the content that is on the home page today!
>
> We have:
>
> The Giles Duley HonFRPS talk (Contemporary Group)

Documentary Degree (Education dept)
Announcement of the 162 in Bristol (Exhibitions dept)
Simon Roberts HonFRPS talk (Distinctions dept)
A feature on David Hockney (Journal)
Science Photographer of the Year (Exhibitions dept)
Pink Lady Food Photographer of the Year (Comms dept)
The First Women of Photography talk (Director of Education and Public Affairs)
Rehab Eldalil talk – Collaboration in Visual Story Telling (Contemporary talk)
Exposure Competition (Membership dept)
Membership Offer (Membership/Comms depts)
Home page competition (Website dept)

Please do take a moment to look at the RPS website today, it really is a terrific representation of many different facets of the RPS. www.rps.org

Peter Hayes wrote:

I would like to highlight a particular achievement within Distinctions. We recently conducted the first assessment of this new panel, and I am delighted to say that we had successes at all three levels of Distinction. The submissions will be posted on the RPS website soon and will be used to encourage further applications in 2021.

Praise should go to Max Robinson FRPS, who chairs the panel, for all his hard work in setting things up. Max has worked tirelessly to spread the word and marshal his world-class assessors, which include both Academy award and BAFTA nominees.

The new panel will also assess Audio-Visual work, so we would like to appeal to anyone within the AV field to submit their applications when they are ready. The guidelines are here: https://rps.org/media/yjyb2izh/film-digital-and-multimedia.pdf

Andy Moore added:

We have 23 new Licentiates this week, which is great news! plus out first new Film successes, with two new Fellows, one Associate and one Licentiate. The two Fellows, one is a Bafta award winner and the other has worked with Take That! https://www.zacmacaulay.com/portfolio/take-that-wonderland-tour-behind-the-scenes/

Also we had Sue Flood's FRPS talk yesterday, which 365 watched, people joined us from Australia, France, Germany, India and Hong Kong, plus also an 8 year old, who asked Sue a question via chat on zoom! Sue has worked with David Attenborough on Blue Planet and most of the other series David's done. The comments about Sue's talk on the Distinctions Facebook page were

ecstatic.

Sue Floods's talk will be available soon via this link, which has all the talks so far
www.rps.org/distinctions-talks

Rhys Jones writes:

> Just a short email to let you know that two of our RPS members in South WalesRegion, Jo Haycock and Lucy Purrington, have had work selected for the Ffotogallery Cardiff Many Voices One Nation 2 Exhibition. This is a partnership between Ffotogallery and the Senedd set up to commemorate 20 years of devolution in Wales. More details on the link.
>
> https://www.ffotogallery.org/channel/many-voices-one-nation-2?fbclid=IwAR1_oLD0QcSC1plfUTP7rFoYlzKKXgFrKBrHHw4xergQOHvdr1n0P1sz2rM

Andy Golding reports:

> I presented our cinematography award on Saturday for the Watershed Encounters festival. Normally a wonderful live event in their cinema and bar, but this year on Zoom.
>
> We give a prize for one of the 90-second films submitted for the Dpict award. I'm on the shortlisting panel with Liz Williams; our final film is selected by a leading cinematographer who we have given an honorary award too - this year Annemarie Lean–Vercoe FRPS
>
> '...The Royal Photographic Society Cinematography Award, which carries a £1000 cash prize and invaluable exposure went to The Wall (Iran) by director Fareideh Naderi with cinematography by Hamid Ghavami which the Jury described as "visually striking; with each shot using light and framing to drive the narrative forward to create a poignant portrait of a society divided."'
>
> Click the link to see the film - no better way to spend 90 seconds !

Next week is budget week... I'll be speaking with all the managers several times I expect! I'm also speaking to references for the IT companies we've been talking to about the CRM project, and having strategic conversations with senior staff at Arts Council England and Arts Council Wales. I'm taking a day of holiday next Friday, as I'm appearing on Only Connect (BBC2)…

I hope you're enjoying my weekly Snapshots, and please do send me anything

you'd like me to share. I would be grateful if chairs and ROs could circulate this to their group members, if appropriate - and if you are receiving this indirectly, do drop me a line if you'd like me to add your email to the circulation list.

As always, please keep in touch, and do let me know if you'd like to discuss anything.

Happy weekending!

Evan

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