

Annual Report 2022



British
Acupuncture
Accreditation
Board

Introduction

I am delighted to provide this introduction as the new Chair of the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board (BAAB). BAAB has had another successful year overall but not been without its challenges. Since the last annual report, there have been several changes within the Board at both the executive and nonexecutive positions. These are detailed in the annual report that follows this introduction and I am grateful for the excellent contributions and advice provided by past and current members. Although the finances of BAAB are stable, strains being shared by all organisations involved in acupuncture include the legacy of the COVID epidemic on clinical and training activities in combination with inflationary pressures. In response to these challenges, BAAB is working closely with BAoC, the Council of Heads of Acupuncture Courses (CHAC) and other relevant organisations to ensure that students are provided with the highest quality training and that patients can be confident in the treatment they receive.

BAAB itself was established in 1995 as a company to ensure high standards of professional acupuncture education throughout the United Kingdom. It is an independent non-profit private company responsible for co-ordinating the acupuncture education accreditation process for the British Acupuncture Council (BAoC), from pre-registration honours degree level onwards. It is funded by the BAoC and the educational Course Providers who are in a formal relationship with BAAB.

The Board of Directors includes acupuncturists, non-acupuncturists, regulated healthcare professionals, members of the higher education profession and people who represent the public interest. Directors of the Company include nominees from the BAoC, and from the Council for Heads of Acupuncture Courses. The Chair is a lay person, and the Vice Chair is an acupuncturist. The key role of the Board is to make decisions on course accreditations, and accreditation policies, procedures, and strategy. The Board has a wealth of expertise and experience within it and benefits from the Accreditation Committee recommendations in carrying out its role. The Board operates with integrity, following the seven principles of public life, including managing any potential conflicts of interest.

The Lead Accreditation Officer provides coordination between the Board and the Accreditation Committee and is the principal officer responsible to the Chairs of the Board and the Accreditation Committee for the effective operational running of both bodies. The Lead Accreditation Officer ensures that accreditation policies and procedures are followed to a high standard and works with the Boards to maintain and develop a rolling Strategic Plan.

BAAB delegates the accreditation process to the Accreditation Committee, chaired by a non-acupuncturist, which is composed of experienced acupuncturists, educationalists and lay people who have a range and variety of knowledge and experience. An Accreditation Officer works in support of the Lead Accreditation Officer in the accreditation process. The Accreditation Committee prepares a programme of work and an accreditation visit schedule is agreed with the education providers and the Board. All accreditation visits are undertaken by a team drawn from the Accreditation Committee and external educational, professional, and lay people relevant to the particular education provider. All education providers also complete an Annual Monitoring Audit requiring them to review their courses self critically and to identify significant issues and developments.

BAAB's accreditation process for new and continuing acupuncture education Course Providers is developmental and encourages improvement and innovation at the pre-registration level and beyond, with support when required. There is a rigorous approach to the process of review in accreditation and re-accreditation that demonstrates the commitment of the acupuncture profession to public health, to the public and to the maturity of the profession. This has been recognised by the

Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care which oversees all professional health regulation in the United Kingdom and supports BAAB acupuncture education accreditation. The accreditation standards set by BAcC that underpin this process are high. They include education provider viability, acupuncture content and practice, student support and education provided at honours degree or higher level.

As this is the first introduction, I have written on behalf of BAAB, I include some relevant information about my own background; I have an interest in good governance and quality control for health-related educational provision with senior management experience in several HEIs, including previously being Deputy Vice Chancellor/Vice Principal at Plymouth University and at Queen Mary, University of London. I am a clinician scientist, practicing as a clinical gastroenterologist and adopt a holistic approach to healthcare issues. I also hold roles as Professor of Molecular Medicine at University West London, adjunct Professor at University College Cork, Chairman of the Herbal Medicine Advisory Committee of the MHRA, and member of Policy & Education Committee of the General Osteopathy Council. These roles act synergistically, providing valuable insights into issues shared across the health provider and education sectors.

I hope you enjoy reading this annual report.



**Professor Raymond John Playford FAcadMedSci, FRCP, FRCPath, DSc.
Chair of the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board**

Chair's Report for the 33rd Annual General Meeting April 2023

The primary role of the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board (BAAB) is to work with the British Acupuncture Council (BAC) to undertake arm's length accreditation of acupuncture education courses in the United Kingdom. Both organisations are independent but need to cooperate closely. BAAB's autonomy ensures that the standards set by the acupuncture profession are maintained and developed in the light of educational experience and professional requirements.

BAAB's funding comes from BAC, along with a flat fee and a student levy from the course providers who have a formal relationship with the Board. The course providers are therefore involved in the accreditation process. The terms of agreement between BAC and BAAB are set out in a Memorandum of Understanding which is regularly reviewed and updated by mutual agreement and signed by both Chairs.

The standard of the pre-registration acupuncture courses is currently at honours degree level or equivalent. The professional requirements are set out in BAC's 2022 Educational Standards, and in BAAB's 2021 Standards of Education and Training for Acupuncture Courses (SETAP). These carefully monitored standards are comparable to those in courses for the Health and Care Professions Council as well as the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education so that BAAB accredited students graduate with a similar academic and professional standing to those in other healthcare professions.

The Accreditation Handbook contains all BAAB's processes and guidelines – and is accompanied by a short companion guide which summarises BAAB's values and standards. The handbook is available online – currently with restricted access to protect intellectual property but is made available more widely to interested parties upon request.

The well-reviewed Accreditation Committee implements the accreditation procedures and reports to the Board with recommendations for BAAB to consider. There are seven course providers currently in a formal relationship with BAAB. All have full Accreditation. One is a university provider which is at the final stage of closure. Another is a Further Education college which has university validation, and five are independent colleges of which two have university validation.

Whilst the nature of course providers is changing, the total number of students undertaking acupuncture education studying on accredited courses increased to 535 – the highest figure since 2013/14, with more students on average at each course provider.

The Board continues to engage with stakeholders to examine the feasibility of encouraging interest from a greater number of course providers in teaching acupuncture with BAAB accreditation, including through involvement of universities and other health professions. This also includes examining the potential value of master's level provision. Such provision was previously approved and included in the Accreditation Handbook, but at the request of BAC, is currently suspended to allow for further discussions with BAC and present course providers. One learning point from this is the need for any concerns from CHAC about BAAB matters needs to be expressed by their CHAC representatives on the Board at any early stage. At the time of this report, BAAB is working collaboratively with BAC and Council for Heads of Acupuncture Colleges (CHAC) through an interim forum to revisit this issue. This collaborative approach will be continued as the parties work together to find resolution on this matter.

BAAB held a Quality Standards 'blue skies' day earlier in the year with key partners and other organisations in the healthcare arena,

exploring the creation of a more inclusive quality standard for acupuncture. Pleasingly, all the stated objectives were met and clearly documented. In the spirit of partnership, the outline of this day was shared and discussed in advance at the Governing Board of BAcC and received positive feedback from attendees including several BAcC representatives. It is envisaged that any future educational activity will have even closer engagement between BAAB and BAcC. Importantly, these events have highlighted the need for clarity on lines of communication and responsibilities between BAAB, BAcC and CHAC which will form part of future discussions. BAAB looks forward to close collaboration with relevant BAcC Committees with educational responsibilities, the details of which are under active discussion within BAcC.

Fortunately, though, one challenge has at least receded – that of the Covid-19 pandemic, following its profound impact on both higher education and society in the two previous years. While there are still residual negative consequences, this shift has meant that funding streams for BAAB from both BAcC and course providers have become more robust. In addition, BAAB has learnt that Board and other meetings can successfully be held online and now combines online with face-to-face mode in the events it organises.

Online formats are also still used to advantage in re-accreditations, alongside face-to-face visits for clinical observations. In 2022 the Board continued to engage in detailed financial scrutiny of each of the course providers as a central part of the accreditation process – and facilitated supportive feedback to the bodies concerned, who have pronounced themselves satisfied or very satisfied with communication from BAAB. This scrutiny is in addition to the Board's academic and clinical oversight, aimed at helping to ensure that students are on sustainable courses. While selective aspects of BAAB's Strategic Plan may have been paused, the Board continues otherwise to perform well against its Key Performance Indicators in its role as a progressive accreditation body. In this respect, an annual

letter is sent to course providers for information, in addition to periodic visits, with progress briefings coming to the Board.

The annual BAAB Education Day was held as a face-to-face event in 2022, following online delivery in the past two years as a result of Covid-19. While very well received, it was not as fully attended as previously, and the team is looking at how this might be enhanced next year.

The Board effectiveness survey was also positive – with the overwhelming majority of members being either extremely satisfied or satisfied with the way business was conducted and no one recording any dissatisfaction. In terms of BAAB funding from BAcC, annual requests with supporting documentation go through BAcC's Finance, Resources and Audit Committee. BAAB was again pleased to have its funding of £87,000 pa continue into 2022. This has enabled BAAB to maintain its financial viability.

Internationally, BAcC and BAAB have built further on the Memorandum of Understanding that was established with the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM). This development means that acupuncturists who are active members of BAcC are eligible to sit for NCCAOM Board examinations. Reciprocally, active NCCAOM diplomates can achieve eligibility for membership of BAcC by documenting completion of BAcC-approved coursework. This now streamlined relationship was paralleled by the ongoing work of Jasmine Uddin, Vice Chair of the Board, in promoting European-wide standards backed by accreditation through the European Traditional Chinese Medicine Association (ETCMA) in her role as head of the ETCMA Education Committee.

In 2022 BAAB saw major changes in several of its senior management roles. In the summer Pippa Sequeira and Paul Probyn moved on as Accreditation Committee Secretary and Accreditation Officer respectively – both of whom have given excellent service to BAAB.

They were replaced by Angela Scutts and Vivien Shaw, who have already shown their considerable worth. October of this year also saw the resignation of Harriet Lansdown, our admirable long-serving Lead Accreditation Officer and Professor Mike Saks as Chairman in December 2022. We are grateful to Harriet and Mike for their outstanding contribution and dedication to BAAB, and acupuncture more widely and wish them well for the future.

After an intensive recruitment process, Nina Paterson, joined us from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy as Lead Accreditation Officer, and I was delighted to take over from Mike in the role as Chairman. Grateful thanks

go to Petra Nannes, Executive Secretary, David Martin, Finance Officer, and Linda Wicks, Chair of the Accreditation Committee – as well of course to all remaining Board and Accreditation Committee members. Although there are considerable challenges ahead, BAAB justifiably continues to be highly regarded as an accreditation body.

Professor Raymond Playford
Chair British Acupuncture Accreditation Board

Accreditation Committee Report 2021/22

The Accreditation Committee (AC) has continued to fulfil the Board's regulatory brief of closely monitoring the quality of educational standards and implementing the Board's developmental policy of supporting Course Providers in enhancing curricula and educational services. These standards are set out in the British Acupuncture Council's Standards of Education and Training for Acupuncture (SETA) and the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board's Standards of Education and Training for Acupuncture Courses (SETAP) in the Accreditation Handbook and summarised in A Brief Guide to BAAB Accreditation.

The Committee held three online meetings and one in person in the academic year 2021/22 and produced reports for the Board on its accredited Course Providers and on those seeking accreditation. Reports are based on balanced and informed debate by experienced professionals, with backgrounds in acupuncture, health, and higher education, plus lay representatives.

Resources and Personnel

There have been a number of changes to personnel, as outlined in the Chairs report. Since June 2022, Angela Scutts as Secretary for the AC, have ably supported the committee.

The work of the accreditation committee continued to be managed by the Lead Accreditation Officer (LAO) Harriet Lansdown until the end of the year. It is the LAO who manages the work of the Board, BAAB's strategic direction, developing future plans and projects, and working with stakeholders, in particular the British Acupuncture Council (BAcC). Vivien Shaw BAAB Accreditation Officer who was appointed in June of 2022 to support the work of the LAO particularly

working with the Course Providers and carrying out the accreditation activity.

While there were significant changes to BAAB officers, the committee itself remained mostly unchanged with only two changes in personnel. Our thanks are recorded to Charmian Wylde and Shelly Berlinski who completed their 2nd terms of office with their replacements starting in January 2023. The stability of the committee ensured that BAAB retained historical and contextual knowledge as well as the experience required to carry out its remit of ensuring excellence within acupuncture education while officer transition took place.

Course Providers

At the end of 2022 there remain seven Course Providers offering BAAB accredited programmes, with one provider teaching out their provision. Despite this, the total number of students on accredited courses increased slightly from 470-to 535, demonstrating the highest figures since 2013/14.

The course providers continue to flourish, and standards remain high. Two (NCA, CICM) have validation partnerships with the University College of Osteopathy, and three (NCA, CICM, CCA) are successfully reviewed by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and registered with the Office for Students (OfS). Students on these courses are eligible for student finance. The Acupuncture Academy and the International College of Oriental Medicine remain independent of the university sector.

For the duration covered by this report, the degree programme at Lincoln Further Education College, accredited with the Open University, is the only public sector course currently recruiting, and the only one available to potential applicants through UCAS. The course at the University of Westminster is the last of the currently accredited university-

based acupuncture degrees but has effectively closed. Their final graduate is now expected to complete in the summer of 2023.

Quality Assurance Highlights

Monitoring of Accredited Courses

ICOM received its scheduled re-accreditation visit, which served as a pilot for a blended procedure, combining on-site and online contact. This provided valuable feedback from all parties and resulted in re-accreditation with conditions, recommendations, and commendations.

All other institutions not subject to an accreditation visit submitted an Annual Monitoring Audit Form and an Institutional Clinical Self Audit (ICSA). AC scrutinised each report and timely feedback was provided to each, supporting their programme's continuing development.

Committee Work relating to Processes and Structures

Annual Monitoring Audit Form (AMAF)

The AMAF continues to work well, providing the AC with an annual review of each Course Provider's current situation. Small revisions are made each year to ensure it remains relevant, user-friendly, and effective.

Effective Practice in Accredited Courses

The following examples of effective practice were observed in accredited courses during academic year 2021/22:

Institutional Governance

- Good mechanisms for evaluating the quality of the provision, including the External Examiners' reports, AMAF, progression and achievement data, individual course evaluations, student

and patient feedback, and peer observation of teaching.

- Enabling staff to participate in external events, mentoring, peer review and other activities
- Tutors and student reps attending academic board course reviews.

Teaching and Learning

- Workshops for teachers on marking and moderation
- Ongoing development of virtual learning environments
- Introducing final year mentors for first-year students.
- Inclusive and flexible approaches to student admissions, helping students cope with pressures of life outside the college
- Blended learning supported by an "How to Locate Acupuncture Points" App
- A robust approach to fitness to practise and/or study, supported by appropriate documentation
- An ongoing process of curriculum review ensuring it remains relevant and lively
- Online exams enabling students to use electronic script or handwritten scanned answers ensuring parity with in-house exams
- Introduction of twice-monthly teaching team meetings

Clinical Practice

- Good practice in disseminating Covid documentation and operating procedures
- Clinical work linked productively to Personal and Professional Development modules
- Establishing a clinical education leader and clinical module leaders for each year group
- Remote observation of clinical activity preparing 1st year students for a confident start

Quality Enhancement Highlights

Covid-19 and innovations in teaching

The response to COVID-19, and how most effectively to support course providers and their students, has continued to be a consideration for the Board this academic year, although national restrictions have relaxed. Some of the arrangements set in place to manage the challenges of pandemic have continued, particularly the welcome and appropriate use of blended learning. CPs, AC, and BAAB are working together to explore how well they are working and how long they may continue to be useful.

Education Day 2022

After two years online, this year's event was held in-person in London. Despite only

attracting sixteen attendees, the day had excellent feedback. BAAB Education Days offer programmes designed to meet the needs of the profession, ensuring institutions are up to date with emerging issues in acupuncture education.

United Kingdom/United States Comparability Project

The recent collaboration between BAAB, BAAC and the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) has resulted in a new streamlined process for eligibility for certification for BAAC members to work in the USA. The new pathway is only open to members of the BAAC in good standing, who can now apply for verification of their education credentials directly with the NCCAOM prior to applying for certification, rather than having to go through a lengthier and more expensive third-party evaluation.

Nina Paterson Lead Accreditation Officer

Linda Wicks Chair, Accreditation Committee



Short accounts for 2022 from 1 January to 31 December

The financial information presented in this Annual Report does not comprise the statutory financial statements of the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 issued on 24th of April 2023, but represents extracts from them. These extracts cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position, and financing and investment activities of the company as a reading of the complete financial statements would.

The financial statements have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and the auditors have reported on them; their report was unqualified and did not contain statements under section 498(2) or (3) of the Companies Act 2006. The complete financial statements can be obtained, free of charge, on request to the company at the company's offices.

Income		Expenditure	
Contributions	£ 87,000	Accommodation and subsistence	£ 1,435
Accreditation fees	£ 39,057	Accountancy and audit	£ 5,100
Total income for the period	£ 126,057	Allowances and honoraria	£ 16,488
		Depreciation	£ 10
Brought forward from 2021	£ 61,380	Consultancy fees	£ 18,247
		Insurance	£ 2,986
		Meeting costs	£ 2,240
		Office costs	£ 11,720
		Printing, postage and stationery	£ 116
		Projects	£ 1,515
		Salaries	£ 72,771
		Travel	£ 2,386
		Total expenditure for the period	£ 135,014
		Carried forward to 2022	£ 52,423
Total	£187,487	Total	£187,437

BAAB fully accredited institutions and courses during 2022

CITY COLLEGE OF ACUPUNCTURE
London

COLLEGE OF INTEGRATED CHINESE MEDICINE
Reading, Berkshire

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF ORIENTAL
MEDICINE UK
East Grinstead, West Sussex

LONDON SOUTH BANK UNIVERSITY
London

NORTHERN COLLEGE OF ACUPUNCTURE
York, Yorkshire

LINCOLN COLLEGE
Brayford Pool, Lincolnshire

THE ACUPUNCTURE ACADEMY
Leamington Spa

UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER
London

The Board

Janice Booth
Dr Mike Cummings
Zofia Dymitr

Dr Richard Giordano
Dr Lara McClure
Jonathan Pledger

Barbara Ross
Prof Mike Saks (Chair)
Dr Dan Tan

Jasmine Uddin (Vice Chair)

Accreditation Committee Chair

Chair, Accreditation Committee

Linda Wicks

Treasurer

Finance Officer/Treasurer

David Martin

Officers

Lead Accreditation Officer

Accreditation Officer

Accreditation Officer

Accreditation Committee Secretary

Accreditation Committee Secretary

Board Secretary/Company Secretary

Harriet Lansdown (left December 2022)

Paul Probyn (left July 2022)

Vivien Shaw (started July 2022)

Pippa Sequeira (left June 2022)

Angela Scutts (started June 2022)

Petra Nannes

British Acupuncture Accreditation Board
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The Board

Janice Booth qualified as an acupuncturist at CTA in 1988, undertook the integrated TCM/five element course with J and A Hicks in 1990 and has had a practice in Swindon for the last thirty-four years. She is a senior lecturer, clinical supervisor, and a programme leader for Chinese medicine theory at the College of Integrated Chinese Medicine in Reading.



Dr Mike Cummings is the medical director of the British Medical Acupuncture Society (BMAS) and a former medical officer in the Royal Air Force. He was awarded his degree in medicine from Leeds University in 1987. He is an honorary clinical specialist at the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine. His principal academic and clinical interest is musculoskeletal pain, and in particular, needling therapies in the treatment of myofascial pain syndromes.

Zofia Dymitr is a practising homeopath registered with the Society of Homeopaths. She conducted qualitative research on the experience of provers as part of her MSc. Zofia has a Diploma in Supervision, offering supervision to homeopathy students and other health professionals. Zofia has contributed to the development of the homeopathy profession since 1991 and is currently an elected Director of the Society of Homeopaths. She is also Vice Chair of the European Central Council of Homeopaths with a special interest in promoting the development of high standards in the patient interest.



Dr Richard Giordano is a senior lecturer and programme lead for the MSc in leadership and management in health and social care at Southampton University. He has held academic and research positions at Birkbeck, Brown University, MIT, and the University of Manchester. He was a senior consultant in leadership development at the King's Fund. Richard's expertise and teaching broadly includes informatics, work practice and information processing, decision making, evaluation, and organisational development. His current research is focused on healthcare informatics, particularly analysis and design theories, implementation, and the effect of digital information on work practice and sense making in organisational settings.

Lara McClure was Course Director for the BSc in Acupuncture at the Northern College of Acupuncture during the period covered by this report. She held this post from 2014-2022 and was a member of the Council of Heads of Acupuncture Courses. She continues to teach the Research Module of the course as well as the Research content of the NCA's MSc in Chinese Herbal Medicine. Lara supervises students on all the NCA's MSc courses and is especially keen to support them to publish their findings. Lara holds a BA and an MA from Cambridge, a PhD from the University of York and practises Clinical Hypnotherapy.





Jonathan Pledger is the Principal at the College of Integrated Chinese Medicine, as well as a Chinese medicine teacher and clinical supervisor. He has completed a master's researching the effects of acupuncture on autistic children.

Barbara Ross is a nurse by profession and has held nursing and management positions in a variety of NHS organisations, including Director of Nursing and Deputy Chief Executive of an NHS Trust. In this capacity Barbara had responsibility for promoting safe clinical practice and working on the clinical governance strategy.

Following her retirement from the NHS Barbara worked within the NHS as consultant to support general management projects and the development of clinical staff. Later Barbara became a trustee and treasurer of two national charities both of which promoted safe clinical practice and patient safety. Barbara has recently qualified as a coach mentor and is now coaching the beneficiaries of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund in voluntary capacity.



Professor Mike Saks BA, MA, PhD, FIoD, FIKE, FRCCM, FRSA, MIRL is Chair of the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board. He is Emeritus Professor at the University of Suffolk and Visiting Professor at the University of Lincoln and the University of Westminster in the UK and the University of Toronto in Canada. He has been on the Board/Executive (including as CEO) of six UK universities. He has published numerous books on health, professions and regulation, and has served as a Chair/member of many health committees and worked with governments and professions nationally/internationally. Most recently, he has been engaged as a member of the World Health Organization Technical Expert Group on health practitioner regulation globally. He is also honorary Senior Adviser to the United Nations and co-founder and Chair of the UN-sponsored Institute for Responsible Leadership.

Dr Dan Tan is a passionate and conscientious academic professional with extensive clinical practice and teaching experience within the Higher Education sector, mainly in the UK and China. Dan spent fifteen years at Middlesex University, latterly as a Course Leader for MSc/BSc Acupuncture, and over three years at London South Bank University. Currently Dan is the Academic Dean at Shenzhou Open University of TCM, Amsterdam, and is the Chief External Examiner for MSc/BSc Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine programmes at the University of Westminster. Before moving to the UK, Dan qualified as a TCM Doctor in her native China and worked at the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine (BUCM). She has studied both Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine and holds a PhD, Masters and Bachelors qualifications.



Jasmine Uddin is a past president and chair of the British Acupuncture Council and is now its president emeritus. She is currently an education consultant to BAAC and vice chair of BAAB as well as being editor of the European Journal of Oriental Medicine. As one of the founding members of the European Traditional Chinese Medicine Association in 2002, she was its president for the next twelve years and then subsequently led its Education Committee with the aim of fostering high standards of education and practice across Europe. She has an acupuncture practice in Brighton.

Treasurer



David Martin decided that after a career in London for twenty years focusing primarily in the not-for-profit sector in the capacity of a Senior External Audit Manager, to relocate to the south coast to spend more time with his two young boys. After twenty-five years in the external audit profession (including the five years of articles he completed with Baker Tilly whilst training in South Africa). David took up a role as a consultant Finance Director with Age Concern Eastbourne and the Treasurer for the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board in London. David has recently served as the Head of Internal Audit and Governance at Frontline Aids, an International Non-Government Organisation based in Brighton and the Head of Finance at Swan staff Recruitment Limited, a recruitment and family contact company based in Dartford.

Accreditation Committee Chair

Linda Wicks attends the Board as chair of the Accreditation Committee. Linda qualified as a homeopath in 1986 and has been in part-time practice since then. Also qualified in education, she taught for twenty years in a variety of mainstream settings, as well as having experience teaching homeopathy, supervising, mentoring and facilitating professional groups. She worked as senior education advisor for the Society of Homeopaths for sixteen years, having developed and maintained a recognition system for homeopathy courses across the UK. She was also involved in setting up one of the first School-based Integrated Health Centres in the country, designed to make healthcare and the promotion of wellbeing more accessible for young people. Linda has served for six years as a director for the Society of Homeopaths, with three years as the Board's Chair.



Officers

Harriet Lansdown has been a practising acupuncturist since 1991. She has been extensively involved in acupuncture education and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. She served on BAAB's Accreditation Committee in the late 1990's and returned in 2013 as Lead Accreditation Officer (LAO). After achieving an MSc in Health Services Research from the University of York in 2006, she went on to hold a Visiting Research Fellowship there, focusing on pragmatic clinical acupuncture trials and contributing to ten research papers. She was elected a Fellow of the British Acupuncture Council in 2018. Harriet left BAAB in December 2022.





Paul Probyn worked in Higher Education administration and management for nearly forty years, at institutions including Kuwait University, the University of Westminster, and the Royal Veterinary College, always working closely with colleagues delivering programmes in the health professions. Throughout his career he has held responsibilities for quality assurance, and while at the RVC he managed a succession of incoming accreditation visits from UK, US and EU regulatory bodies. He has taken part in many quality reviews for the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), and currently serves QAA Scotland as a Coordinating Reviewer. Paul left BAAB in July 2022.

Vivien Shaw qualified as an acupuncturist in 1992 and now practices in North Wales. She brings with her experience of teaching, quality assurance, validation, and accreditation in higher education. As an Associate Member of the Centre for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning at Bangor, Vivien was part of the team leading the development of teaching. She was also an assessor for PGCert and HEA applications and contributed to the revalidation and quality assurance work in the University. A trained anatomist, Vivien brought her interest in anatomy and acupuncture together in a PhD through published works on the topic 'The Anatomy of Acupuncture' in 2020. Visiting Academic status at the Hull-York Medical School to support her ongoing research into the anatomy of acupuncture.



Petra Nannes is the secretary to the Board. She trained as a Biology teacher in Holland and then went on to work and travel in Africa before studying Acupuncture. She joined the Board in 2006. She holds a BSc (Hons) in acupuncture and a diploma in Tuina a form of therapeutic massage. She has a private practice in North London.

Pippa Sequeira is secretary to the Board's Accreditation Committee. She joined BAAB in July 2003. She has a BSc (Hons) in physiology. She qualified as an acupuncturist in 2000 and along with her husband runs a multidisciplinary clinic in central Canterbury. Pippa left BAAB in June 2022.



Angela Scutts is secretary to the Accreditation Committee. She joined BAAB in June 2022. Angela works two days a week. Dealing with the Accreditation Committee agenda, papers and minutes, updates the website, and has most contact with the teaching institutions.

Incoming (Jan 2023)



Nina Paterson leads the work of the organisation and oversees the accreditation activity, working closely with the accreditation officer(s) to do so. Working with the Board, the accreditation committee and their respective Chairs, Nina's role is to ensure BAAB's strategic vision is met— ensuring excellence in Acupuncture Education. Nina's career to date has been predominantly focused within education and Health.