



BRITISH  
ACADEMY

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Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter of 15 March to which I realise I owe you a full response. I decided to wait until now to send you this formal response so that I could then write in the light of receiving our final grant allocation from BIS, our funding department. I now know that we will receive that letter, after a considerable delay, within the next few days.

As you will also know, in the meantime, we in the Academy have been working hard both in discussion with the BIS (our Government funding department) and others, as well as with the seven BASIS Institutes, to ensure that the statement about "stable funding" is translated into a lasting settlement for each Institute over the four-year funding period. We have established a BASIS Task Force, chaired by the Academy's Treasurer Professor Sarah Worthington, and on which the BASIS Institutes are represented. I am also intending to visit as many of the Institutes to see them "first-hand". Last month, for example, I visited the British School at Athens, and was very impressed by the work going on there, having visited the British School at Rome at the end of last year.

Having got the guarantee of overall stable funding from BIS, we are now working, under the auspices of the BASIS Task Force, to start the process of agreeing the individual allocation for each Institute and their respective "Delivery Plans", which will set out what they will each deliver against our grant.

I have always been willing to meet you and any of your colleagues to discuss these issues in more depth. Indeed I have had a number of detailed meetings with individual Fellows of the Academy and with groups of Fellows represented the BASIS institutes. Given that we now do have certainty about future funding of BASIS plus a desire on all sides to build a more collaborative working arrangement, I think it would be very good for us to meet. Perhaps we could therefore liaise to find a mutually convenient date? Could you also suggest who you think it would be best to involve in such a meeting.

Yours sincerely

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