

Charity registration number: 1170382

British Association for American Studies

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

British Association for American Studies

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British Association for American Studies

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Dr R Williams
	Mr C A Parkes
	Dr N Willson
	Dr J Woodley
	Dr MJ Collins
	Dr E Hall
	Dr E J West
	Dr L Witham
	Dr C Rodway
	Dr T J Wright
	Dr S E Mawdsley
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Charity Registration Number	1170382
Independent Examiner	The Moffatts Partnership LLP Progress House 396 Wilmslow Road Withington Manchester M20 3BN

British Association for American Studies

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The British Association of American Studies constitution was adopted on 2nd April 1990. In May 1991 the Association was registered with the Charities Commission (registration number: 1002816). In November 2016 the Association changed its legal status, registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (registration number: 1170382).

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

At each annual election three ordinary members are elected to hold office for three years. Each year, around the Annual General Meeting, the three committee members who have completed their term of office vacate their places and may offer themselves for re-election. No person may serve continuously as an elected member of the Committee for more than seven years. Candidates for election as members of the Committee must be able to complete the projected term without breaching this seven year total. Having reached the term limit, a year must elapse before a candidate may stand again for membership of the Committee. The Editor/s of the Journal of American Studies, if not already a member of the committee, will be a member, ex officio.

Organisational structure

The business of the Association is carried out by an Executive committee (trustees). This Committee consists of three officers (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) together with nine members and one postgraduate student representative and one early career representative, who are nominated, seconded and elected around the Annual General meeting of the Association.

Membership

Membership of the Association also includes a membership subscription to the European Association of American Studies. A representative is elected by the Association at the Annual General Meeting to serve on the European Association for American Studies committee for five years. This representative is also a member of the British Association for American Studies Committee.

The Association has standing orders which specify the composition and conduct of a series of sub-committees with specific areas of responsibility. These are: Publications, Development and Education, Awards and Conference sub-committees.

British Association for American Studies

Trustees' Report

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The purpose of the CIO shall be the advancement of education through the promotion of American studies for the public benefit by all or any of the following means:

- the encouragement of research, teaching, education and publication, particularly in the UK;
- the holding of American studies conferences;
- the collection and preservation of documents and artefacts relating to the United States in the UK;
- the support of access to archives and information about the United States;
- the broadening of knowledge about the United States within the UK;
- the pursuit of any other activities promoting American studies as the trustees may decide.

The trustees have complied with the duty in S17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Holding conferences (an annual conference and numerous smaller conferences at venues around the UK on specialised US research or issues); promoting the work of the Journal of American Studies; book publication; supporting access to and preservation of US-related research materials in the UK; support for British students and scholars to travel in the United States; promoting American Studies activities via a website and newsletter and administering a large number of awards that promote the study of the US in the UK. In furtherance of these objectives the trustees ensured that:

- BAAS maintains a website available to both its membership and the public. The BAAS website provides unrestricted links to other key electronic resources for the advancement of education in the area of American studies.
- BAAS membership is open to anyone with a general interest, as well as a commitment to research, in the area of American studies. Subsidised rates are available for postgraduates, unwaged and retired subscribers.
- BAAS offers a series of grants and awards each year (see Achievements and Performance below). Requests for grants for conference support are made to the Conference and Awards sub-committees and considered at sub-committee and executive meetings on the basis of their relevance to the Association's objectives. The various awards are competitive and judged by Committee members and members of the subject community in the UK.
- BAAS is committed to incorporating equality and diversity into all aspects of its work.

Public benefit

The activities undertaken to further public benefit are mentioned above in objects and aims.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Financial review

For the year ended 31 December 2020 total incoming resources amounted to £130,322 (2019: £170,456).

Total resources expended for the year amounted to £59,149 (2019: £118,171).

The net result for the year was a surplus of £71,173 (2019: £52,285) leaving total retained funds of £296,504 (2019: £225,331)

at the end of the year.

All of the retained funds related to unrestricted funds

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Policy on reserves

It is the policy of the charity to maintain general unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately 18 months' unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs. Unrestricted funds are maintained at least at this level throughout the year.

Principal funding sources

The Association's main source of income is membership subscriptions and, via its trading arm (BAAS Publications Ltd), royalty payments from Cambridge University Press for the Journal of American Studies. It also receives donations and some income from advertising in its newsletters, and royalties from Edinburgh University Press for the BAAS paperbacks series, from BRRAM on the sale of American Studies microfilms and digital resources, and from the Publishers Licensing Society.

Plans for future periods

Activities of note in 2020

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, BAAS had to cancel its 2020 annual conference which had been due to take place at the University of Liverpool in April. We used the cancelled conference as a motivation to trial a new online format for research sharing and networking, running the BAAS Digital Dialogues series during the summer. The series featured research panels and also provided opportunities for a number of new and existing networks to meet, including the Women in American Studies and the three new networks: the BIPOC network, the Green BAAS network and the Teaching American Studies network.

As part of the organisations' commitment to inclusivity and sustainability the BAAS Awards programme saw new, targeted awards for BIPOC scholars introduced, as well as the development of our research support awards to include hiring research assistants as a way to avoid international travel.

In 2020 we launched the "BAAS Development Fund" to replace the Small Conference Grant Scheme and support a wider range of activities (still including conferences) as well as BAAS's affiliate organisations through the dispersal of small grants. The BAAS Development Fund will support the organisation of initiatives relating to American Studies research, pedagogy, or career development; or the development of networks or other organisations that support American Studies scholars in the UK.

Aims and key objectives for future periods

BAAS will continue to work to broaden our gender and racial inclusion and ensure that all colleagues feel welcomed and are involved in our events and activities, provide support for postgraduate students and early career academics, and make our events more accessible to scholars with disabilities or those with caring responsibilities, and so on.

BAAS will continue to work to ensure our work and our events are environmentally sustainable.

Activities planned to achieve aims

For several years BAAS has been building towards a digital conference, in order to transcend the exclusivity and waste of our traditional conference model. Our plans have been pushed forward by the pandemic but are equally motivated by our twin concerns of environmental impact and accessibility/inclusivity. The conference will include a plenary session on 'The Future of the Inclusive Conference' which will enable productive discussion and action on a range of equalities issues within both BAAS and our sister organisations.

British Association for American Studies

Trustees' Report

Subcommittee Activities

Awards Subcommittee

The BAAS Awards Programme ran successfully with over twenty awards being given out in 2020. The following awards were made in 2020:

BAAS Book Prize

This prize is awarded for the best published book in American Studies this year.

Eithne Quinn, The University of Manchester

A Piece of the Action: Race and Labor in Post-Civil Rights Hollywood (Columbia University Press, 2019)

BAAS Book Prize - Honourable mentions

Pekka Hämäläinen, University of Oxford

Lakota America: A New History of Indigenous Power (Yale University Press, 2019)

Sarah Miller-Davenport, The University of Sheffield

Gateway State: Hawai'i and the Cultural Transformation of American Empire
(Princeton University Press, 2019)

BAAS Honorary Fellowship for 2019

This Fellowship recognises American Studies academics who have made an outstanding contribution to the association, to their institution(s), and to the American Studies community in general over the course of a distinguished career.

Sue Currell, University of Sussex

BAAS Founders' Research Travel Award

Named after the founders of BAAS, these awards offer assistance for short-term visits to the United States during the year 2020/21 to scholars in the UK who need to travel to conduct research.

Sarah Barnsley, Goldsmiths, University of London

Sam Edwards, Manchester Metropolitan University

Jeffrey Geiger, University of Essex

Thomas Tunstall Allcock, University of Manchester

BAAS Early Career Researcher Travel Awards

These awards offer assistance to early career scholars in the UK for short-term visits to the United States during the year 2020/21.

Rachael Alexander, University of Strathclyde

Alex Ferguson, University of Southampton

British Association for American Studies

Trustees' Report

BAAS Short-Term Travel Awards

A number of short-term awards are available to postgraduates at UK institutions of higher education. Some of the travel grants relate to named awards: The Malcolm Bradbury Award (for the best proposal in American literary studies); The Marcus Cunliffe Award (American Studies); The John D. Lees Award (American political studies); The Abraham Lincoln Award (nineteenth-century US history and culture); The Peter Parish Award (American history).

Named Short-Term Travel Awards

Peter Parish Award Ellie Armon Azoulay, University of Kent

John D Lees Award Steven K. Driver, University College London

Abraham Lincoln Award Katherine Burns, The University of Edinburgh

Marcus Cunliffe Award Ya'ara Notea, King's College London

Malcolm Bradbury Award Deborah Snow Molloy, University of Glasgow

BAAS Postgraduate Travel Awards

Rebecca Slatcher, The University of Hull

BAAS Public Engagement and Impact Award

This award recognizes the diversity of public engagement and impact projects by postgraduate and early career BAAS members. This award seeks to encourage and enhance good practice and recognizes projects which seek to either i) disseminate new research to non-academic audiences, or ii) work collaboratively with an external organization.

Jessica Mehta, University of Exeter

"White Alliahs:" The Creation & Perpetuation of the Wise Indian Trope

BAAS Postgraduate Essay Prize

This annual prize is awarded for the best essay-length piece of work on an American Studies topic written by a student currently registered for a postgraduate degree at a Higher Education institution in the UK.

Katherine Reed, The University of Manchester

BAAS Postgraduate Essay Prize - Honourable mention

Noah Remnick, University of Oxford

BAAS Undergraduate Essay Prize

This annual prize is awarded for the best essay-length piece of work on an American Studies topic written by a student currently registered for an undergraduate degree at a Higher Education institution in the UK.

Siobhan Owen, University of Exeter

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BAAS Undergraduate Essay Prize - Honourable mention

Mark Parker, University of Bristol

BAAS School Essay Prize

This annual prize is awarded for the best essay-length piece of work on an American Studies topic written by a student currently at school or college in the UK.

Sam Menzies, Kingston Grammar School, Kingston upon Thames

BAAS Graduate Teaching Assistantship in Southern Studies, University of Mississippi

The MA Graduate Assistantship will provide income for two years and a MA fee waiver.

Lily-Pearl Benn, University of Hull

BAAS Graduate Teaching Assistantship in Southern Studies, University of New Hampshire

The MA Graduate Assistantship will provide income for two years and a MA fee waiver.

Matilda Vojak, University of Sussex

Monticello Teacher's Fellowship 2020

BAAS, in conjunction with the Thomas Jefferson Foundation (TJF) and the International Center for Jefferson Studies (ICJS), is delighted to make an award for teachers who cover the American Revolution, the Constitution and related materials in their A Level or Advanced Higher teaching of history and politics.

This fellowship was not awarded in 2020.

The Arthur Miller Institute Prizes

The Arthur Miller Institute (UEA) makes two annual awards for the best journal length article on any American Studies topic in the preceding calendar year and the best first book published in the preceding calendar year.

Arthur Miller Institute First Book Prize

Charlie Laderman, King's College London

Sharing the Burden: The Armenian Question, Humanitarian Intervention, and Anglo-American Visions of Global Order (Oxford University Press, 2019)

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Arthur Miller Institute Prize for Best Journal Length Article

Clive Webb, University of Sussex

"The Nazi Persecution of Jews and the African American Freedom Struggle"

Arthur Miller Institute Prize for Best Journal Length Article

Kaeten Mistry, University of East Anglia

"A Transnational Protest against the National Security State: Whistle-Blowing, Philip Agee, and Networks of Dissent"

Other Awards-related Activity

BAAS/US Embassy Small Grants Programme

During 2020 BAAS was responsible for administering the Small Grants Programme on behalf of the US Embassy in London following the award of a block grant; this programme involves distributing funding in support of US-linked educational events and activities in the UK. The projects awarded funding covered a range of activities that promoted American Studies or enhanced the understanding of the USA in the UK. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, BAAS discussed various alternative options with awardees, including deferring projects or moving them online. BAAS also successfully bid to continue the programme in 2021.

Among the projects supported an online symposium hosted by the University of Kent in the 'spatial Americas', 'Serendipity'- an online dance festival, a public talk by the author Jenny Offill, an online book club and discussion ('Bookable Space.com'), and support for the Benjamin Franklin House schools outreach, and support for the planning of future events, deferred as a result of the covid pandemic, such as the John Steinbeck Community Festival in Northern Ireland.

Development and Education Subcommittee

Future of the Inclusive Conference

This event was originally planned and scheduled to take place at the British Library in September 2020. Due to the pandemic, this event was cancelled and the event will now form a workshop at the 2021 Digital BAAS Conference. This interactive workshop will be structured around the issues that participants consider to be of the utmost importance relating to inclusivity. This will include the sharing of good practice as well as the challenges we face. We will discuss issues of inclusion with a view to formulating strategies for how to improve our events to ensure that they are welcoming, accessible, inclusive and sustainable.

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Digital Dialogues

In summer 2020 following the cancellation of the BAAS conference, a series of Digital Dialogues were organised by Cara Rodway, Lydia Plath, and Olivia Wright. The programme included research presentations and network meetings. See <https://www.baas.ac.uk/project/baas-digital-dialogues/> for details. The events received very positive feedback from attendees.

The various networks affiliated with BAAS were encouraged to hold Winter Dialogues in January 2021.

BAAS Development Fund

BAAS are excited to launch our Development Fund, which combines several of our smaller funding streams (such as the BAAS Conference Organisation Support) and will enable us to further support activities relating to American Studies research, pedagogy, or career development; and the development of networks or other organisations that support American Studies scholars in the UK.

BAAS invites scholars in any field of American Studies to apply for grants of up to two years in duration. Grants may be requested for up to a maximum of £2000 for a range of American Studies academic activities that seek to develop American Studies scholarly communities, including (but not limited to):

- The organisation of conferences, meetings and events, including honoraria for speakers
- The establishment of new networks or other organisations
- Workshops, writing retreats, and reading groups
- Schools outreach and activities
- Diversity and inclusion initiatives of established networks or other organisations
- Sustainability initiatives of established networks or other organisations

Applications for activities that reach scholars currently under-represented in American Studies in the UK, seek to support postgraduates or early career academics, and/or enhance diversity and inclusion or sustainability are particularly welcome.

In 2020 the Development Fund awarded two grants:

- The 2020 American Politics Group/BAAS Colloquium, honorarium for Keynote Speaker: £250
- American Studies Awareness Programme, to develop resources for school outreach: £2,384.16

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Teaching American Studies Network

Two publications stemming from the 2019 Teaching American Studies Conference:

- Edward Clough & Kim Lockwood, 'Two Perspectives on Teaching American Studies: The Inaugural Conference', *Comparative American Studies* 16:3-4 (2019), pp. 187-190.
- Lydia J. Plath, Ben Offler, Zalfa Feghali (eds) 'Teaching American Studies Roundtable' (with Kim Lockwood, Katherine Parker-Hay, Tom Cutterham, Ed Clough, and Lynn Itagaki) *Journal of American Studies*, 54:3 (2020)

Following the success of the Teaching American Studies Conference in 2019 and discussions as part of the Summer Digital Dialogues in summer 2020, in 2020 this initiative was developed into a network, led by Lydia Plath. The following events are planned for 2021:

- Winter Dialogue: Coping with Blended, Socially Distanced, and Online Teaching in American Studies. Thursday 7 January 2-3.30pm, via Zoom.
- Digital BAAS Conference Network Event: Developing a Signature Pedagogy for American Studies in the UK
- Establishment of an HEA Support Group to provide mentoring for HEA Fellowship Applications
- Summer Dialogue: Inclusive Pedagogies

BIPOC Network

Led by Christine Okoth, the first meeting was planned to take place at the 2020 conference, but instead took place as part of the Digital Dialogues. It was agreed that the immediate focus should be on growing the network and creating a broader community via the development of a mailing list. The BIPOC Network has worked with the Awards team to create BIPOC Prizes and awards; with the Conferences Subcommittee to ensure the continuation of the Targeted Research Panels, and will be collaborating with other networks.

Schools Working Group

Led by Rebecca Stone, the Schools Working Group is developing content for the BAAS website targeted at schools, including information about studying American Studies at university, alumni, awards, and resources for EPQs.

ECR Activities

As ECR Representative, James West has continued his focus on precarity. Most notable is a successful BAAS/US Embassy Small Grants Bid with Megan Hunt to begin an ECR network focused on precarity and 'Alt-Ac' careers. This project includes a blog and podcast series with people who have left academia after doing PhDs in American Studies or related fields and a module handbook database. Details can be found here: <https://www.theprecarityproject.co.uk/>.

Alt-Ac Activities

Candela Delgado Marin was co-opted to the Development and Education Subcommittee to focus on opportunities for keeping Alt-Ac Scholars engaged in research. In 2021 initial meetings will be held with a view to setting up a network as a first step to building this community.

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Publications Subcommittee

JAS

The rollout to five issues per year is now successfully under way. Submissions to the journal have decreased slightly (7%) but this is not a cause for concern at present and the journal continues to attract a steady stream of high quality submissions reflecting the richness and breadth of the field. User engagement with the journal has increased significantly over the year, with downloads jumping from 75k to 105k. Institutional subscriptions are currently at 8455. The journal is in good financial and intellectual health.

Over the last year, the journal has developed and published a peer review code of practice and continues to explore strategies to make the process transparent and equitable, and to expand opportunities for early career and postgraduate researchers in both book reviews and peer reviews. The JAS co-editors and CUP are working with BAAS to develop an Open Access award for BIPOC scholars, as the constraints and costs of OA can be prohibitive (especially for scholars without institutional access). These conversations are at an advanced stage but remain to be finalised.

The following changes to the editorial board were confirmed in December 2020:

- Extending their terms: Nicole King and Fionnghuala Sweeney
- Vacated Seats: Gary Gerstle, George Lewis, Scott Kurashige, Grace Musila
- Appointed at the beginning of 2020: Sarah Gleeson-White, Barbara Savage
- Joining in January 2021: Julia Leyda, LaShawn Harris, Melanie Taylor, Martyn Bone, Emily West, Gayle Wald

The new appointments ensure continuing coverage of the areas represented by departing members, but also extend and strengthen the board's expertise in music and film studies. They also represent the co-editors' ongoing commitment to increasing the racial, gender, and geographic diversity of the board. In that vein, the "Women in JAS" project has highlighted the contribution of women authors and editors to the journal across its history, and may serve as a launchpad for future special issues.

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USSO

United States Studies Online continues to be a popular forum for postgraduate and early career scholars working in American Studies. At the start of the academic year, USSO's editorial team worked with BAAS's nominated IT service (Clear and Creative) to move the website to a new hosting domain. The site is now fully backed-up daily via Clear and Creative, and the overall security / digital architecture of the site is much better and more secure.

The new editorial team has been in post for several months; the team is as follows:

- Co-Editors: Will Carroll and Amanda Niedfeldt
- Global Relations Editor: Jun Quiang
- Events Editor: Emily Brady
- Book Reviews Editor: Sian Round
- Mairi Power (Social media editor)

In addition to hosting research articles, event and conference reviews, roundtable discussions, and book reviews, new initiatives include interviews with events organisers, a podcast highlighting the work of PGRs and ECRs and interrogating the state of the profession, and a weekly virtual writing group.

EUP

The BAAS Paperbacks series, co-edited by Joe Street and Martin Halliwell and overseen by Michelle Houghton at Edinburgh University Press, continues to commission and publish short, accessible texts on key themes/areas of American Studies.

2020 Digital Dialogues

Following the cancellation of BAAS 2020, we moved quickly to institute a series of 'digital dialogue' events throughout June and July.

Six research events, and five network events took place, organised by Cara Rodway, Lydia Plath and Olivia Wright. Sessions focused on topics ranging from 'Gender and Sexuality in American Culture' and 'Incarceration and Resistance in American History and Culture' to PG work-in-progress sessions, BIPOC and Women in American Studies network sessions, and a session devoted to the green future of the association's activities. These events were well-attended and proved popular with the Association as a way to mitigate the disruption to the events calendar.

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Conference Awards

Following a re-development of the Association's funding and award streams during 2020, the conference awards have now been subsumed under the BAAS Development Fund. These applications, which may cover conference activities therefore now fall under the purview of Dr. Lydia Plath, Chair of the Development and Education Subcommittee.

BAAS 2021 - Conference Manager Role

Following the decision made in mid-2020 for the University of Hull to push back their hosting of the 2021 event to 2022, the sub-committee resolved to secure the services of a member of our community to officially serve as 'conference manager' for Digital BAAS 2021. It was agreed that this role would be funded directly by BAAS. This position was advertised in the late summer of 2020, and following a healthy selection of applications, a final shortlist was interviewed by the Chair of the Association, the Chair of the Sub-committee, and Dr. Christine Okoth of the University of Warwick.

Dr. Suzanne Enzerink of the American University of Beirut, was appointed in the role and employed for a fixed period to oversee the conference. The sub-committee has been working closely with Dr. Enzerink throughout this ongoing process.

Digital BAAS 2021

The 66th Annual Convention will be taking place entirely online throughout the week of April 5-11 2021. 17 panels are organised across the six days of events, which also feature three plenary addresses, a series of roundtables devoted to teaching, research and inclusivity. The unprecedented nature of this event has necessitated a number of new policies and procedures, including revised conference fee structure. Future reports from the sub-committee will reflect in depth on the outcome of this pioneering event and any lessons learnt.

Future Annual Conferences

The original hosts of the 2021 event, the University of Hull, have agreed to host in 2022, with Keele University hosting in 2023. Plans are being considered to host another digital BAAS conference in 2024.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Covid-19 - Potential Impacts on the Charity

Awards Payments

At the virtual BAAS Executive meeting held on 16/04/2020 on what would have been the BAAS AGM, it was decided that the tenable period for BAAS Research and Travel Awards would be extended for another year, though potentially by longer as further disruption and personal circumstances dictate. Consequently, awards payments have largely been deferred over the course of the last year and are likely to be deferred until opportunities for travel and increased mobility resume. Though this will not represent a loss of income for the charity, it is likely to skew the accounts figures for the 2021-2022 financial year and possibly beyond.

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BAAS Annual Conference 2021

In the wake of the cancellation of the Liverpool conference in 2020, it was decided that the 2021 conference which was to be hosted at Hull would be postponed, and the proposed 2022 digital conference be moved forward. The movement to an online platform to host the 2021 conference has generated an opportunity to mitigate against the threat of inevitable cancellation and manage costs. Total revenues from ticket sales amounted to £5786 with an additional £4550 pounds received in sponsorship from the US Embassy to sponsor postgraduate registration and miscellaneous costs. A further £300 was received from additional sponsors. For the purposes of administration, BAAS appointed a Conference Manager to be paid a nominal fee of £6000 and several postgraduates for the duration of the conference paid at an hourly rate of £15.83 (£815 in total). In addition to web hosting and design costs (£622), two new Zoom accounts were set up in order for BAAS to be able to run a large-scale online event at a cost of £50. The total costs designated to keynote speakers amounted to £2200; however £200 of this was to be covered by funds from the US Embassy and £1000 paid directly by JAS. As such, the organisation made a moderate profit from the virtual conference of £949. In 2018 BAAS generated a profit of £8581 from the EBAAS conference in London and in 2019, generated a profit of £12,020 from the conference held at the University of Sussex. However, the charity also paid out around £6000 to cover BAAS Executive member expenses related to the 2019 conference, so while BAAS has not generated significant income from the 2021 conference, it does not compare altogether unfavourably with previous years. Furthermore, as a pilot venture, it allows us to reflect on how we might rein in costs for future digital conferences.

Memberships

Though, once again, it is difficult to assess precise financial impacts on the charity relating to memberships, it is projected that some existing members may choose not to renew memberships due to personal financial circumstances resulting from the fallout of COVID-19. Impacts on HEI budgets may also have knock-on effects on Association members. For example, research budgets may be diminished as funds are diverted elsewhere which could create increased demand for BAAS support for research (especially from precariously employed members, a group which is likely to grow even further in size). Additionally, diminished research budgets could mean that colleagues are less able to attend in-person events (such as the annual conference) which could result in a loss of income in the years ahead. However, this has not been borne out over the course of the last year. In fact, between September 2019 and November 2020, active memberships grew from 621 to 672 on the online system and from 635 to 678 on the Google spreadsheet. Across both platforms there has been a more significant increase in concessionary and individual memberships (without a paper subscription to JAS). Furthermore, as we have seen, constraints owing to diminished research budgets could be offset by the increased opportunity for digitisation and the digital pooling of knowledge that has been created by the current crisis.

Subscriptions

In 2019, BAAS Charity took out a subscription to the online teleconferencing service Zoom. Though this expense was taken on prior to the current crisis, we upgraded the subscription to allow us access to the 'webinar' feature in 2020 (for a total of £38 per month) and upgraded subscriptions to fit the conferencing needs for the 2021 virtual conference (see section BAAS Annual Conference 2021). However, taking out this subscription has made the possibility of virtual meetings (both for the charity and limited company) more feasible, and we will continue to mitigate any lost income over the course of the next year by continuing to host meetings virtually. This will save the charity some £2-3,000 that would have been paid out ordinarily in expenses for travel, subsistence and meeting room/catering costs.

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Budgeting

Gov.uk advice for charities in relation to the current crisis indicates the need for Trustees 'to think about whether or not certain projects, spends or activities can be stopped or delayed in order to focus on essential spending if they are facing financial challenges at this time'. BAAS will continue to operate a budget over the next year to determine essential and non-essential spending and mitigate any potential loss of income, re-evaluating the situation as it progresses.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments.

The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

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Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 29 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



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Dr C Rodway
Trustee

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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

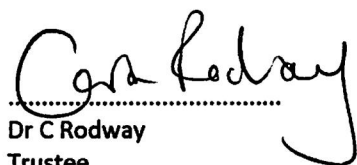
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 29 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Dr C Rodway
Trustee

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Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of British Association for American Studies

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 19 to 32.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of British Association for American Studies you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the British Association for American Studies's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of British Association for American Studies as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
John Saxon F.C.A
the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Progress House
396 Wilmslow Road
Withington
Manchester
M20 3BN

29 April 2021

British Association for American Studies

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Charitable activities	2	75,727	75,727	114,467
Investment income	3	<u>54,595</u>	<u>54,595</u>	<u>55,989</u>
Total income		<u>130,322</u>	<u>130,322</u>	<u>170,456</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		<u>(59,149)</u>	<u>(59,149)</u>	<u>(118,171)</u>
Total expenditure	4	<u>(59,149)</u>	<u>(59,149)</u>	<u>(118,171)</u>
Net income		<u>71,173</u>	<u>71,173</u>	<u>52,285</u>
Net movement in funds		71,173	71,173	52,285
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>225,331</u>	<u>225,331</u>	<u>173,046</u>
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>296,504</u>	<u>296,504</u>	<u>225,331</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2019 is shown in note 13.

The notes on pages 21 to 32 form an integral part of these financial statements.

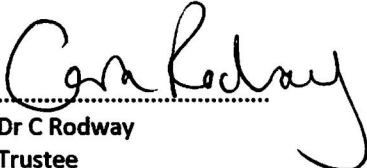
British Association for American Studies

(Registration number: 1170382)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	9	100	100
Current assets			
Debtors	10	10,816	24,565
Cash at bank and in hand	11	<u>319,250</u>	<u>221,839</u>
		330,066	246,404
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(33,662)</u>	<u>(21,173)</u>
Net current assets		<u>296,404</u>	<u>225,231</u>
Net assets		<u>296,504</u>	<u>225,331</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>296,504</u>	<u>225,331</u>
Total funds	13	<u>296,504</u>	<u>225,331</u>

The financial statements on pages 19 to 32 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 29 April 2021 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Dr C Rodway
Trustee

The notes on pages 21 to 32 form an integral part of these financial statements.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

British Association for American Studies meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Office Equipment	Fully depreciated

Business combinations

Business combinations are accounted for under the purchase method. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the charity. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. In accordance with Section 35 of FRS 102, Section 19 of FRS 102 has not been applied in these financial statements in respect of business combinations effected prior to the date of transition.

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Debt instruments

Debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

(a) The contractual return to the holder is (i) a fixed amount; (ii) a positive fixed rate or a positive variable rate; or (iii) a combination of a positive or a negative fixed rate and a positive variable rate.

(b) The contract may provide for repayments of the principal or the return to the holder (but not both) to be linked to a single relevant observable index of general price inflation of the currency in which the debt instrument is denominated, provided such links are not leveraged.

(c) The contract may provide for a determinable variation of the return to the holder during the life of the instrument, provided that (i) the new rate satisfies condition (a) and the variation is not contingent on future events other than (1) a change of a contractual variable rate; (2) to protect the holder against credit deterioration of the issuer; (3) changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law; or (ii) the new rate is a market rate of interest and satisfies condition (a).

(d) There is no contractual provision that could, by its terms, result in the holder losing the principal amount or any interest attributable to the current period or prior periods.

(e) Contractual provisions that permit the issuer to prepay a debt instrument or permit the holder to put it back to the issuer before maturity are not contingent on future events, other than to protect the holder against the credit deterioration of the issuer or a change in control of the issuer, or to protect the holder or issuer against changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law.

(f) Contractual provisions may permit the extension of the term of the debt instrument, provided that the return to the holder and any other contractual provisions applicable during the extended term satisfy the conditions of paragraphs (a) to (c).

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

With the exception of some hedging instruments, other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

Investments

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Derivative financial instruments

The charity uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk and interest rate movements. The charity does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in statement of financial activities immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in statement of financial activities depends on the nature of the hedge relationship.

Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Awards and Prize Giving Funds	57,877	57,877	89,016
Subscriptions	16,376	16,376	15,799
Membership income	1,021	1,021	1,071
Conference income	642	642	8,581
	<u>75,916</u>	<u>75,916</u>	<u>114,467</u>

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	327	327	641
Other investment income	54,268	54,268	55,348
	<u>54,595</u>	<u>54,595</u>	<u>55,989</u>

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Prizes and Awards	45,562	45,562	88,826
Conference costs	5,924	5,924	16,237
Website costs	1,440	1,440	1,440
Subscriptions	780	780	522
Travel costs	2,676	2,676	5,125
Other Costs	-	-	1,500
Admin costs	316	316	280
Bank charges and fees	843	843	960
	<u>57,541</u>	<u>57,541</u>	<u>114,890</u>

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	1,608	1,608	1,680
Legal fees	-	-	1,600
	<u>1,608</u>	<u>1,608</u>	<u>3,280</u>

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Dr B Offiler

£Nil (2019: £99) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr B Offiler during the year.

Dr R Williams

£Nil (2019: £484) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr R Williams during the year.

Dr N Grant

£Nil (2019: £181) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr N Grant during the year.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Mr C A Parkes

£Nil (2019: £172) of expenses were reimbursed to Mr C A Parkes during the year.

Dr N Willson

£Nil (2019: £599) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr N Willson during the year.

Mrs O Wright

£Nil (2019: £330) of expenses were reimbursed to Mrs O Wright during the year.

Dr MJ Collins

£Nil (2019: £107) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr MJ Collins during the year.

Dr E Hall

£Nil (2019: £100) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr E Hall during the year.

Prof B E Ward

£Nil (2019: £823) of expenses were reimbursed to Prof B E Ward during the year.

Dr K Dossett

£Nil (2019: £324) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr K Dossett during the year.

Dr EJ Long

£Nil (2019: £43) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr EJ Long during the year.

Dr J Street

£Nil (2019: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr J Street during the year.

Dr L MacDonald

£Nil (2019: £724) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr L MacDonald during the year.

Dr E J West

£Nil (2019: £123) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr E J West during the year.

Dr C Rodway

£Nil (2019: £104) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr C Rodway during the year.

Dr S E Mawdsley

£91 (2019: £97) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr S E Mawdsley during the year.

Dr T J Wright

£544 (2019: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to Dr T J Wright during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

7 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2020 £	2019 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,608</u>	<u>1,680</u>

8 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

9 Fixed asset investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Shares in group undertakings and participating interests

	Subsidiary undertakings £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2020	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2020	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charity holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Undertaking	Country of incorporation	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held		Principal activity
			2020	2019	
Subsidiary undertakings					
BAAS Publications Ltd	England	Ordinary Shares	100%	100%	Publication of journals to encourage education and advance study of the United States.

The profit for the financial period of BAAS Publications Ltd was £64,242 (2019 - £54,268) and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £64,342 (2019 - £54,368).

10 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Due from group undertakings	<u>10,816</u>	<u>24,565</u>

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash at bank	<u>319,250</u>	<u>221,839</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other creditors	31,982	19,493
Accruals	<u>1,680</u>	<u>1,680</u>
	<u>33,662</u>	<u>21,173</u>

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

13 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
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Unrestricted funds

General	<u>225,331</u>	<u>130,322</u>	<u>(59,149)</u>	<u>296,504</u>
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	Balance at 1 January 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2019 £
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Unrestricted funds

General	<u>173,046</u>	<u>170,456</u>	<u>(118,171)</u>	<u>225,331</u>
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14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 December 2020 £
Fixed asset investments	100	100
Current assets	330,066	330,066
Current liabilities	<u>(33,662)</u>	<u>(33,662)</u>
Total net assets	<u>296,504</u>	<u>296,504</u>

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 December 2019 £
Fixed asset investments	100	100
Current assets	246,404	246,404
Current liabilities	<u>(21,173)</u>	<u>(21,173)</u>
Total net assets	<u>225,331</u>	<u>225,331</u>

15 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 January 2020 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 December 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>221,839</u>	<u>97,411</u>	<u>319,250</u>
Net debt	<u>221,839</u>	<u>97,411</u>	<u>319,250</u>

British Association for American Studies

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	At 1 January 2019 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 December 2019 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>145,094</u>	<u>76,745</u>	<u>221,839</u>
Net debt	<u>145,094</u>	<u>76,745</u>	<u>221,839</u>

16 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

BAAS Publications Ltd

(The Charity holds 100% of the called up share capital of this company)

The Charity receives gift aid payments from the company and also pays expenses on its behalf. At the balance sheet date the amount due from BAAS Publications Ltd was £10,816 (2019 - £24,565).