

Campaign statement for Andrew David (United Kingdom)

Background and professional experience: I have spent more than 40 years working as a broadcaster and journalist, primarily with the BBC, committed to high-quality public service broadcasting and journalism. My work has received international recognition, notably through several Edward R. Murrow Awards for News Documentary. I moved into higher education in 2007, launching and managing Siren Radio, the community radio station at the University of Lincoln, and began teaching broadcasting and journalism classes. Since 2024, I have served as an Adjunct Professor teaching communication, media, and public relations at Nottingham Trent University's Joint Institute with the Communication University of China in Beijing. My international teaching has included delivering mid-career training for network broadcasters in Moldova for the Council of Europe, as well as giving presentations at conferences in France, Belgium, Portugal, Cyprus, Canada, Mexico and New Zealand. I have also contributed to the development of journalism education across Europe through a two decade involvement with the European Journalism Training Association (EJTA).

Involvement with BEA: I have enjoyed being a member of BEA for more than 15 years, attending the conventions, presenting papers, producing podcasts at the conventions, and serving as master of ceremonies for Ignite sessions. BEA has provided me with valuable opportunities for professional development, collaboration, and friendship. I would like to help ensure that those opportunities are equally accessible to members around the world.

Why I am seeking this role: Higher education faces significant challenges worldwide, with financial pressures, institutional restructuring and cuts to media and journalism programmes. Yet the need for high-quality media education has never been greater, and international collaboration offers valuable opportunities to share ideas, learn from different experiences and strengthen our programmes.

My experience working in Western and East Asian academic environments has deepened my understanding of the practical barriers experienced by international members, from travel costs and time zone considerations to differing professional and educational cultures.

As BEA's International Representative, I would work to ensure that international members have a strong voice and feel valued, supported and connected to the wider BEA community.

Engaging, supporting and growing BEA's international membership

I would focus on three key areas:

1) Building connections and community

Global Spotlight Series Organise regular online discussions and workshops throughout the year, exploring developments in media education, broadcasting and the wider industry from different parts of the world.

International mentoring Create opportunities for faculty members, researchers, and graduate students to connect with experienced BEA members for mentoring, collaboration, and research partnerships.

Regional gatherings Encourage informal BEA meet-ups and networking opportunities at international conferences, such as those organised by the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) and the International Communication Association (ICA), enabling members to build and maintain professional connections particularly for members who are unable to travel to events in the United States.

2) Supporting research and creative practice

Festival and grant advocacy Promote wider participation in the Festival of Media Arts and explore ways to support members from regions where participation costs present significant barriers"

Shared teaching resources Develop a repository of international case studies, teaching materials, syllabi, and classroom resources that members can adapt and use in their own programmes.

3) Growing membership and accessibility

Communicating BEA's value Clearly demonstrate how BEA membership supports teaching excellence, research activity, professional development, student opportunities, and career progression.

International ambassador network Establish a network of faculty and student ambassadors who can promote BEA locally, organise activities within their regions, and provide regular feedback to the Board.

The BEA is at its strongest when it reflects the diversity of media educators and practitioners around the world.

My overarching goal is to strengthen BEA's international community, encourage engagement throughout the year and ensure that members, wherever they are based, feel that BEA is their professional home.

Respectfully submitted, Andrew David, October 2026