The Equality and Diversity Group welcome the statement by CIfA rapidly responding to the
disappointment and anger over the all-male panel in a session discussing professional
standards and ethics at the 2017 conference. This single event, however, should be viewed
within the context of structural inequality, barriers to accessibility and lack of diversity in
conferences, and indeed the underlying institutions, more generally. As acknowledged in
CIfA’s statement, considerable research and work has been and continues to be done by
other groups to address these underlying problems.

We will be working closely with CIfA to ensure that new practices are a genuine benchmark
within the industry, and that they are put in place in partnership with those who are already
producing advice and guidance in these areas. Our aim is that the event at the 2017
conference and the frustration which it has rightly engendered is a catalyst for embedding
equality, diversity and accessibility in the planning, organisation and hosting of all future
conferences and events.

We see this as a positive opportunity for change and are very keen to invite any individuals
or groups who want to work with us or share experiences about conference diversity and
accessibility to contact us:

Twitter: @CIfA_Equality
Email: equalityanddiversitygroup@gmail.com