

# UCML Executive Committee

Friday 26 April 2019

12.30 – 16.00

Room C60b/c, InfoLab21  
School of Computing & Communications  
Lancaster University, LA1 4WA



## Item 10g – Middle Eastern studies report

### 1. British and Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES) conference:

The University of Leeds will be hosting BRISMES annual conference this year, 24-27 June 2019. The Theme of the conference is: *Joining the Dots: Interdisciplinarity in Middle East Studies*.

The conference seeks to promote interdisciplinarity and 'foster dialogue between scholars studying the Middle East and North Africa from all disciplines'.

Further information on the conference can be found at: <http://www.brismes.ac.uk/conference/call-for-papers-2019/>

### 2. The British Association for Turkish Area Studies (BATAS)

The British Association for Turkish Area Studies (BATAS) provides a forum for academic and researchers interested in Turkish politics, society, history, language and culture. The Association organizes annual events, including an annual lecture (the John Martin Lecture) and a one-day Spring Symposium. Its *Thirtieth Spring Symposium* will be hosted this year by the University of Cambridge on Saturday, 11 May 2019. Further information on the Symposium can be found at the following link:

[http://batas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2019-BATAS\\_SpringSym-complete.pdf](http://batas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2019-BATAS_SpringSym-complete.pdf)

The Association annual John Martin Lecture, which took place this year in 30 November 2018, was delivered by Richard Moore, former British Ambassador to Turkey (2014-2017), titled: UK-TURKEY RELATIONS IN THE ERDOĞAN ERA

### 3. Arabic Language conference – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019, King's College.

King's College hosted an Arabic conference on the teaching of Arabic in UK Higher Education. The conference discussed a variety of themes pertaining to the teaching and learning of Arabic in UK Higher Education.

#### **4. British Association of Teachers of Arabic (BATA) (Re-launch May/June 2019)**

BATA will support and promote teaching, learning and research in the fields of Arabic language, culture, linguistics, and literature. BATA will aim to achieve the following objectives:

1. To develop a network of teachers and graduates, who specialise in the teaching of Arabic in the UK.
2. To facilitate links between institutions both within the UK and abroad.
3. To encourage partnership working between schools and universities.
4. To provide practical support in the areas of materials/resources and networking for teachers.
5. To support research and teaching in the field of Arabic teaching.
6. To cooperate with other institutions and organizations which have similar interests and goals.
7. To promote understanding and communication between British and Middle Eastern teachers involved in teaching Arabic and literature.
8. To hold an annual or bi-annual conference, with the goal of providing an outlet and discussion forum for the work and research of teachers of Arabic and literature.
9. To set up a website to promote the teaching and study of Arabic, culture and literature at all levels.

Professor Mustapha Lahlali, University of Leeds

Middle Eastern Studies Representative

16 April 2019