

UCML Executive Committee



Friday 26 April 2019

12.30 – 16.00

Room C60b/c, InfoLab21

School of Computing & Communications

Lancaster University, LA1 4WA

Item 10k – IWLP report

1. AULC-related

1.1 The AULC-UCML report on IWLP 2018-19, based on the survey of IWLP provision which was conducted in November 2018, is expected in April.

1.2 Mark Critchley, Durham University, has been elected as the new Chair of AULC. He takes over from Dr John Morley in May 2019.

1.3 The AULC Treasurer has observed some pressures in some of the smaller language units. This is having an impact in terms of AULC membership as IWLP language is reduced or even withdrawn. With the current policy concerns affecting HE generally (e.g. Augar review, TEF), there is a threat to peripheral language programmes at some universities which do not offer language degree programmes, and this suggests that University management see little benefit in investing in language provision. This is something for us all to be aware of and continue to monitor. The Treasurer wondered whether UCML is aware of any members having difficulty in getting membership subscriptions approved.

2. 20th AULC conference – King’s College London, 10-11 January 2019

“Linguistic transitions: towards languages for life” was attended by a record-breaking 200+ delegates with a variety of connections to supporting the teaching and learning of languages.

The 21st AULC conference will be held at Maynooth University, Ireland, 9-10 January 2020.

3. LSPHE: Languages for Specific Purposes in Higher Education

The 5th annual Languages for Specific Purposes in Higher Education conference will be held over 2 days at Imperial College London on Thurs 12th-Fri 13th September 2019.

4. Arabic Language Teaching and Learning in UKHE conference

The 2nd Arabic Language Teaching and Learning conference in UK HE was hosted by KCL on 4th April 2019. With an emphasis on alignment with the CEFR, the event spanned both degree and IWLP teaching. It highlighted the relaunch of the British Association of Teachers of Arabic (BATA) which supports and promotes teaching, learning and research in the fields of Arabic language, culture, linguistics, and literature.

NB: A similar meeting for teachers of French in UK HE for September 2019 has been suggested via the IFProfs network. Please contact Mark Critchley mark.critchley@durham.ac.uk to register your interest and/or find out more.

5. CercleS

Following on from the Wulkow meeting in January 2019, the CercleS Focus Group on Management and Leadership (of which Mark Critchley is the Convenor) is to send a letter to the Heads of all the national associations to suggest that a CercleS-wide survey is undertaken. This relates to the lack of Europe-wide information about Language Centre operations and the fact that many national associations themselves have very little accumulated data. The suggestion is for a survey in late 2019. This may prompt concerns about duplication.

Caroline Campbell
IWLP rep, University of Leeds

12 April 2019