

UCML Executive Committee

Friday 26 April 2019

12.30 – 16.00

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



Item 4 – VC Education report

- 1) **Granularity project:** we are negotiating with UCAS for a fair price on the Joint Hons dataset; Claire StJ-E and I have been looking at ways through which this can be achieved but it is looking more expensive than the original quote we were given. We are now waiting for a third quote.
- 2) **2019 UCML/Language Acts survey:** in the last Steering Group meeting it was suggested that the survey be held after the Brexit vote (12 April at the time the decision was made) or shortly thereafter in the case of an impasse. Therefore, given the uncertainty regarding a potential leaving date, CML shall circulate the survey as soon as the questionnaire has been approved by the Executive. I would be most grateful if colleagues could read Appendix A to this effect.

Appendix A lists the original questions for the 2018 survey. The 2019 survey proposes an additional set of questions regarding HEIs position statements around a number of issues relating to Brexit. In particular, I would like to discuss the suitability of the new questions alongside which ones from the previous set could be left out so that the 2019 survey is not too long.

- 3) **OneHE platform:** I met with Simon Jones, one of the founders of OneHE, to discuss UCML's requirements should we decide to join their proposed new network. The idea is that UCML becomes a national network for languages that incorporates both Routes into Languages and Network4Languages within the same structure. In particular, the idea of UCML becoming a Subject Centre for languages was discussed and I think that the OneHE platform would work very well to this effect. The latest proposal can be seen in Appendix B and I will offer more details during the meeting.
- 4) I have obtained Language Acts Small bids funding with a Lancaster colleague to organise a conference aimed at bridging the gap between the Languages Education sectors (to be held in July at Lancaster). Thanks to both Claire and Olga for supporting the bid; I am sure that mentioning UCML contributed to making the application successful. The event will take the form of a one-day conference with invited speakers who will also lead working groups. More details to follow.

Appendix A

UCML / Language Acts survey 2019

Original questions:

- 1) Please provide your **name**
- 2) Please provide your institutional **email address**
- 3) Please provide your **position** within your HEI
- 4) Please provide the **name of your institution**

- 5) When did your first MFL courses start at your institution?
- 6) Please indicate the languages currently offered as part of undergraduate MFL degree programmes (including language minors) at your institution (tick all that apply)
 - a. If other, please specify
- 7) Who is currently teaching your core and optional language modules (see Note below)? (tick all that apply)
 - a. If other, please specify
 - b. Are the majority of the staff employed by MFL Departments teaching language modules working on a part-time / hourly-paid or full-time basis?
 - c. If you offer postgraduate MFL degree programmes, do you have any taught language modules (focusing on language as an object of study, such as grammar, translation, conversation...)?
- 8) Please describe any needs and challenges that the provision of language modules within your MFL Department is currently facing or may face in the future
 - a. What possible changes or solutions are being considered?
- 9) Does your institution currently offer languages as part of a Languages for All Programme or within a Language Centre?
 - a. Please explain how languages are offered across your institution
 - b. Describe the extent of collaboration between language teachers in MFL Departments and IWLP teachers (tick all that apply)
 - i. If Other, please specify.
 - ii. How long has this collaboration existed?
 - iii. How valuable for your MFL Department is your collaboration with IWLP or the Language Centre?
 1. Choose from Likert scale
 2. Please explain your response.
 3. How could the collaboration be improved?
 - c. If you do not have IWLP, did it exist in the past?
 - i. If Yes, please explain the kind of provision that existed
 - ii. If you do not have IWLP, are there plans to offer it in the future?
 1. If Yes or No, please explain your answer briefly
- 10) Is there anything else in relation to this survey that you would like to add?

Additional questions (BUT we may want to remove some of the questions above otherwise the survey will be too long and discourage completion):

- 1) In general terms, has your institution taken a firm stance within the Brexit debate?
- 2) What steps, if any, has your School/Department taken to address the Brexit transition?
- 3) What future steps, if any, is your School/Department considering implementing immediately after the UK exits the EU?
- 4) Has your institution taken a stance on the issues relating to Brexit and the Year/Residence Abroad period?
- 5) Has your institution declared they will underwrite student mobility in the future after the UK's exit from the EU? If so, please provide details.
- 6) Does your institution have a language strategy?
- 7) Would you be able to describe your institution's language strategy or append it here as an attachment?

EP

15/04/2019

Appendix B



Elena Polisca, University Council of Modern Languages

Proposal to provide network space for the University Council of Modern Languages, Network for Languages and Routes into Languages in OneHE

Simon Jones

OneHE

March 2019

Context:

OneHE provides free community space to emerging and existing networks of educators in higher education. The University Council of Modern Languages (UCML) is currently onboarding to OneHE. During an update call, OneHE was approached on the possibility of hosting their website together with those of Network for Languages and Routes into Languages.

While this isn't possible, OneHE would like to propose that the three networks consider using the UCML network space to fulfil not only the core purpose of providing a space for its members to connect, collaborate and innovate but to provide a home for the resources held by the three groups - in effect, acting as a subject centre. In addition, as part of the sign in process for new members (if you plan to continue to recruit) we will create a joint branded landing page which will present core information about your group or sub-group as part of the pre-registration.

About OneHE:

OneHE is a global network for educators with a passion for learning and teaching. We bring educators together to share ideas, solve common challenges and inspire each other to improve the impact and effectiveness of higher education, building on our shared wisdom and experience.

As an online community, we provide a safe place where educators can meet new colleagues, collaborate across disciplines, build scholarly communities, promote and develop their practice, gain recognition and apply for funding.

Our aim is to enable our community to change the way higher education is delivered, and in so doing to enhance public faith and confidence in the value of higher education and act as a force for social good. The following explains how this works – explaining how networks works for the benefit of those with no knowledge of OneHE.

OneHE for networks:

OneHE wants as many educators as possible involved in and benefitting from it and, reflecting this ambition, we have made the online platform free to networks of educators for life. We can help network owners to enrich their engagement with their members, make management of the network easier, connect their network with other like-minded groups worldwide and provide opportunities for their membership to collaborate with an engaged global community.

Once we have completed the set up for UCML, you will be able recruit/transfer in and manage your membership, provide sub-groups and forums, promote and manage events and run collaborative projects. And moving forward, we are developing mentoring solutions that will enable community members to offer themselves as mentors.

Access to your private network group is free for your members. If your members wish to engage in other aspects of OneHE – such as connecting with other individual members outside your network, or bidding for funding – then they can become members of the OneHE community for a low membership fee of as little as £3 per month. These fees enable us to keep OneHE free from advertising and sponsorship and focused on the needs of educators. A significant proportion of all

funds are reinvested in member-led projects that support innovation and the continued development of the community.

How does the network space work?

As a network convenor, you can create your own private network group on OneHE where you control who is admitted and can facilitate deeper engagement with your members.

Manage your membership

Invite members to join or upload existing member details.

Provide a private directory of your members with rich individual profiles.

Accept/decline requests from OneHE members to join.

Run surveys

Run polls, votes and surveys with your members.

Resources

Build and store member resources across multi-media. OneHE is a cloud-based platform with no restrictions on the quantity of resources stored

Improve communications

Send and receive private communications to your members.

Allow your members to determine the communications and updates they receive, e.g. notifications, weekly digest emails, etc.

Run email campaigns for particular initiatives within your network.

Promote discussion

Run online forums and discussion threads for your members.

Promote particular discussions on the basis of popularity and engagement through voting.

Use forums to enable members to help each other.

Create and manage sub-groups

OneHE now allows convenors to create and manage sub-groups which would work for Routes and Network4Languages

Promote and manage events

Promote events exclusively for your network. Manage all aspects of event administration including ticketing, payments, registration and ongoing communications. Provide pre- and post-event spaces for discussion through groups and forums.

Increase member engagement

Use activity tools and engagement scoring including voting in forums to understand how your members are interacting. Recognise members for their contributions to your community.

Improve access for members

Widen access to your network by providing app support through the OneHE app. Enable notifications to improve engagement.

And **connect** your network to other networks worldwide

In development:

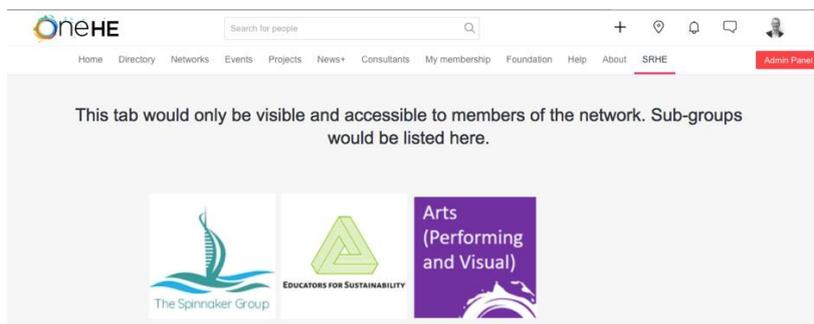
- Mentoring
- Integrated video conferencing

Addressing the website content need

Looking at the UCML website much of its content can be incorporated into the UCML OneHE network space. (This applies to Routes into Languages and Network for Languages too which would be treated as sub-brands (below) of UCML). This can be achieved simply using the network management which allows for the configuration of the network space to be expanded to meet most needs. For example, using Custom Tabs in the Network Management area, you could create an 'About' tab under which you could incorporate member types, committee, constitution and standing orders. This therefore applies to all forms of resources.

Naturally there are video aids and guide notes to support this process and we will also provide support for onboarding.

If the network space was to be under the UCML brand, both Routes into Languages and Network for Languages could be hosted as sub-brands or products. We are currently progressing this for two networks that are onboarding – both of which will operate as sub-networks under the umbrella network. This is demonstrated below – where the three group are in effect sub-groups of the umbrella group. By simply click any of the images you would access a separate new sub-network/group area with all network/group functionality at your disposal:



Furthermore, if you wished to create external links to LLAS or Humanity Box, you can – below is example from one of the new networks:

The Peer Review College

The PRC	Join	Develop
What is the PRC?	PRC Membership	Benefits of PRC Membership
Explore	Book	
Current PRC Offers to Members	Commissioning PRC activities in your institution	

In summary, we would welcome the opportunity to explore this opportunity further with you. We look forward to speaking further

Simon Jones
Founder & Director of Engagement
OneHE
March 2019.