

3 April 2020

13h–16h by Teams

Item 10b: French studies

There was no opportunity for a handover with my predecessor so I contacted the presidents of associations I already knew, namely AFLS, ASMCF, AUPHF and SFS. I also researched other potential societies interested in French Studies and I identified with the help of Naomi and Claire: Women in French, French postcolonial Studies and French history. Any other suggestions would be welcome.

My recent communications about our spring meeting have yielded limited news, as all associations are cancelling events in the wake of the Covid19 outbreak. Here are the news by association:

AFLS:

- The annual conference planned in Brussels mid-June may not go ahead. The committee will make a decision on whether or not postpone led by after Easter.
- The Association has seen a number of joint letters and initiatives in favour of languages led by UCML, of which it was not aware until they were published. AFLS is very supportive of actions in support of languages in the UK, and would appreciate to be associated to future actions.

AUPHF: together with other associations in the AHA AUPHF has signed a letter to request that UKRI suspends its OA Consultation until such time as the ongoing Covid-19 health crisis has come to an end

SFS:

- The society is very concerned about the UKRI OA Consultation but hoping it will be postponed under the dire circumstances.
- The annual PG conference has been postponed in view of the Covid19 crisis, and the SFS conference at Bath end of June is under review.
- They would be interested to know how institutions are planning for final oral exams.

No response has been received from the other French associations.

Emmanuelle Labeau, Aston University