

UCML Winter Plenary

15th January 2021 10:00-11.30am



Item 4a: Northern Ireland

The challenges of 2020 do not seem to have dissipated with the arrival of 2021. Northern Ireland is currently in lockdown and we are feeling the impact of Brexit in practical ways already.

Since the submission of the December report, two virtual meetings have taken place with colleagues from Ulster University: Professor Rafaella Folli, Provost, with lecturers in languages and linguistics, and Dr David Barr, Head of School of Education (UU) respectively. Professor Folli expressed enthusiasm for Ulster University re-joining UCML. Colleagues from languages and linguistics are keen to share their research impact work with UCML colleagues, and will make a short online presentation at the Winter Plenary.

The UCML Northern Ireland representative joined a meeting with the UCML Chair and regional representatives on 31st December 2020 to discuss the implications of the announcement of the UK withdrawal from Erasmus Plus, and the proposed Turing scheme, and to agree an appropriate coordinated response. In Northern Ireland we await further details with respect to both the Erasmus withdrawal and Turing, as well as details following a brief Irish Government media statement of an intention to fund student mobility in Universities in the North.

Sharon Jones

UCML NI Representative

14/01/21