

## Item 10.j Linguistics

Report from Dr Federico Faloppa, Linguistics representative

CLIE (Committee for Linguistics in Education) keeps providing school teachers with tools and materials that can promote linguistics within MFL curricula. UCML could (should) work more closely with CLIE in exploring the possibility of co-producing some of this didactic material.

On this matter, the survey/research project [\*Linguistics in Modern and Foreign Languages\*](#) – a joint venture between five universities (Anglia Ruskin, Birmingham, Bristol, Westminster, Cambridge) aiming at assessing the potential for the inclusion of linguistic topics in the MFL curriculum – is ongoing and results should be available in 2021.

As we know, the Department of Education has opened the GCSE MFL subject content review (closing on 19 May) to seek views on the [Department's revised GCSE modern foreign language](#) (MFL) subject content for French, German and Spanish. CLIE is preparing a report by the 6<sup>th</sup> May, and UCML has asked CLIE to share its response with us.

On [CLIE's website](#), useful reports and other material relevant to language education in the UK on language education can be also found.

UCGAL is running a [Census of linguists in the UK](#), aiming to get a snapshot of where all the linguists are and what kind of status/security they have. In many institutions linguistics is distributed between a range of departments and faculties and not being a school subject, it lacks public recognition compared with other threatened Humanities subjects such as English and History. The purpose of the survey is also to map changes, use the hard information to lobby policy makers and University leaders, and support the public engagement agenda to make Linguistics more recognisable and attractive to students and funders/managers alike.

2 years ago I designed a similar survey for UCML, with the purpose of mapping teaching and research in linguistics in MFL departments, but we have not managed to circulate it yet. It would be useful if we could circulate this before the end of this academic year.

Bilingualism matters at Reading – in collaboration with CamBilingNetwork at the University of Cambridge, UCL BiLingo at UCL, the University of Oxford and NALDIC, Mother Tongues Ireland, and We Live Languages – is running a research on [Language in](#)

[\*multilingual families during the Covid-19 pandemic\*](#), involving ca one hundred families to investigate how beliefs about multilingualism and language use may be affected in multilingual families in the UK and Ireland by school closures and social distancing measures during the COVID-19 pandemic. Launched on 20th April 2020 the project will close on 20th July 2020. Findings of the research will be presented at the [\*Languages in Lockdown\*](#) event on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 4-5.30pm.