

UCML Executive Committee

Friday 12 November 2021 10am-12pm

Via MS Teams



Item 5: Report of Vice Chair Research

I was delighted to take up post at the end of September. On my nomination form I outlined 2 key priority areas on which I would like to focus:

- highlighting the importance of ML research at a time when languages are becoming increasingly perceived as a 'service subject' that teaches linguistic skills de-coupled from cultural learning (from the new GCSE in England to the reduction of provision in some HEIs)
- further supporting postgraduate research students, integrating them more fully into our community, and supporting them in the transition to postdoctoral or teaching and research posts.

Actions

I have met with Charles Burdett as Director of the IMLR. We have agreed:

- the need to build community and increase the reach of UCML in research terms
- I will join (and possibly later co-chair) the AMLUK meetings to ensure UCML is working in tandem with the subject associations
- I will play a role in the IMLR/UCML event on February 25th exploring the legacy of OWRI and the event on March 25th exploring how subject associations, schools, UCML and universities can pool resources on decolonising the curriculum

I have prepared a proposal for the establishment of a bursary for postgraduate students at the end of the PhD, to support them as they transition to the next stages of an academic career and to enable them to produce engagement resources based on their research which will promote the value of ML research to a wider community.

Liz Wren-Owens, 05/11/21