

**University Council of Modern Languages**  
Report for Executive Committee – 11/11/22

1. Scottish Modern Languages mentoring programme

In collaboration with SCILT and local authorities in the North East, we are working towards the launch of the pilot Scottish Modern Languages mentoring programme in February 2023. Ten University of Aberdeen students have expressed an interest in joining the scheme as mentors, and we are in the process of gathering expressions of interest from partner schools in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. Training sessions will take place in December and January, with mentoring interventions taking place over a six-week period during February and March. Coordination, training and organizational support is being provided by SCILT, for which we are very grateful.

2. Senior Phase Modern Languages Workshops

A series of workshops aimed at Senior Phase students (Higher/Advanced Higher) from across Scotland is currently underway, led by SCILT, concluding in December with a session hosted by Dundee. Each session focuses on different skills (translation, cultural and critical analysis, grammar and language) with the aim of giving a taste of language study at university as well as tips and guidance to support students with their current studies.

3. Proposed Scottish Government mobility programme

Details of the proposed extension to the Turing Scheme have still to be clarified. I am hoping to gain further insight at the next meeting of the Education Scotland Languages Strategic Interest Group, which has been delayed due to scheduling problems.

4. ILCS Advisory Council

In my capacity as Chair of UCML Scotland, I have been invited to join the Advisory Council of the Institute for Languages, Cultures and Societies, formerly the IMLR, and will attend my first meeting of the Council in December.

5. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Languages, Cultures and Societies

The consultation period for the LCS benchmark statement closed on 2 November. The SBS Advisory Group will be meeting in early December to review and finalize the draft statement in the light of submissions received, with publication of the confirmed version of the statement to follow in the New Year.

6. UCML Scotland meetings

The next meeting of UCML Scotland representatives will take place in December 2022, and we will be joined by Emma Cayley in her role as Chair of the national UCML.

Ed Welch  
University of Aberdeen  
UCML Scotland representative  
07/11/22