Item 10g: East Asian Studies

British Association of Japanese Studies:

Events:
We are in the process of organising our annual Postgraduate Workshop in collaboration with the Japan Foundation. Preparations are also under way for the BAJS Conference in September 2022, to be hosted by the University of Manchester. In terms of past events, naturally most have been done online - including the PG Workshop and our AGM.

Issues:
The main issues revolve around the lack of access to Japan. We continue to work with others on trying to persuade the Japanese government to allow students and then academics into the country. Many of our members are also involved in study abroad programmes and so the changes due to Brexit are having some impact. BAJS is looking to continue to find ways to support those academics working on aspects of Japan who are not based at Japanese Studies departments, but in a more ‘lone scholar’ set-up.

British Association of Korean Studies:

Events:
[Bill Skillend Prize 2021] BAKS’ annual prize award for best undergraduate dissertation in Korean studies in the UK - we are in assessment process, and expect to announce award recipients soon.

Issues:
Lack of funding opportunities to enhance quality of research and networks.

British Association of Chinese Studies:

Events:
The BACS held its annual conference during 6th-10th Sep 2021.

Issues:
The BACS commissioned an independent report (link) from the consultant on Chinese politics and cybersecurity, Dr Samantha Hoffman. The report was commissioned to address the lack of resources to deal with challenges facing the UK higher education sector in the light of the internationalization of higher education and issues that have become more prominent with the wider shift to online learning and the Hong Kong National Security Law.