Item 4c: UCML Wales report July 2022

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Routes into Languages- Cymru

- The team of Routes Cymru Student Language Ambassadors have delivered 50 school sessions as a range of pre-recorded, live streaming into classrooms and face-to-face visits this academic year.
- 30 schools have taken part in the virtual Pupil Language Ambassador Scheme this year and have engaged positively with the monthly challenges set by the language institutes. The virtual celebration ceremony will be organised in July to award the PLA Team of the Year Award.
- 10 live webinars and 2 pre-recorded AS/A Level Masterclasses were delivered by academics and lecturers from Cardiff, Bangor, Aberystwyth and Swansea Universities from February-April 2022. Over 390 students and teachers from across Wales and beyond took advantage of these invaluable sessions.
- Routes Cymru collaborated once again with the Welsh Government’s Seren Programme and Jesus College, Oxford to deliver two virtual modern languages sessions for year 8/9 pupils in March. Over 120 pupils joined the live sessions over the two days.
- The Routes Cymru Primary Toolkit will be launched in July to support the introduction of International Languages as part of the New Curriculum for Wales in September. The toolkit will be available in French and Spanish initially with the German toolkit later on in the autumn term.
• Staff from the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures have participated in a wide range of international conferences over the last year in which they have talked about their research on a wide range of topics concerning the literature, cinema, history, politics, and culture of the countries whose languages we teach here in Bangor. In particular, we have hosted a series of events about Southern Italy.
• We have also participated in a range of in person and online schools events. These have involved both working with school children and modern languages teachers, and indeed working with teachers from both local secondary schools and local primary schools.
• We have been working closely with our international office in order to try to maintain year abroad partnerships in a post-Erasmus context, and to make best use of the Taith and Turing schemes that have been initiated by the Welsh and UK governments.

Cardiff University

• The first cohort of the Cardiff University and Beijing Normal University’s (BNU) joint degree in Chinese graduate this July. Students on the four-year BA dual degree course in Modern Chinese complete the first and the final years in Wales, and the second and third years in China, with the opportunity to complete an internship during this time.
• The fourth run of School of Modern Languages’ free FutureLearn course, Working with Translation: Theory and Practice started in March 2022 and run for four weeks. It attracted almost 3500 students worldwide. The course is now available “on-demand”, where learners can enrol all year round. Nonetheless, there will be another mentored run of the course in early 2023.