UCML Executive Committee Meeting, May 2024

Report of the East Asian Studies Rep

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British Association of Chinese Studies (BACS):

This year the Joint East Asian Studies Conference (JEASC), jointly by BACS, BAKS and BAJS, will be held at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston from 26 to 28 June 2024.

We also run two annual competitions – an ECR Prize based on the submission of an original essay, and a Best Doctoral Thesis award.

BACS members are concerned about the pressures on Chinese language provision in the UK. On the one hand, China has never been more prominent in UK life and the promotion of language skills and related knowledge have never been more important. On the other hand, funding is dwindling and there are anxieties across society about the role of institutions like the Confucius Institutes. Given the importance of China-related knowledge and skills, we hope to see the field appropriately supported.

British Association of Korean Studies (BAKS):

The BAKS has worked with BACS and BAJS (Chinese and Japanese studies) to organise the Joint East Asian Studies Conference being held at the University of Central Lancashire at the end of June this year.

We have worked with the Royal British Legion to gather applications for the BAKS-RBL Study Abroad Bursaries.

We will shortly advertise the Bill Skillend Korean Studies Dissertation Prize.