

CAMBRIDGE²⁰¹¹

Reports for the UACES AGM



UACES Annual General Meeting

5 September 2011



Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Chair's Report | 2 |
| Secretary's Report | 4 |
| Treasurer's Report | 8 |
| Executive Director's Report | 10 |
| JCMS Editor's Report | 12 |

Chair's Report

Introduction

This is my second opportunity to present at the AGM in my role as Chair. I am pleased to report that despite the difficult economic climate, and the current upheaval within the UK Higher Education sector, the Association has not seen any diminution in its membership or scope of activities. And as the Treasurer's report outlines we are also in a strong financial position.

Operational Matters within the Association

Sue Davis (who was taking one year's adoption leave from the Association) has very recently advised us that she does not wish to continue in the role of Executive Director. I have extended Sue the sincere thanks of the Association for all of her work in managing the Association across two decades. Sue has made a remarkable contribution to the development of the Association's activities and standing. The Officers' anticipate retaining access to Sue's expertise and we are in discussion with her on how best to facilitate this.

Since July 2010 Luke Foster has been the interim Executive Director of the Association. The Officers are extremely grateful to Luke for ensuring the smooth running of UACES in the last 12 months. We have greatly benefitted from his long experience with UACES in ensuring that all our activities and events have been delivered to a high standard through the Secretariat.

Emily Linnemann has been working with the Secretariat during the last year to cover the period of Sue's absence. Emily has provided us with very strong support in the delivery of our programme of events and the UACES awards and prizes. The Officers would like to thank Emily for her contribution to our activities and not least the preparations for the Annual Conference, the Thompson-Reuters UACES *Reporting Europe* prize and the two-day *The Lisbon Treaty evaluated* conference.

Richard Lewis has continued to develop our online presence, printed media and other visual imagery during the last 12 months. Members will have noticed the revamp of the UACES Newsletter, the further enhancement of the UACES website and the *IdeasonEurope* blog site, and the visual branding of UACES events. We are grateful to Richard for his hard work in all of these areas.

During the last 12 months we have also reorganised the working methods of the UACES committee to allow us to focus the energies of committee members and officers into the more effective delivery of all strands of our activities. Three working groups now provide the basis for the elected committee members to make their major contribution to delivering UACES objectives and focus on Events and Activities; Media and Communications; Engagement and Internationalisation.

Events and Activities

As noted in the Secretary's report this has been a busy year of activities for the Association. Two major events for the year (supported by successful bids for external funding from the European Commission) were the major two-day conference on *The Lisbon Treaty evaluated: impact and consequences* and a workshop dedicated for post-graduate students workshop entitled *New Frontiers in European Studies*.

We have consolidated our Collaborative Research Networks (CRN) as an established feature of the Association's work. We believe these to be a continuing key strand of members' activities and we continue to see a keen competition for new CRN's with the bids submitted for the creation of new networks.

We have continued with our strand of activities on academic career development in European Studies that commenced last year with our workshop on Teaching European Studies. We anticipate further developing these activities to provide support for our members as they progress in their careers from graduate studies to the early stages of academic employment.

The Brussels-based UACES Arena seminars were rejuvenated in the last year with an open competition for members for bursaries to deliver new ideas that challenge conventional wisdom to policy-makers. There has been a very high degree of competition for the four slots that were available.

Our online presence is now very well-established and the traffic on our UACES blog site, *IdeasonEurope.eu* is very healthy and continues to offer members a forum for informed debate, comment and analysis on issues of European integration. The UACES committee will be examining how we can further develop our online presence over the coming year.

Future Challenges

Overall, through our range of activities, and through the continuing high levels of participation of our increasingly internationalised membership, UACES is in a healthy condition.

A key factor in our continuing vitality is the attention that we give to ensuring the financial health of the Association. The Investment working group, that we created last year, continues to work with an independent financial advisor. Our intention is to secure the assets of the Association through our Reserves and Investment Policy to make adequate provision for the continuation of our current and future activities. Despite the difficult economic climate the financial situation of the Association is strong. However, it is important that we both preserve our existing sources of income whilst seeking to diversify to other sources.

As noted in my previous report a challenge for the Association is the profile of current membership base and the prospects for membership growth in the future. With the membership of the Association now equally balanced between UK-based and overseas members we have been giving ever greater attention to ensuring that our activities (and the location of our events) balances the interests of our UK and non-UK based members. We are also keen that we should have appropriate representation on the UACES committee to reflect the composition of the membership.

Finally, for UK-based members we continue to work with SCHES (and we have now strengthened the link by co-opting the Chair of SCHES on to the UACES committee) to ensure that the interests of European Studies are appropriately represented to relevant bodies, such as the Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE). European Studies within the UK, alongside Area Studies more generally, remains in a rather fragile condition with both the condition of Modern Language teaching and Government-directed changes to Higher Education creating a challenging environment for scholars of Europe.

Conclusion

UACES continues to be very well-placed to serve the membership. We continue to increase the range of activities we undertake. We anticipate that with both the upcoming 50th anniversary of our journal the JCMS and with the 40th anniversary of the UK's accession to the EU we will be able to offer the membership renewed opportunities to facilitate the exchange of ideas on Europe by bringing together our membership of academics and practitioners with policy-makers and civil society.

The Association has a debt of gratitude to its Patrons who have given generously of their time and expertise over the past twelve months to assist in the development of our activities. And I am particularly grateful to Sir Stephen Wall who continues to be extremely helpful to the Association in his role as Honorary President of UACES.

UACES is very well served by the staff of its Secretariat and I am grateful for all of the work of Luke, Richard and Emily over the last year. We are indebted to all of them for the smooth and successful running of our activities.

I also wish to thank my fellow committee members and the officers for all of their work over this last year. I would like to offer particular thanks to Amelia Hadfield who has finished her term of office as Secretary. Amelia has brought remarkable energy and enthusiasm to the UACES Committee and will be greatly missed.

Richard Whitman, *University of Kent*

Secretary's Report

Introduction

There have been significant changes to the structure of the UACES Committee, with some of the work of the old 'European Studies Community sub-committee' now handled by the 'Events and Activities working group' (E&Awg) whilst its outreach work will be taken forward by the 'Engagement & Internationalisation working group'. I have very much enjoyed working within the new format, convening the 'Events and Activities working group' from September 2010 onwards.

UACES Scholarships

Since 2002, UACES Scholarships support study visits by postgraduate students allowing them to continue their research in another country, and has awarded 122 scholarships to students from 31 different countries, with four awarded in 2011 (£1,500 each). Scholarship topics have ranged from internal market issues and integration history to EU institutional development and foreign policy objectives, all of which reflect the vibrant and outstanding research culture of our members. For 2012, UACES will be again be offering four Scholarships for a fixed amount of £1,500 each, to be awarded on a competitive basis to UACES members.

UACES-Funded Events

In addition to scholarships, the E&Awg oversees the distribution of UACES funding for conferences and events (typically workshops) for one-off events. Applications for funding are assessed by members of the working group on a competitive basis. In addition to funding, UACES is able to promote events.

Each event is expected to feed back into other existing UACES activities. Interdisciplinary proposals which encourage the participation of younger academics are particularly welcome. There are three deadlines for submission each year. In the past year, UACES distributed £6,000 across key events, all of which range in the sheer variety of their approaches to European Studies. The following six events have already taken place:

- EU External Relations Law and Policy in the post-Lisbon Era, Sheffield, January 2011
- Space - The Final Frontier: What Potential for a European Space Policy?, Paris, March 2011
- Implementing EU External Policies, Bath, May 2011
- The EU Citizens' Initiative: A New Instrument in Supranational Democracy, Liverpool, May 2011
- 20 Years on Collapse of the Soviet Union, London, June 2011
- Comparative Perspectives on the Substance of EU Democracy Promotion, Ghent, June 2011

The following events are already scheduled for coming year:

- The Legal Dimension of Global Governance: What Role for the EU?, Copenhagen, October 2011
- The Politics of Double-Standard?, Maastricht, December 2011
- Norm Entrepreneurship: The Council of Europe in Comparative Perspective, Oxford, January 2012

Collaborative Research Networks (CRN)

A significant success for UACES has been the establishment and rapid expansion of CRN's. Established in 2009, the CRN funding stream is designed to promote funded networking. The networks themselves will develop research and policy-relevant activities with an aim to widen the participation of a varied array of users. CRN's are eligible for £5,000 over 3 years, and have been popular amongst UACES members, as well as operating as a mechanism to branch out to link up with both non-UACES members and less mainstream forms of European research.

The CRN's established in 2009 are:

- Assessing Accession: Central and Eastern Europe in the EU
- European foreign policies in transition: continuity and change in the European Union new member states' foreign policies
- Policing and European Studies
- The Governance of Sustainability: Multiple Dimensions, Multiple Approaches

The CRN's established in 2010 are:

- EU-Russia
- The EU-27 Single Market in the Global Economy

The CRN's established in 2011 are:

- Euroscepticism
- Probing the Limits of Integration: Romani and Traveller Minorities in Europe

UACES Arena

The UACES Arena is an innovative series of lunchtime seminars in Brussels which since 2007 has offered academics and practitioners an opportunity to exchange ideas and to keep abreast of both policy developments, and scholarship in Contemporary European Studies. The series presents new ideas for a changing Europe with speakers who challenge conventional wisdom in the policy-making world. The speakers have an academic expertise and the Arena offers the invited speakers the opportunity to receive constructive feedback on research-in-progress from a broad, multidisciplinary audience of mainly Brussels-based practitioners of EU policy making, with an interest in policy-relevant research.

To ensure that UACES members invest in both attending and participating in the Brussels Arena events from 2010 onwards, the UACES Arena Bursary has been launched to provide a stipend and the opportunity to speak at the UACES Arena in Brussels. UACES members are invited to apply for the bursaries worth £500. 2010-2011 has seen the stipend work exceptionally well in fostering a competitive spirit amongst members keen to come to Brussels to present themselves and their work to a relevant audience.

2010-2011 has also seen closer institutional contact between Edelman|The Centre and the University of Kent, Brussels in organising and participating in these events, and my thanks go to both UKB Dean Roger Vickerman and Dr Tom Casier for chairing these events with such professionalism. The six Arena Events that have taken place from 2010 to the present have covered a pleasingly wide range of issues, as follows:

- Facing EU policy failures in the Middle East - the new Arab Awakening, June 2011
- The best of intentions: are EU biofuels policies on the right road?, April 2011
- The EU in Israeli Eyes - Public, Elite, Civil Society & Media Perceptions, December 2010
- EU Sports Policy after the Lisbon Treaty, November 2010
- Should the EU Raise its Game in its Relationship with China?, April 2010
- What's Left of the Single Market?, March 2010

Fourth Annual UACES-Thomson Reuters Reporting Europe Prize

UACES has continued to raise its profile amongst practitioners and policy makers, and its annual media prize has not only become something of a fixture in the UK-based world of journalism, but has allowed UACES to break new ground in terms of its 'extra-curricular engagement'. The Prize, which is worth £500, honours excellence in reporting on the European Union in the English-speaking media during the previous year. It is awarded to a single piece of work (or a series of pieces) that excels in stimulating critical debate on European integration. Entries from single and multiple authors are accepted.

Hosted by Thomson-Reuters at Canary Wharf on 4 May 2011, the ceremony continued the professional quality established in 2010, presenting invitees with an introductory video of the short-listed nominations (available to view on both YouTube and the UACES website). These were put together by both Richard Lewis, of UACES, and journalism students from Brunel University, which added both focus and panache to the presentations.

The 2011 winners were Gail Champion (BBC) and Angus Stickler (The Bureau of Investigative Journalism), for their BBC Radio 4 Programme '*File on 4: Europe's Missing Millions*' which aired on 30 November 2010. Plans for 2011 are to encourage submissions from as wide a range of publications and format as possible, stimulate better attendance at the event, and work to strengthen UACES-media relations in general. An additional feature is the new micro-site (<http://reportingeurope.eu/>) for the Prize, designed by Richard Lewis.

Student Forum

The E&Awg also regularly discusses activities undertaken by the Student Forum. I'm delighted that UACES has been able to provide long-term and genuine support to students in European Studies, so much so that the Student Forum conference is now celebrating its 11th year. The Student Forum held two successful conferences in the 2010-2011 season:

- 'European Studies Research Students' Conference', London, November 2010: a teaching conference including organised networking events and informative sessions such as 'Getting Published' and 'Conducting Fieldwork'.
- 'New Frontiers in European Studies', Guildford, June-July 2011: a two-day research conference, providing students with the opportunity to present their research to other students, as well as to take part in the social activities.

My thanks go to Kamil Zwolski, now at Manchester Metropolitan University, the Student Forum Chair from 2008 to 2010 who demonstrated real commitment in leading the Student Forum.

Journal for Contemporary European Research (JCER)

I'd like also to extend my thanks to JCER Editors Christian Kaunert and Sarah Leonard who in the past two years have taken the journal from strength to strength. UACES publishes the JCER as an online, free to access journal. The JCER is devoted to promoting original research and insightful debate in European Studies by publishing academic articles, research comments, policy analysis and book reviews across a number of disciplines (Law, Public Policy, International Relations, Economics, Sociology and the History of Integration).

The JCER also aims to provide a forum for post-graduates and early career researchers to learn about the publishing process and to see their work published alongside some of the top European Studies academics. All submitted articles are fully peer-reviewed by at least two academics within a relevant field of study.

The standard of the JCER (www.jcer.net) has continued to improve; UACES and the Student Forum can be pleased that together they have provided fertile ground for one the most cutting edge student and early-career research publications which provides a forum within which to disseminate work alongside that of established scholars and practitioners

Annual Conferences

The E&Awg decides on the venue for future UACES annual conferences by selecting the best candidate from the submissions received. It also organises the relevant research panels for each annual conference. In addition to chairing the working group, the Secretary role for 2010-2011 meant participating on site visits undertaken by myself and others. Site visits are now being undertaken by staff from the UACES Office and from the E&Awg, providing a wider range of people and opinions to draw upon.

UACES has now identified partners to host the 2012, 2013 and 2014 annual conferences, which will be Passau, Leeds and Cork respectively. It is exciting to have continued the 'home and away' theme that has gradually arisen, as well as the increased interest from a wide variety of UK and European universities in hosting the UACES Annual conference. As Secretary, I have also participated in making decisions as to the panel and paper acceptances for Cambridge; this resulted in a series of guidelines that can be passed on to future Officers, and gave me the opportunity to work alongside local organisers Julie Smith and Geoffrey Edwards of Cambridge in assembling plenaries and assorted other events.

The UACES Office

The Secretary takes particular responsibility, in partnership with the Executive Director, for matters pertaining to the running of the UACES Office. In addition to the scheduled meetings, I keep a regular contact link with the UACES office to exchange information and discuss more immediate matters. The Office's work is structured around a rolling work-year plan, drafted by the Executive Director. The plan identifies routine 'events' in the UACES year and highlights particularly busy times for the Office. It also serves as a prompt for both the Officers and the staff of the Association.

Our first permanent member of staff, Luke Foster has done a superb job as acting Executive Director throughout the 2010-2011 year, and I am indebted to him for his smooth organisation of the office and clear support of the Officers.

Our second permanent member of staff, Richard Lewis, has done sterling work as Web & Administrative Officer since 2009, overhauling all aspects of all our various websites as well as completely revamping the UACES newsletter.

My thanks also to Emily Linnemann, our Events Management & Membership Officer, who has played an increasingly key role in the office in supporting Luke and ensuring that events both large and small, as well as membership drives, remain successful and robust. The Officers and Committee remain committed to ensuring that UACES provides appropriate staff development to all at the office; an annual staff review formalizes this commitment.

Final Note

This is my third and final report as UACES Secretary. UACES remains an extremely dynamic association that provides genuine benefits for all its members, and an increasingly visible presence as 'the' key European Studies Association in Britain, Europe, and possibly beyond! It has been a pleasure to contribute to its development across 2011. I am grateful first to Chair Alex Warleigh-Lack for the original invitation to stand for election to serve UACES as Secretary, and then to the leadership of Chair Richard Whitman, with whom I've enjoyed working on all manner of issues. I am confident that Richard, alongside Treasurer David Galbreath, and incoming Secretary Susan Banducci will take UACES to new and exciting opportunities from 2011 onwards. I would like to wish Susan in particular success and know that she'll be able to work positively and creatively thanks to the support received from her fellow Officers, the UACES Offices, and the entire Committee.

Amelia Hadfield, *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Treasurer's Report

Period covered by this report: 1 August 2010 to 31 July 2011
 Previous financial year: 1 October 2009 to 30 September 2010
 Current financial year: 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011

1. The last Treasurer's Report for the period 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 was presented to the UACES AGM at the Annual Conference in Bruges in September 2010.
2. In line with Charity Commission requirements, the consolidated accounts for 2009-2010 of the association, which include those of the JCMS editorial budget and the Standing Conference of Heads of European Studies, have been independently examined.

Table 1: Abbreviated Profit & Loss Report for UACES¹

| | 2008-2009 | | 2009-2010 | | 2010-2011 | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------|
| | Estimate | Actual | Estimate | Actual | Estimate | Current ² |
| Income | 244,800 | 265,077 | 337,350 | 348,077 | 303,039 | 205,522 |
| Expenditure | 264,800 | 265,008 | 339,325 | 323,151 | 317,783 | 193,023 |
| Balance | (20,000) | 69 | (1,975) | 24,926 | (14,744) | 12,499 |

3. As reported in previous years, on the advice of the Independent Examiner, internal transfers of funds between UACES, JCMS & SCHES are recorded to avoid income and expenditure being overstated. Similarly, the financial statements distinguish between 'restricted' and 'non-restricted' income. Restricted income is essentially grants that can only be allocated for specific purposes.
4. UACES' range of income allows the Association to maintain a Secretariat and fund a range of activities. Given UACES' currently healthy financial situation and the financial security provided by publications, memberships and investment income, UACES has continued to employ an additional member of staff in the Secretariat.
5. In the current financial year, UACES has recently completed two projects funded by grants from the European Commission. The first was a two-day conference evaluating the Lisbon Treaty. The second was an event for postgraduate students; a two day research conference entitled 'New Frontiers in European Studies'.
6. In the next financial year, UACES will not be in receipt of any grants from the European Commission (we did not apply for any). Instead, UACES will be looking towards the next round of bidding (the process commences in December).
7. During the period covered by this report, UACES has continued to provide financial support for a range of activities; scholarships, a teaching and a research conference for the Student Forum, Collaborative Research Networks, the Arena seminars and a number of conferences and workshops organised by members.
8. The UACES Executive has continued the policy adopted in 2008-2009 of diversification of income encompassing: an on-going search for sponsorship for the work of the association from foundations and institutions and a review of the investment policy of the association.
9. Following the UACES' Executive's decision taken in 2008-2009 to establish a sub-committee charged with the task of reviewing and developing a reserves and investment policy for the association, the Investment Sub-Committee was established in 2009-2010 (since renamed as the Investment working group). This working group has undertaken the role of developing a Reserves and Investment Policy (RIP) for the Association in which the scope and role of the sub-committee is set out as follows:

'The Investment Sub-Committee (ISC) is a sub-committee of the UACES Committee (i.e. the Trustees). The Investment Sub-Committee exists to exercise, on behalf of the UACES Officers and the UACES Committee, a supervisory oversight of all matters affecting investment policies, practices and decisions, in order to ensure both long- and short-term security of financial investments. It will

¹ excluding the activities of the JCMS Editors and SCHES

² to 31 July 2011

determine an appropriate risk and reward objective and strategy for investments, propose this to the UACES Officers and, when confirmed, put in place monitoring mechanisms to ensure compliance.'

As part of its role the working group is directly responsible for overseeing the work of an independent financial advisor (IFA), who was appointed via a competitive selection process. During 2010-2011, the working group has been working with the IFA to seek to achieve 'Capital growth on a risk adjusted basis, seeking to outperform cash interest rates, via fixed interest and equity exposure' in relation to UACES' investment portfolio. These funds have seen a modicum of growth, which should be seen in the context of the global economic crisis.

10. I would particularly like to thank the secretariat staff and in particular Luke Foster as acting Executive Director. I would also like to thank the previous treasurer Jenny Fairbrass for passing along a stable financial plan. Finally, I would like to thank Amelia Hadfield and Richard Whitman for the help in my first year as treasurer.

David Galbreath, *University of Bath*

Executive Director's Report

I have been acting as the Interim Executive Director whilst Sue Davis has been on extended leave.

Membership of UACES remains healthy. Each year, in September, we have a 'stock-take' of members. As of 30 September 2010, we had 1176 members, an increase of 7.6% from the previous year. This was comprised of 724 Individual members, 373 Student members and 79 Group members. 45% of our members were based outside of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, a negligible increase from the previous year's figure of 44%.

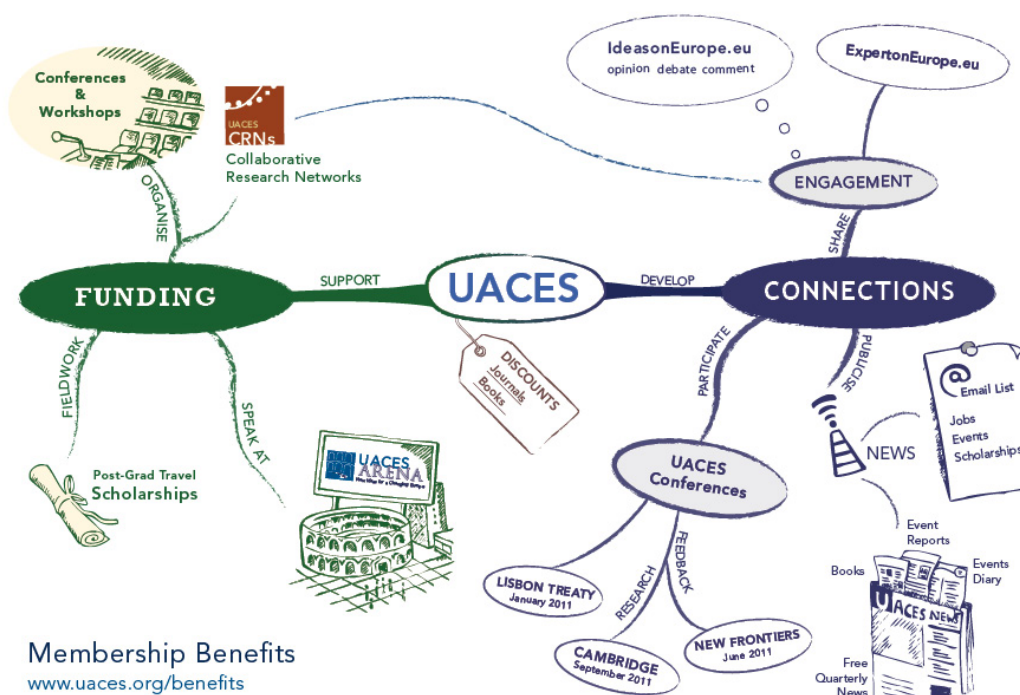
Our current membership is 1141³ with the 'stock-take' still two months away. The members lost through attrition (i.e. those who cancelled their membership, or let it lapse) are constantly being replaced by new members, and even 'old' members re-joining the Association after a break of some years.

The attrition rate was 25%. As suggested at last year's AGM, we introduced an 'exit survey'. In summary, the stated reasons for not renewing UACES membership were:

- I didn't make use of the benefits (29%)
- I'm trying to save money (24%)
- I'm no longer working in academia (19%)
- My research interests have changed (10%)
- Switching to Group membership (10%)
- I've stopped being a student (3%)
- I didn't understand the benefits (3%)
- I'm retiring (2%)

The results I feel, are inconclusive, as the response rate is low. It does not for example account for those members that we have lost touch with; the members that have changed their mailing address and email address as the result of completing their studies, or changing jobs. There is also little motivation for those who have left academia to respond, or for those who only joined in the first instance for a very specific reason (e.g. to attend a conference, or to apply for a scholarship). We will continue to monitor the trends.

One immediate step that we have taken, is to try and clarify the 'benefits of UACES membership'. To this end, we have updated our website (www.uaces.org/benefits) and have been working on our marketing materials (see image reproduced below). The mind-map was sent out with the membership renewal invoices.



³ As of 1 August 2011

I can also report that the membership subscriptions will remain unchanged for 2012. The standard rate has not increased since 2007. The standard conference registration fee has also remained constant; the registration fee was reduced by £10 whilst the cost of the conference dinner fee increased by £10, with the net result equal to zero. There is no increase anticipated for the next year's Annual Conference in Passau.

Whilst we have begun experimenting with Twitter and Facebook, the email list remains as the most effective tool for communicating with our members. The UACES Members' email list currently has 1281 subscribers and the unrestricted EuroResearch email list has 1311 subscribers⁴. For those members trying to reduce the volume of emails that they receive, we have introduced both a 'Digest' and an 'Index' option for the UACES Members' email list. We are currently looking at ways of improving the email list.

Looking forward, there are plans to develop the www.IdeasOnEurope.eu platform, to improve the main UACES website and to help promote the JCMS in their 50th Anniversary year. We will also be looking to implement some of the new initiatives that are being discussed by the various working groups of the Committee.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the UACES Officers for their support over the past 12 months, and in particular, to thank my colleagues Richard Lewis and Emily Linnemann for their excellent contributions.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to a 'Meet the UACES Committee' session which will be taking place tomorrow⁵. It is an informal opportunity for you to meet and chat with your colleagues on the UACES Committee.

Luke Foster, *UACES*

As a registered charity in England and Wales, the UACES accounts are available to the general public and can be viewed online on the Charities Commission website (www.charity-commission.gov.uk). Our financial year ends on 30 September each year, and the most recent set of accounts available to view are for the financial year ending 30 September 2010.

⁴ As of 1 August 2011

⁵ Tuesday 6 September 2011 at 10:30 in the Red Brick Café.

JCMS Editor's Report

30 June 2011 marked the end of our first full year as editors of JCMS.⁶ We have learnt a great deal over the course of 2010-11 and believe we have achieved many of the objectives we set out at the start of the year.

Personnel

The Editors would like to take this opportunity to thank all our authors and reviewers for their continued support, and staff at UACES and Wiley-Blackwell for their encouragement and enthusiasm. Particular thanks to Felicity (Fliss) Gaskin, based in the Editorial Office at the University of Bristol; to our JCMS book review editors, Paul Stephenson and Patrick Bijmans, both based at Maastricht University; and to the Annual Review (AR) editors, Nat Copsey and Tim Haughton.

The new JCMS editorial board was set up in 2010 with a particular mandate to advise the editors on disciplinary questions, with a particular focus on economics, law and sociology. This approach to the Editorial Board has worked well over the past year. The Editors have called upon Board members on numerous occasions to help identify reviewers and to help provide a third or fourth opinion on an article. The Editors have held two one-hour conference calls with the board in the past year with the aim of updating them on new initiatives and seeking feedback on our editorial policy.

Members of the JCMS editorial advisory board present at the EUSA Conference in Boston in March 2011 attended a one-hour meeting hosted by the Journal Editors during the Conference. The Editors used the meeting to update those present on recent developments at the Journal, and to seek their advice on a number of initiatives and policy changes.

Mark Pollack (Chair), Aleks Szczerbiak and Waltraud Schelkle kindly gave of their time to serve on the jury of the 2009 JCMS Best Article Prize. The Prize is awarded jointly to and Raya Kardasheva (King's College, London) and Tracy Slagter (University of Wisconsin Oshkosh).

Policy Achievements

The Editors have been successful in reducing the turn-around time from acceptance to publication (in the hard-copy Journal) to approximately 10-12 months. We hope to reduce this further in our second year as editors. Moreover, we have recently decided to make use of Wiley-Blackwell's 'EarlyView' (online publication) system. From early 2012 articles should appear on the JCMS webpage within 3 months from acceptance.

Initiatives and Policy Changes

Past practice at JCMS was to seek two reviews for each article sent out for review. At the start of 2011, the Editors decided to trial move to a norm of three reviews for each article. The policy remains under review, but has been working well so far. The aim of the new policy was to facilitate editorial decision-making, and improve the overall quantity and quality of feedback to authors.

JCMS was founded in 1962, which makes 2012 the 50th anniversary year. The Editors began this year to plan for the Anniversary. Events in the planning during the past year have included a JCMS Annual Lecture in Paris in Spring 2012, which Jacques Delors has kindly agreed to deliver; an Editors Panel, bringing together past editors of the Journal, which we hope to hold at the 2012 UACES Conference in Passau, Germany; a Special Commemorative Issue of the Journal to appear in early 2012 edited by Walter Mattli and Alec Stone Sweet; a reformatting of JCMS in a larger size and different format (though, after much discussion, the cover will look much the same); and a travelling 'roadshow' about developments of JCMS over the five decades, ensuring a JCMS presence on the 2012 conference circuit.

Summary Data and Activities

Excluding special issues and the Annual Review, there were 249 submissions to the Journal from 1 Sept 2010-31 August 2011, during which 49 articles were published. Two special issues were published during this period (the norm is one):

⁶ Some of the data in this Report relate to the period 31 August 2010- September 2011, whilst other data are produced on a calendar year basis.

Currently there are some 26 articles awaiting publication (as compared to 40 at this point last year), and around 50 articles in the pipeline with referees (compared to 80 last year). Since July 2011 the Editors worked hard to reduce the time from acceptance to publication. They have been particularly rigorous in only accepting the very best articles, whilst more practically ensuring that articles meet the word-length requirement of 8500 words.

The ISI impact factor in 2010 for articles published in 2008 and 2009 was 1.274, slightly down from the previous year's 1.316. This ranks us 14th of 73 among International Relations journals, 28th of 139 in Political Science and 78th of 304 among Economics journals. Though not complacent, we are pleased that in each of the three lists, JCMS remains in the top quartile.

The JCMS performance on the 5 year impact factor is also impressive. The relevant statistics cover the citations from 2005 to 2010 show an impact factor of 1.643 (only very slightly down from 1.646 in 2009). On both indicators the journal does very well.

In 2010, there were 202,225 full text downloads of JCMS articles. The most downloaded article in 2010 was '*Why there is a democratic deficit in the EU: A response to Majone and Moravcsik*' by Andreas Føllesdal and Simon Hix.

The 2011 JCMS Lecture, entitled '*Europe and its Empires: From Rome to the European Union*' was given by Prof Gary Marks at the EUSA Conference in Boston in March 2011. We expect the article based on the lecture is scheduled to come out in the January 2012 issue of the Journal.

At the end of 2010, there were 811 institutional subscriptions to JCMS, representing a renewal rate of 93%, substantially down from 2009, reflecting a difficult year across the board for publishing house Wiley-Blackwell. JCMS was also available through Wiley-Blackwell's licensed sales programme in 3400 institutions. 54% of these subscriptions (482) are protected under multi-year licensing agreements.

As always, we welcome suggestions and feedback on how we might do things better, and we look forward to receiving your high quality submissions.

Michelle Cini, *University of Bristol* and Amy Verdun, *University of Victoria*

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Christopher **HILL**, University of Cambridge
Uwe **KITZINGER**, Templeton College, Oxford
Brigid **LAFFAN**, University College Dublin
Juliet **LODGE**, University of Leeds
Gary **MARKS**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Sir John **MARSH**, University of Reading
Yves **MÉNY**, European University Institute
Willem **MOLLE**, Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam
David **O'KEEFFE**, University College London
Mark **POLLACK**, Temple University

Glenda **ROSENTHAL**, Columbia University, NY
Malcolm **ROSS**, University of Sussex
Alberta **SBRAGIA**, University of Pittsburgh
Waltraud **SHELKLE**, London School of Economics and Political Science
Michael **SHACKLETON**, European Parliament Office, London
Aleks **SZCZERBIAK**, University of Sussex
Loukas **TSOUKALIS**, University of Athens
Helen **WALLACE**, London School of Economics and Political Science
Joseph **WEILER**, New York University
Wolfgang **WESSELS**, Universität zu Köln
L. Alan **WINTERS**, University of Sussex