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| Institution: University of Oxford |
| Unit of Assessment: UoA21 Politics and International Studies |
| a. Overview |

The University of Oxford's UoA comprises the Department of Politics and International Relations (DPIR) and our new public policy school, the Blavatnik School of Government (BSG). In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, the University of Oxford returned the largest number of 4* and 3* outputs in the field of Politics and International Relations. With 82 members, including 32 Professors, DPIR is one of the biggest departments internationally in the discipline. In 2010 we strengthened this research base significantly with the creation of the new Blavatnik School of Government. With College-only fellowships, the total number of researchers in the UoA is now over 100.

Our overall objective is to cover the full span of the discipline of politics and international relations, which is reflected in our size and shape. Research in politics and international relations is organised into three main pillars:

- *The Government Group* has particular depth in the study of comparative institutions, political behaviour, and public administration; a history of excellence in the field of comparative democratisation; and, over the REF period, a powerful new concentration on comparative political economy. A particular strength of the group is its wide range of geographical expertise embracing the UK, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the Former Soviet Union, the US, Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.
- *The International Relations Group* is a longstanding focus of the department, which remains a home of the influential English School in international relations theory. Over the REF period, the department has further deepened its expertise in normative theory, in international political economy and in evolutionary approaches to international relations.
- *The Political Theory Group* is internationally known for its work in analytical political theory, in particular the interface between political theory, jurisprudence and philosophy, complemented by distinct depth in the history of political thought. Over the REF period, it extended its research capabilities into areas of critical innovation within the sub-field including international justice and environmental political theory.

Cross-pillar collaboration and interdisciplinarity are built into our research strategy. The department and BSG provide all their members, including their research students, with extensive opportunities for intellectual engagement and networking, with up to 12 research seminars a week. Our 13 joint appointments which link DPIR with BSG, the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, the Faculty of History and the Department of Statistics, are a particular strength. All academics in the UoA are also members of Oxford's colleges. These joint positions foster a strong sense of interdisciplinarity and provide broad geographical expertise and historical depth.

During the REF period the UoA has achieved major goals in enhancing the research environment: we strengthened the structures that underpin collaboration through the creation of the new Blavatnik School of Government; managed generational change and invested in new areas of research innovation through 20 new appointments; invested heavily in our doctoral programme and in our post-doctoral programme; and participated in subject development initiatives from Botswana to Georgia. Our contributions to research capacity in politics and international relations worldwide have been significant, with 275 completed doctorates between Jan 2008 and Oct 2013 and our 74-strong post-doctoral programme. We have enhanced the sustainability of our research activities by attracting a gift of £75 million (BSG), raising over £11 million in research grant awards, and doubling our funding for doctoral students. Our submission comprises 260 research outputs, including 217 books, edited collections, and peer reviewed journal articles, which represent only a fraction of our total output. The quality of our research is evidenced by the 38 prizes and honours awarded to our researchers during the assessment period.

b. Research Strategy

The central aim of our research strategy is to engage the most academically and societally significant questions using the most appropriate and advanced methodologies. Our approach to research is consciously pluralistic and interdisciplinary. We address research topics as diverse as the justification of war and the responsibility to protect civilians, the ethics of climate change, the political economy of inequality and challenges to the welfare state, the state of democratic representation in established democracies and the sources of stability and instability in authoritarian regimes, hate speech, and radical political thought, among many others.

1. Mechanisms to establish, deliver and review research strategy

The department's research strategy is developed and actively monitored by its Research Committee (chaired by the Research Director) in collaboration with the Strategic Management Group of senior academics, which represents each of the three main sub-disciplinary pillars (chaired by the Head of Department (HoD)). Both of these committees report to the General Purposes Committee (also chaired by the HoD). Termly sub-faculty meetings of all those involved in research and teaching in politics and international relations from across the collegiate University discuss and review the research strategy. The Social Sciences Division advises on departmental research plans annually, and jointly with the University's Education Committee conducts major five-year reviews of the department, including its research and research strategy. The most recent five-year review, which drew on the expertise of members from other departments of the University and external reviewers from the LSE (Professor Paul Kelly) and Nottingham (Professor Paul Heywood), took place in 2011. This structure of review, advice and development gives us extensive support in identifying strategic challenges and opportunities and launching new research initiatives.

Since the creation of the Blavatnik School of Government in 2010, the coordinated development of our research strategies has been achieved by the HoD's membership of the BSG Management Committee, regular consultation and planning by the HoD and the BSG Dean under the aegis of the Social Sciences Division's Planning and Resource Committee, and the representation of DPIR on BSG recruitment committees for positions in politics and international relations.

2. Strategy in 2008 and resulting objectives

Throughout the assessment period our overarching strategic priorities have been to: (i) enhance our collaborations, internally, with other Universities and with practitioners and policy makers; (ii) ensure generational renewal and investment in areas of academic innovation; (iii) enhance research support; and (iv) invest in doctoral students and in post-doctoral researchers.

(i) Strengthened collaborations

One of DPIR's greatest successes in the REF period was to play the key role in securing a £75 million donation from Len Blavatnik to establish the new Blavatnik School of Government, which enhances our capacity for research on public policy and our ability to connect our research with policy practitioners today and in the future. In 2011, Professor Woods moved from DPIR to become the first Dean of BSG. Professor Toft (recruited from the University of Chicago) has been appointed to a chair in Government and Public Policy and Dr Tudor (formerly a post-doctoral fellow within the department) has taken up a permanent lectureship in Government and Public Policy.

Collaborations within the department and beyond are underpinned by a strategic commitment to our interdisciplinary collaborative research centres and networks, which are key to the vitality of the research environment and enable us to realise research synergies across the sub-disciplinary pillars. Our centres include:

- The *Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict (ELAC)* is an interdisciplinary research programme that aims to strengthen law, norms and institutions to restrain, regulate and prevent armed conflict, drawing on the disciplines of Philosophy, Law and International Relations.
- The *Global Economic Governance Programme (GEG)* fosters research and debate into how global markets and institutions can better serve the needs of people in developing countries. One of the core objectives of the programme is to influence debate and policy in both the public and private sector in developed and developing countries. GEG engages top policy makers from government, the private sector and international organisations.
- The *Centre for International Studies (CIS)* is one of the largest and most active research centres in international relations in Europe - convening seminars and conferences, hosting visiting scholars, and organising externally funded research projects.
- The *Oxford Centre for the Study of Inequality and Democracy (OCSID)* aims to promote both independent and collaborative research among the diverse community of comparative politics specialists at Oxford. The Centre fosters the analysis of a broad range of issues and institutions in established and new democracies as well as the analysis of economic, social and political inequalities in regimes of any type.
- The *Public Policy Unity (PPU)* offers non-partisan advice to government departments, ministers, legislatures and non-governmental organisations. The Unit's research, conferences and seminars have generated links and partnerships with No. 10 Downing Street, the Institute of Public Policy Research (IPPR) and others.
- The *Centre for the Study of Social Justice (CSSJ)* is a forum for political theorists to share their expertise, collaborate on research projects, and publicise their work to the broader academic and policymaking community. The Centre aims to facilitate research that bridges different aspects of the theoretical study of social justice, as well as collaborations with other disciplines such as Philosophy, Law, Economics, Sociology and Social Policy, and with practitioners, politicians and policy institutes.
- The *Oxford-Sciences Po Research Group in the Social Sciences (OXPO)* is a research network for social science scholars in Oxford and at Sciences Po, who work on the comparative analysis of political systems and societies in Europe and beyond. It coordinates research projects and offers exchange opportunities for established academics, post-doctoral researchers and doctoral students.
- The *Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ)* was established in 2006 with core funding from the Thomson Reuters Foundation. It serves as a leading forum for journalism research and engagement between scholars and practitioners in journalism.
- The *Network on the History of Political Thought* serves as the focal point in Oxford for research in the history of political thought, broadly construed.
- The *Oxford Research Network on Government in Africa (OReNGA)* facilitates research on the politics and history of government in Africa in the colonial and post-colonial periods.

Interdisciplinary collaboration is supported by our strategy of involvement in, and support for, cross-disciplinary collaborative fora in which department members play a central role:

- The *Centre for Experimental Social Sciences (CESS)* is led by one of our members, Professor Duch. CESS is an interdisciplinary research centre that promotes and facilitates experimental research by social scientists in the University of Oxford. CESS organises a programme of interdisciplinary seminars and workshops, and a summer school on the design and implementation of experiments in the social sciences. CESS' state-of-the-art laboratory facilities, designed to support a wide range of experimental set ups, are an important resource for members of the department engaged in experimental work.
- The *Rothermere American Institute (RAI)* is a multidisciplinary centre which aims to achieve greater public and academic understanding of the history, culture and politics of the United States. Led by Professor Bowles, and with the involvement of Professor King and Dr Hackett, it hosts more than 100 seminars, conferences and lectures a year and attracts leading scholars, students, policy makers and public figures from across the world to study the United States.

- The *Oxford Martin School* is a University-wide interdisciplinary research school which brings together over 300 scholars who are working to address the most pressing global challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. The School supports a portfolio of interdisciplinary programmes that include our work on climate change and the responsibility of states to protect civilian populations.

(ii) Generational renewal and investment in areas of innovation

Drawing on the aims we outlined as part of RAE 2008, and an internal “Size and Shape Review”, conducted in 2011, that included planning for upcoming retirements, the department formulated a strategy to: (a) invest in building research and supervision capacity in critical areas of innovation in the field and strengthen our collaborations; (b) deepen our considerable strength in research methods; and (c) reinforce our depth of geographic expertise in Europe, Africa and China. As a result, DPIR underwent significant renewal with 20 new hires to permanent posts during the REF period, including two new permanent appointments in BSG.

These appointments advanced our aims to:

- (a) invest in areas of innovation by building significant research capacity in public policy (Toft – new chair in Government and Public Policy, Tudor); political economy (Ansell, Doyle, Gingrich); international political economy (Milewicz); evolutionary approaches in international relations (Johnson - the new Alastair Buchan Chair); the international relations of China (Hall); and international history (Keene, Penslar - new Chair in Israel Studies).
- (b) Research methods expertise was considerably deepened in quantitative methods (Ansell, De Vries, Milewicz); qualitative methods (Tudor (BSG) and a post in DPIR currently under offer); formal theory (Ansell, Snidal); quantitative text analysis (Doyle); and in philosophy of social science (Butt, Leopold, Stemplowska, Waldron – Chichele Professor of Social and Political Theory).
- (c) Regional expertise and depth were added in the areas of European politics (De Vries, Dinas (from January 2014), Gingrich, Zubek); China (Hall, Thornton); South Asia (Tudor); Israel and Middle East (Penslar); and Latin America (Doyle).

(iii) Enhancing research support

A central strategic aim of the department is to ensure that all our staff are adequately supported in their research. To that end, we have invested in a dedicated Research Support Team, which is made up of three full-time permanent members of staff plus a fixed term (four-year) Knowledge Exchange Officer. The team’s primary role is to support academics in developing research grant applications and to enhance effective post-award management. In addition, the team facilitates the knowledge-exchange and impact activities of all research projects, provides support for conferences, seminars and workshops that run under the aegis of research projects, and gives administrative support to the department’s research centres. Enhanced research support is complemented by a robust internal peer review process of all grant applications through the department’s Research Committee. Large project applications receive further support at divisional level from the University’s Research Services, which offers specialised assistance in relation to European funding and research governance. This strategy has significantly enhanced the success rate of the department’s funding applications, which rose from a third in 2007-8 to over 50% in 2012-13. Throughout the REF period (2008–2013), the department held a total research grant awards portfolio of £11.1 million.

(iv) Investment in doctoral students and in post-doctoral researchers

A key part of our research strategy was to enhance doctoral student funding to retain and recruit the most outstanding research students in an increasingly competitive environment. We set ourselves a major objective during the assessment period to double the internal funding available, which we achieved by a combination of successes in winning philanthropic donations, collaborations with colleges, and allocation of internal efficiency savings to doctoral support. Over

the REF period, the department funded 237 students, investing nearly £1.6 million in total. The department complements enhanced doctoral funding with a strategic commitment to collaborative opportunities for its research students in politics and international relations via the OXPO exchange (see above), and participation in two Marie Curie Initial Training Network programmes: the Electoral Democracy (ELECDEM) programme in 2009-12 and the newly launched Power and Regions in a Multipolar World (PRIMO) programme.

Post-doctoral and career development fellowships are a central aspect of DPIR's strategy to recruit and develop outstanding researchers. The department invests substantially in a post-doctoral programme that is integrated with the colleges. Recruitment to these positions is international and highly competitive. Throughout the REF period, 74 post-doctoral researchers and an additional 15 Departmental Lecturers and Early Career Researchers have held appointments in politics and international relations and the size of the programme establishes DPIR as a leading generator of future research capacity in the profession worldwide. The programme contributes critically to the vibrancy of the research environment. Our post-docs run conferences, workshops and seminars, leveraging their positions to build international research networks, and are a significant presence at international conferences each year.

3. Strategic objectives for the next five years

In developing the research environment over the next five years, the UoA aims to build on its achievements in this assessment period with core priorities to:

- Build on the creation of BSG by implementing a step-change in our research capacity in public policy. We are currently recruiting to five new posts in the field of public policy at BSG, of which two are Chairs (Oct 2014). These appointments mark the beginning of a major expansion of our research capacity in public policy that will be implemented fully with further permanent and fixed term appointments over the next five years as BSG grows to full size;
- Strengthen the links between policy relevant research and active policy engagement by developing new collaborations between BSG, DPIR research institutes (ELAC, the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, the Public Policy Unit and others), and individual researchers in DPIR through major research grants as BSG expands;
- Establish DPIR as a major centre for methodological development and innovation in the social sciences, building on a new permanent appointment in qualitative methods (under offer) and on our success in winning Q-Step funding, which includes a commitment to supporting three new permanent appointments and two post-doctoral researchers in quantitative methods;
- Build on our success in attracting women to positions at all levels of seniority (see below p.7) by enhancing the diversity of our staff further and actively promoting equality of opportunity;
- Make substantial progress towards fully funding all our doctoral students to ensure that we continue to attract research students of the highest calibre. We have agreed to direct at least 50% of any future graduate fee increases to graduate studentships. Studentships are our top fundraising priority, which we are pursuing via our 11,000 strong alumni network (supported by the University Development Office), and through collaborations with the colleges;
- Enhance further the support for our researchers in securing the resources required to address the most pressing issues in politics and international relations by investing in the additional appointment of a Grants Officer in the DPIR Research Support Team.

We have also developed a set of major strategic Knowledge Exchange objectives for the next five years, which are detailed in the impact template (REF3a).

c. People, including:
I. Staffing strategy and staff development

The recruitment and retention of academic staff of the highest quality at all levels of appointment is essential to the vitality of our research environment, the significance and rigour of our research programme and the quality of our graduate training. To attract and retain excellent staff, we offer a range of positions, designed for individuals at different stages of their academic careers, providing a different balance of duties between teaching, research and associated activities. Research achievement and potential are the main criteria for appointment and the department recruits internationally in competition with top US and European departments. Our recruitment strategy recognises the importance of maintaining critical mass in the core areas of the discipline and ensuring innovation in new areas of research. This is reflected in our recent appointments.

Generational change presented a challenge and opportunity for the department during the assessment period. Our success in responding to this challenge is evident in our recruitment of 20 new permanent faculty in a highly competitive international market. Our new hires include those we have recruited from the United Kingdom (Bristol, Edinburgh, LSE, Nottingham, Oxford (3), Warwick), Canada (Toronto (2)), the United States (Chicago, Columbia, Georgia, Harvard, Minnesota (2), Portland), and Europe (Dublin, Geneva, Lucerne).

The key to these successful hires is a staffing policy that aims to promote research excellence at all levels by:

(i) *Strengthening research leadership.* Over the REF period, the department invested in international research leaders with seven new appointments at professorial level, including the new Alastair Buchan and Israel Studies Chairs. These new appointments raise the number of professors in DPIR to 32 individuals, who provide research leadership across the discipline, guiding research students and early career researchers, and developing research programmes and centres.

(ii) *Maintaining a dynamic staff balance through investment in Early Career Researchers.* The department consciously maintains a balance of positions - established and early career, long and short term. This staff balance is designed to combine established research leaders with a regular influx of early career researchers to create a dynamic research culture. As mentioned above, 74 post-doctoral researchers and 15 departmental lecturers and early career fellows in politics and international relations were employed by the department in the REF period (see p.5).

(iii) *A structured approach to building research careers.* We apply rigorous tenure and promotion criteria (University-wide Recognition of Distinction) while supporting professional development through a variety of mechanisms. These include both mentoring and appraisal systems and encouragement to take advantage of on-going training opportunities in research methods and research administration (such as courses for Principal Investigators delivered by the Oxford Learning Institute). The department also promotes career development among established scholars by supporting fixed term career development opportunities to spend time at overseas institutions, serve in the policy community, or lead organisational development initiatives (examples include: Hurrell and Nicolaïdis – NYU; Rueda – Princeton; Cheeseman, Deighton, Evans, Sasse and Schleiter – Sciences Po (Paris); Stears – IPPR; Wood – 11 Downing Street; Welsh – EUI (from January 2014); Woods – to develop the Blavatnik School of Government before her move there to become its first Dean).

The Social Sciences Division coordinates the 'Academic and Professional Development Programme' that supports the career development of early career researchers in the social sciences (as well as post-graduate research students). Researchers are encouraged to attend a range of seminars, lectures, workshops and courses throughout the year that are run by experienced academics and skilled facilitators from inside and outside Oxford. The programme is designed to enhance the personal and professional development of early career researchers and help them to prepare for academic and non-academic career pathways.

(iv) *Protecting research time and enhancing research support.* Research time is protected as a critical academic input into research. For established staff who serve in major administrative roles, DPIR complements the University of Oxford's entitlement to sabbatical leave (one term of leave after every six terms of service) by supporting special leave, teaching buy-outs, and research assistance (a total of approx. 900 hours p.a.). The research time of staff in their probationary period is especially protected through reduced administrative and examining duties. These policies complement DPIR's decision to enhance research support in this REF period as detailed above (p.4). The University, DPIR and individual colleges provide significant support for faculty research. Seed-corn funding and support for all researchers is provided by the competitively awarded Oxford University Press John Fell (OUP) Research Fund and the James Martin Fund (for details of awards see Research Funding below), with specific funds made available by the John Fell Fund for early career researchers. Within the department, faculty may apply for an annual research allowance of up to £1,575. Combined with college research allowances, this boosts the research funding available to individual staff to an average of approximately £3,000 p.a. The department gives additional support to staff in their probationary period with an augmented departmental allowance of up to £3,150 p.a. which, together with the average college allowance, makes a start-up grant of some £4,650 p.a. available to young researchers. These funds support a host of research activities including research assistance which in turn creates valuable opportunities for graduate students to work with and learn from established researchers. Further, a departmental budget of around £26k annually is dedicated to research through seminar, workshop and conference funding.

(v) *Equality of opportunity.* The department sees equality of opportunity as integral to its goal of recruiting and retaining the best researchers. In partnership with the University's Equality and Diversity Unit, the Oxford Learning Institute, and the Occupational Health Service, we offer extensive support to staff who share any protected characteristic. Work to advance gender equality illustrates the range and effectiveness of this support: DPIR embraces the University's *Ad Feminam* mentoring initiative aimed at supporting women to move into leadership roles and the Oxford Learning Institute's Springboard Career Development Programme for Women. The University offers generous parental leave entitlements - 52 weeks of maternity leave (26 on full pay, 13 on Statutory Maternity Pay, and 13 unpaid) and paternity leave and pay in addition to the Statutory Entitlement (up to 26 weeks' leave after the mother returns to work). Dedicated childcare is provided by four University nurseries. These policies have enhanced DPIR's success in recruiting and retaining women to appointments at all levels, including senior posts. During the REF period, the number of women with professorial title rose to seven, representing 41% of all female permanent academic staff, up from 25% in 2008. During the same period, the number of women among our tenured and tenure track lecturers rose to 15, representing 33% of all lecturers, up from 22% in 2008. Women represented 45% of the total number of post-doctoral researchers in 2013.

The success of our strategy to recruit and retain outstanding researchers is evidenced by the prizes and honours our members were awarded during the REF period, including:

- Ben Ansell - Riker Award for the best book in Political Economy published in 2010; the Comparative Democratization (Section 35 of the American Political Science Association) Best Paper Award for the best article on that topic published in 2010; and the European Politics and Society Best Conference Paper Award, 2011;
- Nancy Bermeo - Alumnae Achievement Award (for outstanding achievement and service) Mt. Holyoke College, 2013;
- Giovanni Capoccia - Sage Award for the best paper in Comparative Politics presented at the 2010 Annual Convention of the American Political Science Association; Mary Parker Follett Award for the best article in Politics and History, awarded by the American Political Science Association (2011); Best Paper in Comparative Democratization presented at the 2009 Annual Convention of the American Political Science Association; Alexander L. George Award for the best article in Qualitative and Multi-Method Research published in 2007, awarded by the American Political Science Association;
- Janina Dill - Lord Bryce Prize for the best thesis in International Relations and Comparative Politics of the Political Studies Association (2013);

- Ray Duch - Best Article published in the *Journal of Politics*, Southern Political Science Association, 2011;
- Sudhir Hazareesingh - Prix du Livre d'Histoire from the French Senate in June 2011;
- Christopher Hood - June Pallot Award for best article in the *International Public Management Journal*, 2008; Routledge Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Public Management, 2010, from the International Research Society for Public Management; 2011 William E. Mosher and the Frederick C. Mosher Award by The American Society for Public Administration (ASPA); Appointed *Commander of the Order of the British Empire* (CBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2011 for services to social science;
- Andrew Hurrell - International Studies Association Prize for best book in the field of International Relations (2009);
- Sukriti Issar - George Award 2011, at the Qualitative and Multi-method Research section, American Political Science Association, 2011;
- Dominic Johnson - Chancellor's "Rising Star" Award, University of Edinburgh, awarded by Princess Anne, 2011; Best Book in International Studies, International Studies Association, 2008;
- Desmond King - *Choice* "Outstanding Academic Book", 2012;
- Neil MacFarlane - Doctorate (Honoris Causa), Tbilisi State University, 2012, for services to the development of international relations at the University and for scholarship on the international relations of the Caucasus;
- Walter Mattli - Best Book Award, International Studies Association, 2012 (with co-author Tim Büthe); Special Recognition for the 2010 Levine Prize, Research Committee on the Structure of Governance, International Political Science Association;
- Iain McLean - W.J.M. Mackenzie Prize of the PSA (for the second time), 2011;
- Cristina Parau - Vincent Wright Memorial Prize by West European Politics, 2010;
- Duncan Snidal - Special Recognition for the 2010 Levine Prize, Research Committee on the Structure of Governance, International Political Science Association;
- Tom Snijders - Order of Knight of the Netherlands Lion ("Ridder in de Orde van de Nederlandse Leeuw"), 2008; Georg Simmel Award, the main award of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, 2010; Honorary doctorate, Université Paris-Dauphine, 2011;
- Marc Stears - One of *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Titles for 2010;
- James Tilley - Harrison Prize for best paper (with Christopher Wlezien) in *Political Studies*;
- Catherine De Vries - Young Global Leader Award, World Economic Forum, World Economic Forum, Geneva, Switzerland, 2013;
- Jeremy Waldron - American Philosophical Society's Henry Phillips Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Jurisprudence 2011; American Society for International Law's 2013 Prize for Creative Scholarship; Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science (Social Sciences) from the University of Edinburgh, 2013;
- Stuart White - Co-winner of the annual Jenny Jeger Prize for best Fabian Society publication, 2009 (with Rajiv Prabhakar and Karen Rowlingson);
- Ngaire Woods - Special Recognition for the 2010 Levine Prize, Research Committee on the Structure of Governance, International Political Science Association.

c. II. Research students

DPIR has a large graduate school, which makes it a major generator of advanced research capacity in politics and international relations around the world. A total of 275 students have completed doctoral degrees between Jan 2008 and Oct 2013 (a number of them supervised by members of our staff who are being submitted with other UoAs in this REF, including Area Studies, History, Philosophy and Statistics). The graduate school is critical to the attractiveness and vibrancy of DPIR's research environment. Academics value working with outstanding research students and students are attracted by the quality of the research training and intellectual culture we provide.

The success of the department's graduate programme throughout the assessment period has been based on four elements:

(i) *Funding.* In the REF period, our research students were highly successful in obtaining studentship funding. In total, we held 40 full ESRC awards (including Russian and East European Studies), 25 full AHRC awards, 30 full Clarendon awards, 36 full Rhodes Scholarships, as well as two grant-funded scholarships (Wellcome Trust and New Zealand Tertiary Education Commissions). In addition, between 2008-13 the department provided £1.6 million of its own funds to 237 students. Following a strategic review of our graduate funding in 2012, a decision was taken to eliminate partial funding and to move to a full funding model for doctoral students, which resulted in full funding awards to 15 incoming research students in the 2013 entry. In all, a total of 147 fully funded students were enrolled in doctorates in politics and international relations in the REF period. An additional departmental budget of £261K over the REF period was made available to support fieldwork, conference travel and research events by research students. Colleges also offered additional support for research of up to £850 p.a. per student.

(ii) *Quality of Training and Supervision* is assured by the Directors of Graduate Studies (one for politics and one for international relations), who chair their respective Graduate Studies Committees. Research methods training is organised by the two Directors of Graduate Training (again one in politics and one in international relations). Admission to our doctoral programme is based on academic excellence. There are two routes to doctoral entry: via the department's own MPhil or MSc programmes or by application from other programmes with at least Master's level qualification. Doctoral research training is tailored to the specialist needs of each individual and delivered via Oxford's ESRC-accredited Social Sciences Doctoral Training Centre (DTC).

(iii) *A strong post-graduate research culture.* Research students are integral to the department's research culture. DPIR provides dedicated desk space and work station facilities for its doctoral students. Post-graduate colloquia in International Relations, Government and Political Theory offer a forum in which research students regularly present their work and critique that of others. There are also numerous departmental research seminars (up to 12 per week), and student visitor and exchange schemes with partner institutions including the Anglo-German State of the State Fellowship programme with Bremen and Göttingen Universities, the Global Leaders Fellowship programme with Princeton University, and the Oxford-Sciences Po Research Group in the Social Sciences with Sciences Po, Paris, and the Maison Française d'Oxford. Colleges provide significant additional fora for academic engagement, organising their own graduate seminars, often with a strong interdisciplinary dimension.

(iv) *Employability and placement.* Research students are encouraged to take opportunities to develop as researchers by working as research assistants with established staff - 366 students were given this opportunity in the REF period - and to undertake teaching as a core element of their training, guided by the departmental Graduate Training Officer. Complementing the work of their supervisors, the department's Placement Officer supports research students entering the job market and offers guidance on publishing. As we indicate below (p.12 - generating future research capacity), our doctoral students meet with considerable success in future academic employment.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

1. Income

The financial sustainability of the UoA's research activity is based on: (i) success in obtaining research grants, including those from charitable trusts; and (ii) charitable donations and income from existing trusts and permanent endowments that underpin our research posts and graduate studentships.

Research grant awards. Our researchers won 83 externally funded grants in the REF period, amounting to a total award value of £11.1 million. We achieved this in an increasingly restrictive and competitive funding environment by enhancing the strength of our grant applications and by diversifying our funding sources. The link between the funding and high quality research is demonstrated by the fact that much of the department's research grant income consists of prestigious personal awards and fellowships. Examples for 2012–13 alone include: Professor Jennifer Welsh's ERC Advanced Grant (£1.7 million), Professor Richard Caplan's BA Mid-Career Fellowship (£107K), Dr Petra Schleiter's BA Mid-Career Fellowship (£110K) and Professor Stephen Whitefield's recent ESRC Urgent Research Grant Award on Support for Democracy in Egypt (£120K). This external grant income is complemented by the department's success in attracting competitively awarded research grants from the John Fell (OUP) Research Fund, an internal fund, which provides seed corn grants to stimulate applications to external funding bodies, start-up funds for early career researchers, and large scale grants. Our income from these grants amounted to £573K in the REF period. Further internal funding for interdisciplinary research is also available from the Oxford Martin School, from which we received just under £620K. These internal university funds have been very successful in leveraging the further external grants, outlined above (p.10).

Charitable research donations. The department has also been successful in obtaining charitable donations in support of research on a spend-down basis. These monies totalled almost £3.95 million in the REF period and include £1.2 million for the Global Leaders Fellowship programme, £100K to support an early career researcher in the field of politics and international relations of the Middle East, and £2.3 million to support the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

Trusts and endowments. The most significant charitable donation that we secured in the REF period was a £75 million gift from Len Blavatnik to establish a new School of Government. These funds have already been used to enhance our research capacity in public policy significantly (a chair and a tenure track position). Five further positions (including two chairs) are currently being advertised and additional appointments will be made over the next five years. The department was also in receipt of a further £2.8 million in donations (including matched funding from the University) to endow two University lectureships in politics and international relations (with additional funds being donated to support the college contribution to these appointments). These donations supplement existing trust funds, held by the department totalling £3.8 million, which, during the period of assessment, generated an interest income of £1.6 million in support of permanently endowed positions in the department, including the following chairs: Montague Burton (Hurrell), Alistair Buchan (Johnson), Gladstone (Hood), Mellon (King), Lester Pearson (MacFarlane) – as well as the Winchester Lectureship (Khong) and the Hedley Bull Research Fellowship (Dill). A further endowment of £3 million was secured by the University and supports the department's share of the Chair in Israel Studies (Penslar).

2. Infrastructure and facilities

DPIR is co-located with the departments of Economics and Sociology and the Social Science Library in the purpose-built Manor Road Building. The department is able to provide all its members with study space in a single location and research students are provided with desk space in an open-plan area. The Manor Road Building provides the base for the department's research-related activities, centres and networks. Most specialist seminars and workshops organised by the research groups take place here. The Blavatnik School is currently constructing a new, multi-million pound state-of-the-art building that will open in 2015.

The Manor Road Building (MRB) maintains high specification computer networks, accessible remotely, providing desk access to a wide range of general and specialist software, economic and social databases, and on-line journals. There is a specialist MRB IT team to support the computing and IT needs of the academic departments in the building.

The Social Sciences Library (SSL) brings together the University's extensive research collections across the social sciences and has an annual budget of over £690K, including expenditure on electronic resources. It offers 400 study spaces (including study rooms dedicated to social science graduates), discussion rooms, private study carrels, a media room, reprographics room and an IT training room. Advanced training in information skills and online resources is provided by the SSL's 'Graduate Search Clinics' programme, which received an Oxford University Teaching Award in 2010. Further support for early career researchers is provided by the SSL through its participation in the Social Sciences Division's 'Graduate Skills Toolkits' programme.

The UoA works in partnership with the colleges of the University to support the teaching and research of our members. Colleges provide junior research fellowships, research funding, library and IT resources, and accommodation. They act as hubs of interaction with students at both undergraduate and graduate level, as well as facilitating an extended social network for intellectual interactions across a wide range of other disciplines.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

1. Collaboration

The mechanisms that sustain collaboration and interdisciplinarity in the UoA include joint appointments, research centres and networks, visitor and exchange programmes and the UoA's multiple institutional links with the policy community.

(i) *Joint Appointments*: The department invests in 13 permanent joint academic appointments: two appointments with BSG, nine with the School for Interdisciplinary Area Studies (securing expertise in African politics, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Former Soviet Union), one with the Faculty of History and one with the Department of Statistics. Appointments in the Blavatnik School of Government commit 20% of their time to the supervision of DPIR research students.

(ii) *Collaborative and interdisciplinary research centres and programmes*: DPIR's ten research centres and programmes provide platforms for collaborative and interdisciplinary research and are essential to the vitality of the research environment (as described above, p.3). DPIR assists with administrative support in the planning of activities (conferences/seminars), the development of research grant applications, and provides web support to its centres.

(iii) *Visitor Programme*: The department and the Blavatnik School of Government support a vibrant and dynamic visitor programme that brought 265 academics and 50 students from 30 countries to Oxford during the REF period. The visitor programme operates through our research centres and programmes and through institutionalised international research links that include the Oxford Sciences Po Research Group (OXPO), Bremen University and Göttingen University (Anglo-German Fellowship Programme), Princeton University (Global Leaders Fellowship Programme), and an Erasmus Faculty Exchange Agreement with the Central European University.

(iv) *Collaboration with industry, government and the third sector*: We collaborate with policy institutes at the national and international level, politicians and political parties, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations, national governments and media professionals. These collaborations are underpinned by generous consultancy arrangements, special leave and variation of duties as well as our extensive networks of engagement (through research centres, visiting fellowship schemes for practitioners, seminars and conferences). During the assessment period we have strengthened these existing networks by two new initiatives - the launch of the Blavatnik School of Government (which hosts a Distinguished Practitioner programme) and the Chevening Parliamentarian Programme, in which DPIR worked with three separate cohorts of Indian MPs. These collaborations and evidence of their success are detailed in the impact template (REF3a) and case studies (REF3b).

The intensity of our collaborations is illustrated by the number of DPIR staff who are named in research applications submitted by other universities. Examples from 2011–2013 include: Anastasakis, Vienna; Caney, Sydney; Cheeseman, Warwick; Cheeseman, Durham; Evans, Manchester; Hurrell, Hamburg; Hurrell, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt; McLean, Glasgow; MacFarlane, Leiden; Picard, Westminster; Picard, Norway; Rueda, Aarhus; Rueda, Sorbonne; Rodin, Delft Netherlands; Soares de Oliveira, GPPI Berlin; Tilley, Queen's Belfast.

2. Contribution to the Research Base and Discipline

In 2008 the RAE sub-panel judged that “the department’s overall contribution to academic public goods was internationally excellent”. In this assessment period, DPIR has broadened its contributions by launching a series of new subject development initiatives. The department’s contributions fall under four headings: (i) generating future research capacity, (ii) subject development, (iii) contributions to the discipline, and (iv) contributions to the research base.

(i) Generating future research capacity. The size and quality of our doctoral and post-doctoral programmes make us one of the most significant generators of research capacity in politics and international relations worldwide. The placements of our doctoral students speak to the success of the programme in contributing to the research base in academia and beyond. During the assessment period, our graduates have attained research and faculty positions at Ivy League institutions including Harvard and Stanford; at leading UK institutions including Cambridge, LSE and Warwick; and in institutions across Europe (Hertie School, Leiden, St Gallen, Vienna) and beyond (Cairo, Kahlifa (Abu Dhabi), Kwansei Gakuin (Japan), Sydney).

The department’s Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship Programme hosted 74 fellows during the REF period and is one of the biggest, internationally. The placement record of Oxford post-docs speaks to the success of the programme in developing outstanding researchers. At least 25 have gone on to become lecturers, 15 to associate professorships, eight to assistant professorships, and two to full professorships at institutions that have included: within the UK (Brunel, Cambridge, Durham, Kent, Kings College, LSE, Nottingham, SOAS); within Europe (CEU, Cyprus, Frankfurt, Lund (Sweden), Oslo, Trinity College Dublin, UNESCO); to the US (California, Princeton, Rochester, William and Mary); and elsewhere overseas (ANU (Australia), Hong Kong). Others have taken up positions in research and policy institutes, government, international organisations and industry.

(ii) Subject development. During the assessment period, the department continued to host the *Oxford Spring School (OSS)* and launched a series of new subject development initiatives. The OSS offers a week of advanced quantitative methods training for Political and Social Science researchers covering different specialist areas each year. Over the assessment period, OSS ran courses for 443 participants drawn from universities around the world and applied research agencies. Our new subject development initiatives in the assessment period had global scale and included:

- *Georgia - Pilot Doctoral Programme in International Relations.* Led by Professor Neil MacFarlane, this Open Society Institute-funded \$1.2 million initiative created a pilot doctoral programme in international relations at Tbilisi State University. Its aim is to train a small cohort of Georgian academics to lead the development of the subject in the country as a whole. The doctoral programme admitted seven candidates and MacFarlane developed the curriculum (field seminar, research design, academic practice), implemented it during visits to Georgia in 2010-2012, and now provides assistance with supervision.
- *UK-Middle East Capacity Sharing Partnership scheme: Teaching Contemporary Palestinian Political History: Setting a Collaborative Research Agenda and Building Capacity.* Led by Dr Karma Nabulsi, the programme pioneers extensive collaboration between Oxford and universities in the Arab world, including scholars from the occupied Palestinian territories and Lebanon, working at An-Najah (Nablus), Al-Azhar (Gaza) and the Lebanese University and

other institutions (Beirut). This British Academy-funded project aims to build teaching and research capacities in the fields of political history and contemporary Palestinian politics.

- *Open Society Institute's Academic Fellowship Programme working with Universities in Eastern Europe*. Led by Dr Gwen Sasse, the programme supports young East European academics to advise universities and departments in the region on teaching, curriculum design and research (University of Sofia (Bulgaria) and university departments in Ukraine).
- *Egypt and Botswana International Partnerships*. Cooperative and collaborative efforts with the international academic community, led by DPIP, include projects run by Professor Stephen Whitefield (BA International Partnership and Mobility Scheme with Cairo University) and Dr Shane Mac Giollaibhui (BA International Partnership and Mobility Scheme with the University of Botswana). Both of these awards will result in collaborative publications, mass media articles and collaborative graduate and undergraduate teaching efforts.

(iii) *Contributions to the discipline*. Several members of the department hold editorships of major journals in the field: Ansell, *Comparative Political Studies*; Evans, *Electoral Studies*; De Vries, *Research and Politics*; Rueda, *Socio Economic Review*; and White, *Philosophy and Public Affairs*. Many others serve on editorial advisory boards for similarly important journals and presses: *British Journal of Political Science* (King, McLean, Snidal); the Cambridge University Press/BISA Book Series *Cambridge Studies in International Relations* (Welsh); *China Quarterly* (Thornton); *Comparative Political Studies* (Capocchia, De Vries, Whitefield); *East European Politics* (Zubek); *Ethics and International Affairs* (Welsh); *European Union Politics* (Evans); *International Affairs* (Hurrell); *International Political Science Review* (King); *International Security* (Khong); *International Studies* (Caplan); *Journal of Democracy* (Bermeo, Whitehead); *Journal of Elections, Public Opinions and Parties* (Evans); *Journal of Politics* (Evans); *Journal of Theoretical Politics* (Snidal); *Peace and Conflict Studies* (MacFarlane); *Political Research Quarterly* (De Vries); *Social Science Research* (Evans); *West European Politics* (Bermeo); and *World Politics* (Bermeo).

Our members also make significant contributions to professional associations and learned societies. Examples include: Vice-President (Public Policy) of the British Academy (McLean); President, Politics and History Section of American Political Science Association (APSA), 2012-13 (King - first non-US elected president since the founding of the Section); Member of the International Advisory Board, Centre for Social Sciences, Tbilisi, Georgia (MacFarlane, Whitefield); Chair of European Politics and Society Section of APSA (Bermeo, Rueda); Member of Council, European Politics and Society Section, APSA (Rueda); Member of the Advisory Council of the think-tank Demos 2009-present (White); Member of the Standing Committee, British Academy, Politics and International Studies Section 5 (Foot); Member of the Research Awards Committee, British Academy (King); and President, Le Conseil Scientifique de l'Institut des Ameriques, Paris, a post he was elected to in 2008, and just re-elected for a further five-year term (Whitehead).

(iv) *Contributions to the research base*. Building on a long tradition of running the *British Election Study* (BES), this REF period saw the return to Oxford of this flagship ESRC-funded programme once more under the co-directorship of Evans. BES 2015 runs from 2013-2017 and continues a series conducted at every election since 1964. It involves multiple data design and collection activities across the electoral cycle: a four-year panel study, a campaign study, a cross-section post-election study, and data linking activities including, for example, the use of GIS and twitter trends. The results of these are then made available for use by the scholarly community, commentators, analysts and the wider media.

Finally, the British Academy-funded project *William Godwin's Diary: Reconstructing a Social and Political Culture 1788-1836*, led by Dr Mark Philp contributed to the research base by creating a major publicly accessible digital resource for researchers working on London life and culture.