

<p><b>Institution: University of East Anglia</b></p>
<p><b>Unit of Assessment: 21 Politics and International Studies</b></p>
<p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>The School of Political, Social and International Studies (PSI) at UEA is a medium-sized unit, with a long-standing commitment to interdisciplinary research and methodological pluralism. Since RAE 2008 the School has concentrated on two areas of political science research: Public Policy and Public Management; and Cultural Politics, Communications and Media. Whilst developing these two fields the School has continued to support world-class research in International Relations, and has begun to develop a specialism in Critical International Relations.</p> <p>In Public Policy and Public Management, the School conducts leading research in competition policy and regulation, and environmental policy, as evidenced by its role in the £9m ESRC Centre for Competition Policy and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change. Research in Cultural Politics, Communications and Media has led to participation in the RCUK-funded CREATE programme (£4m) on copyright and new business models in the creative industries, as well as to grants from the AHRC, ESRC, and the Leverhulme Trust, and to EU funding of €3.3m for the SeaMedia project (to develop an online media platform).</p> <p>Since 2008 the School has produced over 180 publications, including some 18 monographs, 130 peer-reviewed articles, 35 book chapters and 3 edited books. In RAE 2008, total grant income was £550,072; staff are now involved in large research projects and centres that are worth more than £5 million and have incurred a spend of £1.18m. The quality of our PhD students has increased significantly, as is indicated by the unit's success in securing ESRC and Faculty studentships and our involvement in the latest AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership (CHASE). We are a driving force in major international networks, our research is at the forefront of theoretical and methodological debates, and our contributions to substantive policy issues are shaping the decisions of politicians and policy makers locally, nationally and internationally.</p> <p>In short, over the census period PSI has worked successfully to develop a distinctive research-led unit which combines concentrations of expertise with interdisciplinarity, breadth and originality. Ours is a growing unit, contributing to the good health of research in politics and international studies - in the UK and internationally - with clear plans for enduring and high-level future success.</p> <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>In 2008 our future strategy involved extending research expertise in two areas (Cultural Politics, Communications and Media, and International Politics and Policy), combined with a commitment to maintaining interdisciplinary research and collaboration. Over the period, we refined our focus to concentrate on Public Policy and Public Management, and Cultural Politics, Communications and Media, while developing a critical approach to the study of International Relations. This was achieved through a management plan with four components:</p> <p>(i) <i>Appointments</i>: In Public Policy and Public Management, Hanretty has brought expertise in quantitative and comparative analysis; James strengthens our comparative policy research, and brings his specialisms in leadership studies and electoral management; Finlayson has expanded our conceptual and methodological range into critical and ideational policy analysis; and Turnpenny complements Kassim's research on policy instruments and EU policy, adding a record of world-leading research on environmental policy. The appointment of the Rt Hon Charles Clarke as a Visiting Professor has enabled us to form close relations with practitioners and research institutes in Public Policy and Public Management.</p> <p>In Cultural Politics, Communications and Media, Finlayson added to communication research through his role as an internationally renowned expert in rhetorical political analysis; Hanretty's appointment brought expertise in public service broadcasting, especially in relation to the</p>

independence of regulators; and Brown added political theory expertise in rights and fairness, and more recently in hate speech. These appointments represent the first phase in a process of strengthening research in Cultural Politics, Communications and Media. The second phase involves a widening and deepening of this strategy, and has been implemented by the appointment of Skey to strengthen ethnographic research methodologies as applied to media and cultural identity politics; and Zhang, who together with Prentoulis, bolsters existing expertise in political journalism and adds research in media representation of international relations.

Appointments in International Relations have been made in order to push at the boundaries of the field and to overlap with research in cultural politics, with a view to creating a group of scholars who represent critical approaches to International Relations. We recruited Curtis to work on global cities; Franzen on historically informed analyses of ideologies in Middle-Eastern politics; and Innes on human rights, security and migration. Our developing research in this area will be further consolidated by Sinclair's work on the conceptualisation of international law; and by Jarvis, a leading scholar of critical approaches to international security, who will join the School on 1 January 2014, and who will support Marsden's leadership of the group.

Several of our early-career appointments have already won recognition in their respective fields: Hanretty was awarded the François Mény Prize for the Best Comparative Study of European Institutions; Brown won the best article prize in the *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*; Skey was joint winner of the BSA's Philip Abrams Memorial Prize; and Sinclair was one of the BBC and AHRC New Generation Scholars. Franzen was shortlisted for the Book Prize of the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies. Over the census period we also appointed 11 postdoctoral fellows who enriched our research culture and have gone onto permanent posts at UEA and elsewhere in the UK, the US and New Zealand.

(ii) *Integrating research with major RCUK funding initiatives:* Public Policy and Public Management researchers are key members (including Kassim as a CI) of the ESRC Centre for Competition Policy (CCP). Kassim has led CCP's 'Institutions' theme. Through CCP, five of the unit's staff benefitted from 'buy-outs'; they and others were able to develop research projects with experts in economics, law and management (for example, on quangos, media regulation and EU competition policy). Staff also collaborate through the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change and the UEA 3S Group (Science, Society and Sustainability). More broadly, policy@uea, a research network led by the School, brings together colleagues from Schools of Philosophy, Business, Medicine and Environmental Science to develop collaborative initiatives across the University.

Work in Cultural Politics, Communications and Media has been funded by the ESRC, AHRC and Leverhulme to explore the relationship between political engagement and popular culture, and by the British Academy to examine broadcasting policy. The School is also funded by the RCUK CREATE initiative to develop a political science perspective on the regulation of copyright and the enhancement of the creative industries. The School's leadership of the EU-funded SeaMedia consortium that both enables future research on online journalism and new media more generally, and enhances our dissemination strategy, is further testimony to the unit's entrepreneurship and interdisciplinary approach to the study of media. The School has also been a key driver of media@uea, a group which serves as a focus for interdisciplinary research in media at UEA, and involves researchers in law, economics, film and television, international development, education, and literature.

(iii) *The establishment of a rich and vibrant research culture:* Professorial staff lead the key research areas (Kassim for Public Policy and Public Management, Street and Finlayson for Cultural Politics, Communications and Media, and Marsden for International Relations), enabling colleagues with shared interests to comment on each other's work and encouraging collaborative research. Work-in-progress and new methodologies are discussed at "brown-bag" workshops; staff and graduates present their research at a weekly lunchtime seminar; and research "away-days" promote long-term strategies, networking and collaboration. We also organize regular reading groups on new and classic ideas and methods in social and political research.

Our links with national and international research culture are fostered through a weekly external research seminar, attended by all staff and PGRs, and featuring leading scholars as guest speakers. In the census period this amounts to over 60 seminars. The School's European Forum has hosted a further 41 seminars including both top scholars and leading practitioners.

(iv) *Close management, monitoring and supporting of research activities:* Research is overseen by the Head of School and the School Research Director, who report to the Faculty's Associate Dean for Research and the University's Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research. All staff provide six monthly updates of research progress and plans (using UEA's RPlan software and its successor PURE). These are discussed in meetings with the Research Director and their Deputy. The result is a Personal Research Strategy that is presented to the School's Research Team and forms the basis of recommendations on research management strategy. Early career scholars have formal meetings with the Head of School twice a year to discuss research strategy and resource issues. Staff are expected to submit at least one research funding bid per year (unless already in receipt of funding). These procedures are not designed simply to monitor research, but to assist and support it. They identify and meet research needs of all colleagues.

**Future Priorities and Objectives:** Our overall objective over the next five years is to deliver world-class interdisciplinary research in Public Policy and Public Management, Cultural Politics, Communication and Media, and in Critical International Relations. Growth will be funded by research-grant income. We will build further capacity, extend collaboration with colleagues at local, national and international levels, and strengthen relations with practitioner communities (as outlined in REF3a). We are extending research collaborations through the newly-created Eastern Academic Research Consortium (with the Universities of Essex and Kent), and through the existing research links with Fudan University in Shanghai, and with other universities in China which we have visited and with which we have begun to explore joint projects.

In Public Policy and Public Management a key goal is to continue ESRC support for the work done by the Centre for Competition Policy. This is to be achieved by a shift in focus to the regulatory state. Led by Kassim, and also involving Clarke, Hanretty, Street and Turnpenny, this will give PSI a decisive role in the future of CCP, and establish the School as a major centre for the study of regulation. The School is also leading an Open Research Area bid with partners in France, Germany and the Netherlands (UK element: £750,000) to examine the influence of parties and public opinion on EU policy. Recent appointments will lead research into science and public policy with particular focus on ideational, communicative and rhetorical dimensions (Turnpenny, Finlayson and Zhang). Turnpenny, for example, is a co-investigator on a large Leverhulme bid on Innovation for Sustainable Living and a £7m ESRC Research Centre bid on Natural Capital Decisions.

In Cultural Politics, Communications and Media we will, through CCP and CREATE, further develop research into media regulation, cultural policy and the creative industries. Recent appointments will lead the development of quantitative analyses, increasing our capacity for conducting large-N comparative work, new web-scraping/data mining techniques, and social network research. Grant bids will include an ESRC bid on Chinese foreign news reporting and a comparative study of media regulation. These will contribute to the growth of the media@uea research group, to which the unit is a key contributor.

The further development of International Relations is a priority, including the appointment of a second Chair to support leadership in this area from 2014. Given existing strengths we will continue to invest in research driven by critical, culturalist and constructivist theories, including Curtis' theorisation of cities in global politics and Marsden's research on religion and international relations. Our new appointments advance our research agenda in security, and will lead projects on migration, human rights and identity in collaboration with colleagues elsewhere in UEA and beyond.

### c. People, including:

**i. Staffing strategy and staff development:** As part of staffing strategy the University has introduced two career paths. The first – ATR – is for the production of high quality research; the second - ATS – is for those who excel as teachers and scholars. The School has sought to develop both paths. All 26 (fte 24.75) staff in post are on permanent contracts (15 ATR). There are 4 Chairs and 5 Senior Lecturers. This compares with 16 in 2008 (3 Chairs and 2 Senior Lecturers). Of staff in indefinite posts in 2008, four have since transferred (Anstead to the LSE; Pratt to Warwick; Wright to Leicester; Savigny to Bournemouth) as have four appointed within the period (Greasley to Exeter; Gill to Nottingham; Gammon to Sussex; Veltri to Leicester), two Chairs have retired since 2008 (Goodwin and Greenaway), and one colleague has elected to transfer to an ATS contract. Replacement appointments have been made in the case of all departing colleagues.

The School has placed particular emphasis on the recruitment and close mentoring of early-career researchers and post-doctoral fellows. Policies include: a 20% reduction in teaching load during the probationary period; the earmarking of extra funding for early career staff to support immediate research output and profile; guidance on publication strategy, grant development and promotions including, where appropriate, co-authorship with senior colleagues. Of early career staff five have been promoted.

The success of our approach is demonstrated by the research fellowships and other measures of esteem granted to our staff. These include: an AHRC 'Early Career' Research Fellowship; the American Philosophical Society's Visiting Research Fellowship; and a visitorship to the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. Other markers of success are: appointments to visiting positions - for example, Kassim has been a visiting scholar at ARENA - Centre for European Studies, University of Oslo; and the Centre d'Etudes Européennes Sciences Po, Paris; and Street at Monash University, Melbourne.

In all areas of staffing the School is governed by University procedures on equality and diversity, including the 'Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers'. UEA succeeded in securing bronze level recognition under the Athena Swan Charter. In recruiting research staff, the School specifically encourages applications from groups that are currently under-represented at UEA.

**ii Research students:** We have increased substantially our research student community, creating a graduate environment appropriate to our size and ambitions. Graduate students participate fully in our research groups and other research activities, as well as in cross-disciplinary networks (such as [media@uea](mailto:media@uea) and [policy@uea](mailto:policy@uea)). Since 2008, staff have supervised 11 students to completion and at the census date 36 are enrolled. Many have published as sole and joint authors (e.g. in *Politics*, *Political Quarterly*, *Media*, *Culture and Society* and *European Journal of Communication*), have worked as research associates on research projects (e.g. on the ESRC projects 'The European Commission in Question' and 'From Entertainment to Citizenship') and have been supported in organising graduate conferences (e.g. on 'Globalization' in 2010, and MeCCSA in 2013).

Funding includes ESRC Studentships (via the Centre for Competition Policy), which ensures that research complements School strategy in this area, and Faculty and School studentships (seven over the period), notably in Cultural Politics, Communications and Media. As a result of a concordat established by the School in 2010, students may enter via the London Academy of Diplomacy pursuing research in Public Policy and Public Management and in International Relations. The School is also part of an AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership (CHASE), described in Section (e) below.

The Faculty Graduate School, founded in 2010, manages a Postgraduate Personal and Professional Development Programme. Students are required to earn 30 'training credits' over three years attending training workshops and programmes. The Faculty also runs a bi-weekly Critical Writing Workshop and an annual interdisciplinary seminar series. Students in PSI also participate in the Faculty of Social Science training programme designed in accordance with the

**Environment template (REF5)**

RCUK Joint Skills and Researcher Development Statements, including training in fieldwork design, statistics, quantitative and qualitative data handling. Graduate students benefit from institutional membership of ECPR and Chatham House. The School pays their membership fees for PSA, BISA, or MeCCSA and offers funding for attendance at conferences and external events.

Within the School, training events (delivered by submitted staff) are scheduled across the PhD career on topics such as research methods (Hanretty) as well as practical topics such as networking, publishing strategies and career development (Kassim), media engagement (Street) and academic writing (Finlayson). Graduate students participate with staff in annual reading groups, one focused on philosophical and methodological issues in political science, one concerned with Social and Political Theory. PSI also runs research training workshops that attract research students from across the UK and beyond, including 'Rhetoric as Theory and Method in Political Research' (Finlayson, in collaboration with Department of Politics, Goldsmiths) and 'Psychoanalysis as Theory and Method in Political Research' (Finlayson and Prentoulis in collaboration with Department of Government, University of Essex). Curtis was selected to run an interdisciplinary Faculty seminar series on 'Cities'.

**d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

From 2008 to 2013, PSI staff have been involved in the generation of over £10m in external grant income (£5m of which is attributed to this unit). Colleagues have won grants from the ESRC, AHRC, European Commission, Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), DEFRA, National Science Foundation, Leverhulme Trust, Nuffield Foundation, British Academy, McDougall Trust, among others. In particular, Kassim is co-investigator of the ESRC Centre for Competition Policy (£4.4 million for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the 10-year programme) and was principal investigator for the ESRC-funded The European Commission in Question project (£250k), Turnpenny has contributed to LIAISE (FP7: €6.8 million; approx €600k to UEA) and the UK National Ecosystem Assessment follow-on phase (total budget: £100k; approx £49k to UEA), and Street is responsible for three work packages in the CREATE programme (approx £120k to UEA).

Core research support is provided by the University's Research and Enterprise Service, who disseminate news of funding opportunities; provide assistance in the preparation of research funding bids; manage relations with funding bodies and host visits by representatives of the funding councils; offer project management, consultancy, contract and enterprise support; oversee training in good research practice; and manage a Faculty-wide peer-review college.

The ESRC Centre for Competition Policy provides the School with studentships, 'buy-out' for research staff and participation in a major international seminar series. In return, staff from the School have taken the lead in running CCP conferences on policy instruments, state aid, and on institutions and competition. CCP also connects the School with practitioner organisations including the European Commission, Competition Commission, the OFT, BIS, Ofgem, Ofcom, and the World Bank.

Research is supported by PSI's library budget of approximately £70,000 per annum in addition to subscriptions to Index to Theses, Proquest dissertations and theses, House of Commons Parliamentary Papers, JSTOR, Communication & Media, Web of Science, IBSS, Times Digital Archive, Economist Historical Archive, International Encyclopaedia of Revolution and Protest, Listener Historical Archive and Lexis-Nexis). This annual spend, combined with a substantial extant core, has allowed PSI to develop a significant collection of research material. The UEA Library, recently refurbished, also has an excellent audiovisual collection of commercial films and documentaries, and off-air recordings. CCP is housed in its own building on campus while PSI colleagues are accommodated in separate offices. All have personal IT access and quantitative researchers are provided with powerful cutting-edge equipment. Doctoral students have workstations both within the Faculty and in library carrels.

Research centre activity and individual research bids have yielded publications for leading journals and publishers, and many are included in REF2. This is a demonstration of how research in the

unit has benefited directly from its networks and external research income. Work conducted through CCP-funded buy-outs have appeared in: *Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade*, *West European Politics*, the *International Journal of Cultural Policy, Regulation and Governance*, and *Journal of European Public Policy*. FP7 funded projects on 'policy dismantling' and on Impact Assessment Instruments has led to publications in journals of politics and public policy (*Journal of European Public Policy*, *Environmental Science & Policy*, *Policy Sciences*, *Environment and Planning C*), and natural science (*Nature*). 'The European Union in Question' project findings were published in an OUP monograph and in *Governance*, *Journal of Common Market Studies* and *West European Politics*. Finlayson's Leverhulme Trust research on political speech and rhetoric resulted in articles in *Political Studies* and *BJPIR*. James' funding from the AHRC, ESRC, Nuffield Foundation and the McDougall Trust led to publications in Law (*Election Law Journal*), and Politics (*Contemporary Politics*, *British Politics*, *Electoral Studies*, *Parliamentary Affairs* and *BJPIR*). Street and Inthorn's ESRC-funded for research led to publications in politics (*Parliamentary Affairs*), sociology (*Cultural Sociology*) and media studies (*Media, Culture and Society*).

#### e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Staff in the School are involved in a wide range of activities that contribute to the development, within our areas of expertise, of national and international research and of the research base. We organised 'The Coalition at One' conference (with the Institute for Government) and the ECPR Fifth Pan-European Conference, and we hosted the PSA Media and Politics conference and the BISA Foreign Policy Group conference in 2009. Staff are closely involved in professional associations - Kassim is on the Executive Committee of the ECPR Standing Group of the European Union and Turnpenny of the Standing Groups on Regulatory Governance and Green Politics. James is Secretary of the PSA specialist group for Political Leadership and Hanretty is on the executive committee of the Italian Politics Specialist Group. Finlayson co-founded and serves as treasurer of the Rhetoric and Politics Specialist Group; Marsden served on the BISA executive and co-convened its working group on US foreign policy. As part of the Centre for Competition Policy staff in the unit have organised international conferences on competition institutions and on state aid, as well as CCP workshops and seminars.

Through these and similar activities the School has become embedded within a number of international research networks including 'Eurotrans', funded by the Norwegian Social Science Foundation and based at ARENA, University of Oslo, and l'Observatoire des Institutions Européennes at Sciences Po. Paris (Kassim). Staff were part of two EU Sixth Framework Programme of Research (FP6) projects - 'Connecting Excellence on European Excellence' ('CONNEX'), a four-year project that ran from July 2004 to June 2008, with a €14M budget, that investigated multilevel governance in Europe, involved more than 170 scholars from 42 partner institutions in 23 European countries and was convened by the Mannheim Centre for European Research (Kassim) and MATISSE - and the EU Seventh Framework Programme of Research (FP7) projects CONSENSUS and LIAISE (Turnpenny). These have forged connections, and on-going collaboration, with researchers across the EU and beyond. Street is on the steering group of the Subcultures, Music and Politics research group (which has an AHRC Network grant for 2013-15) and has served on the Management Committee of CREATE; Finlayson is on the internationalisation task force of the Rhetoric Society of America with colleagues from China, Africa, South America and Europe (which has led to co-editorship of a book series with Palgrave). Zhang is collaborating with colleagues at University of Nottingham and Ningbo, China, developing research into Chinese war correspondents and on a Jean Monnet Programme on the export of values and norms with colleagues at the University of Canterbury (New Zealand) and 6 other institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. Skey is working with colleagues at the University of Calgary on a project on 'visual environment, with colleagues at the University of Loughborough and LSE on a project on 'Everyday Nationhood', and with colleagues at the University of Ottawa, LSE and Copenhagen Business School on a study of global media. James is a member of the Electoral Integrity Project, based at Harvard University.

Drawing on these networks staff have edited special issues of journals and performed other editorial roles. Kassim edited issues of *West European Politics* (2010) and *Journal of Competition*,

*Industry and Trade* (2013); Turnpenny edited issues of *Science, Technology and Human Values* (2011) and *Nature & Culture* (2013); Street guest co-edited an issue of *Contemporary British History* and serves on the Advisory Board of *Cultural Politics*, and on the editorial group of *Popular Music*. Finlayson edited a special section of *PS Review* debating approaches to 'Political Discourse Analysis', is Associate Editor of *Contemporary Political Theory* and Chair of the editorial board of *Renewal: A Journal of Social Democracy*. Marsden is editor of the book series *Religion and International Security* (Ashgate).

These activities have aided the reach and influence of research in the School. For example, Street, a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, has developed the study of politics and popular culture - his work on celebrity politics was the subject of a special section of the *BJPIR* in 2012. Kassim is a leading figure in EU studies. His collaborations with researchers from Humboldt (Berlin), Science Po (Paris), Free University (Amsterdam) and Edinburgh (as well as UEA) underpinned 'The European Commission in Question' research project generating original primary data on Commission officials. Finlayson has promoted theoretical and empirical research into rhetoric, and with funding from the Leverhulme Trust created the online archive [www.britishpoliticalspeech.org](http://www.britishpoliticalspeech.org), a key resource for researchers of political language. Marsden was responsible for editing collected volumes of research by international scholars on media, religion and conflict and on religion, conflict resolution and military intervention.

An indication of our success in shaping research agendas is the number of invited lectures and keynote addresses given by staff. As well as a keynote at EGPA (Toulouse 2010), Kassim has given invited lectures at EISS, Adger University (2011), Collège de Bruges (2012), Hofstra (2013), KCL (2010), Manchester (2011), School of Public Management, Rome (2011), Humboldt, Berlin (2011), UCL (2012), UCD (2008), and University of Oslo (2010). Finlayson addressed the Critical Finance Studies conference at Essex (2012), Oxford Political Thought Conference (2013) and 'Dangerous Ideas' (Brighton, 2012). Brown has spoken at the LSE (2010) and at the Royal Institute of Philosophy (2011), Marsden was a keynote speaker at Sao Paolo University (2009) and has given lectures at Oxford and Cambridge Universities (2010, 2011), Sinclair spoke at the LSE (2010) and Middleburg (2011), Street gave a keynote to the Policy Notes Conference in Melbourne (2012) and to the Italian Political Communications Association Conference (Turin, 2012).

The School is also part of the Consortium for the Humanities and Arts Southeast England (CHASE). Involving UEA with the Courtauld Institute and with Goldsmiths, Essex, Kent, Sussex and the Open University, CHASE promotes graduate research training and knowledge exchange in the Arts and Humanities and has been successful in its application to the AHRC's BGP2. Within the network the School is the UEA link point for research into political theory, political science, new media, cultural policy, popular culture, journalism, media and communication studies.

In the census period the School has significantly increased not only research funding but also the quality and influence of its research in core areas of political studies and at the cutting edges where we demonstrate our continued commitment to methodological pluralism and interdisciplinarity. We have shaped debates in public policy and cultural politics and added to the resources of researchers in these fields. On this basis, we believe that we are well-placed to continue, and to add to, our achievements in the future.