

Institution: University of Reading
Unit of Assessment: 29 English Language and Literature
a. Overview

The English Literature Department at the University of Reading forms a part of the School of Literature and Languages (alongside Modern Languages and European Studies, and English Language and Applied Linguistics). The School, in turn, is located within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. This federal structure enables considerable autonomy for the UOA with regard to research planning and support, including allocation of resources and of sabbatical leave. But the federal structure also ensures and enables collaboration between and across academic disciplines. Several of the UOA's research themes outlined in this Environment narrative, such as Early Modern Studies, and Beckett Studies, for example, are characterized by strong cross-disciplinary perspectives and activities. Our research culture has been particularly progressed during this REF iteration by the recruitment of staff at a relatively early stage in their careers. This strategy has been pursued to enable the development of individual staff research plans alongside those of our research groupings, and cross-disciplinary foci. It is a strategy which has been developed in conjunction with the addition of several senior staff to lead these groupings, and the promotion of staff according to strict university mechanisms pertaining to international research and funding success. The UOA has, since 2008, through its mature mentoring and support mechanisms, considerably enhanced its success in securing external funding for its research activities from a range of external sources.

A particular emphasis which unites each of our research groupings is our interest in empirical research derived from archival work, work which is closely linked to our unique holdings at Reading (details provided in 'D. Income, Infrastructure and Facilities', below). Renewed focus upon these holdings as a defining resource for our research - along with our funded support for travel to international collections - has, since 2008, enabled considerable redefinition and innovation in our work, and enhanced our postgraduate, postdoctoral, and early career strategies. Our research collaborations around archival research, together with our initiatives at postgraduate level relating to the collections, can be viewed at www.reading.ac.uk/collectionsresearch.

Our approach towards our submission in this iteration has been stringently selective; through a process of internal (and cross-disciplinary) reading, and extensive external consultation, we have worked to highlight the major aspects of our commitment to the highest level research. Our strategy has been, during this iteration, concertedly to reinforce our profile in those aspects of our research, writing, funding success, and national and international collaboration, which are the most characteristic and sustainable aspects of our research in English Literature at Reading.

b. Research strategy

During this cycle, English at Reading has strongly developed its international research reputation across a portfolio of intellectual emphases. Through a focused strategy developing outputs, alongside external funding support, and the creation of a variety of fora for discussion and exchange, the previously-established but continually-nuanced systems of research support have enhanced further our key areas of strength: Book and Publishing History; Early Modern Studies; and Modern Literary Studies. The latter is a broad grouping which includes Beckett Studies; Poetry and Poetics; as well as new foci on Science, Literature and Culture in the Nineteenth Century, and Recovered Voices and Minor Perspectives. Since 2008, our concentration upon these research groupings has benefited considerably from the University's Research Endowment Trust Fund (RETF), which is used to support high quality strategic research initiatives.

The definitive emphasis we place upon empirical archival research has driven our strategy since 2008 – as it will continue to do into the future. This emphasis characterizes much of our research output and funding support from internal and external sources. But, vitally, this archival research emphasis also extends to the studentships and postdoctoral schemes we have advanced, schemes grown from the distinctive strengths of colleagues' research. Several of our new Early Career appointments, for example, have been made with developing this emphasis in mind (such as Bullard, who works between Early Modern Studies and Book History). Archival work

has also, in the areas foregrounded below, encouraged cross-disciplinary and international collaborations which have led to major new advances in disciplinary approaches with a collective, structured, and strategic emphasis on the digitization and curation of archival resources: including the Beckett Digital Manuscript Project (BDMP), the Henslowe-Alleyn Digitisation Project, Verse Miscellanies Online and the Leverhulme Network on Diasporic Archives. This innovation has provided strong and leading guidance to our Impact Strategy, as it has progressed during this iteration and as it will evolve into the future.

The UOA has undergone considered and effective streamlining of its research groupings since 2008, whilst further connecting areas of particular excellence and archival resource to broader research interests at the University of Reading. Within our dedicated research groupings, Book and Publishing History and Early Modern Studies have both been successful in recruiting new staff, winning significant external income, and developing international collaborations since 2008. Our previously-described research expertise has now taken a planned new impetus and focus in two respects. The area of Modern Literary Studies, whilst retaining and extending its international recognition for work on Beckett, now demonstrates additional fields of research intensity. Poetry and Poetics has diversified its range of scholarly research into a particular emphasis upon the self, poetry, and locale, as well as upon the translations between scholarly research and practice-based creativities. Recovered Voices and Minor Perspectives has further evolved, during this iteration, through a focused dialogue between those working on American Studies, and colleagues working on diasporic and postcolonial literatures. Science, Literature and Culture has evolved out of conversations between staff working on archival resources at Reading and elsewhere with a particular interest in the museum as an interdisciplinary platform. Broadly speaking (our dedicated strategy in each area is given below), our plans and aspirations, 2014-, focus on further strengthening the international standing of our themed projects and collaborations. This will ensure increased funding success in the next iteration, by expanding our capacity in areas of excellence, and by further increasing the number of funded postdoctoral researchers, and of research students via both our BGP2 Consortium and relevant schemes relating to our research projects. In particular, recruitment to staffing in Book History is planned, to maximise the potential of this field's outstanding cross-disciplinary resources within the university. We aim to evolve core research activity for the next REF by bringing on a new generation of top scholars, such as those who have come to us through competitive Postdoctoral and Early Career Fellowship schemes (Pollard, Wilson, and Sperling) and from externally funded projects (Holton and Battershill).

Our work in each of our major and most intensive research areas is described below, alongside each area's strategic development plans through the next iteration and beyond:

Book and Publishing History has become an increasingly strong and energizing centre of our research culture, with active inter-departmental collaborations, as well as national and international partnerships. Research draws on the world-renowned collection of publishers' archives at Reading. This iteration has seen several particular initiatives, founded on previous success. The AHRC project 'The Impact of Distribution and Reading Patterns on the History of the Novel in Britain, 1880-1940' arises from previous work by Nash on literary publishing, and by Parrinder on the history of the novel (see RAE 2008) and contributes to the *Oxford History of the Novel in English* (General Editor, Parrinder), with important chapters by several colleagues in volumes 4 and 5 (2011, 2013). Additionally, Sperling and Pollard, British Academy Postdoctoral and Leverhulme Early Career Fellows, work on projects relating to poetry publishing, and bring range and vitality to the research strengths in Poetry and Poetics outlined below. While Reading's collections have directly supported our research publications, including the Bernard Spenser edition by Robinson for example (Bloodaxe 2011), many colleagues conduct research related to this area internationally, such as Matthews' work on T.S. Eliot, Nixon's on Beckett (he was editor of *Publishing Beckett* in the key British Library monographs series in 2011), and Donnell's towards Una Marson's *Selected Poems*. This area is already a hub of grant and international activity as exemplified by Wilson's BA Postdoctoral Award for a study of the Book Society (2013-17), and SSHRC funding for the new 'Modernist Archives Publishing Project' relating to putting The Hogarth Press Archive online (2013) - or the arrival of Battershill on a postdoctoral fellowship funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (2013-15). Future projects here include work on the WH Smith and Macmillan archives, on the recovery of key texts by W.B. Yeats

and by Beckett. Projects on Anglophone Caribbean publishing history will further develop the research profile of this grouping, as will recruiting more doctoral students to this area via the new programme in Collections-Based Research signalled above.

Early Modern Studies. Research in the Early Modern period has continued to be supported and developed by the Faculty-funded Early Modern Research Centre (Director, O'Callaghan) a collaboration between History, English, Politics and Modern Languages. Founded in 2000, along with regular colloquia, EMRC has held international conferences from 2002, establishing itself as the national conference in the field, with a strong tradition of supporting postgraduate participation. Research in the Centre is broadly defined around cultures of transmission and cross-cultural exchange. These themes have attracted considerable funding support since 2008. For her project, 'Verse Miscellanies Online: Printed Poetry Books in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries' O'Callaghan was awarded a British Academy Research Development Award 2011-12. Morrissey is a member of the Advisory Board, 'Virtual Paul's Cross' Project, funded by the NEH (2011). Hutchings was awarded a Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellowship for his project on 'Anglo-Spanish Diplomacy, 1580-1625', which involved organising an international workshop in Valladolid, and is a co-investigator on a Spanish *Ministerio*-funded project on Early Modern Anglo-Spanish cultural exchange (2009-2012) a project that is now entering its expanded second phase. Future events, outputs, and grant applications emerging from these themes include the establishment of a European network around Renaissance poetry anthologies, and a research project on Persia on the Renaissance stage in association with the Rose Theatre. Morrissey is a volume editor for the new Oxford University Press edition of the sermons of John Donne. Following on from the ground-breaking work in the history of the Early Modern Theatre of Gurr and Ioppolo, Ioppolo is leading a Research Group on Theatre History and Performance Studies that will also support grant applications for the second stage of the Henslowe-Allen Project.

Modern Literary Studies. As suggested above, this area of our research focus and planning acts as an umbrella for several discrete project areas in the period from the early nineteenth century to the present, areas which have been severally developed since 2008. The highlighted activities and future plans for each research area are outlined separately below.

Beckett Studies: Researchers within English contribute significantly to making the University of Reading the global epicentre of this field and each of the outputs in RA2 from this area reflect research in the outstanding Beckett archive at Reading and related international holdings. Internal research synergies across departments are co-ordinated by the 'Beckett at Reading' Research Priority Group (which includes colleagues in French, Fine Art, and Film, Theatre and Television), a Group which works alongside the Beckett International Foundation (Nixon co-director). Nixon organizes the annual Beckett International Foundation conference, which attracts scholars from all over the world. An international conference to celebrate the 25th anniversary of BIF took place in April 2013. Successful research bids during this iteration include 'Samuel Beckett's Franco-Irish Contexts in the 1940s' McDonald PI (with Royal Holloway), £302K awarded in 2010 by the Leverhulme Trust, but not taken up due to his departure to a Chair in Australia. This area has recently been enhanced by the addition of Matthews as Professor of Modernist and Beckett Studies, which further enables future plans around the archival contextualization of Beckett's writing within Irish, English and European traditions. This planning includes the reactivation of the dedicated Beckett Studies MA programme and studentships derived from the Beckett archive for the new PhD Programme on Collections-Based Research. Key future plans around Beckett in the UOA involve the continuing genetic archiving of Beckett's works (BDMP); editions of the German Diaries and the unpublished *Echo's Bones*; but crucially the establishment of the UOA and the archive at the centre of a new project on Beckett and Europe, which will for the first time draw together in formal scholarly fashion, using the letters and manuscript holdings at Reading, the author's complex interconnections and influences across the continent.

Poetry and Poetics: Following the appointment of poet-critics Robinson (2007), Carville (2010) and Matthews (2013), who have produced 6 original poetry collections between them during this iteration, Poetry and Poetics has become an area of vibrant UOA activity that incubates and synergises our critical, editorial and creative outputs, with wide-ranging public engagement work

such as, for instance, the initiation of the Reading Poetry Festival. This emerging research and outreach theme, with outputs registered in this iteration, also draws together other colleagues working in diverse areas from 1800-present; it has ambitions across the next REF period to evolve Reading as a regional hub comprising Southampton, Royal Holloway, and Birkbeck, in order to study modern versions of lyric, and the interconnections between poetics and ethics. Events and network funding bids are already advanced in planning to this end.

Recovered Voices and Minor Perspectives: Research in this aspect of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries clusters around the theorising of minority cultural encounters and exchanges, and recovering subaltern or silenced literary expressions within and beyond national contexts. Although geographically diverse, this grouping has strong, shared methodological interests and has been instrumental in bringing critical visibility to a range of subaltern perspectives within hegemonic traditions. Cheyette's field-defining work on British-Jewish literature has extended to a new comparative research area in Diaspora Studies with his monograph in RA2 and an edited Special Issue of *Wasafiri* on 'Jewish/Postcolonial Diasporas' (2009). Donnell has continued to shape the critical reception of Anglophone Caribbean Literature with the *Routledge Companion to Caribbean Literature* 2011 (co-ed with Michael Bucknor, UWI Mona, Jamaica). She is focusing on a silenced field in her recent work on 'Caribbean Queer' which has been awarded one of only seven AHRC 'Research Leadership' Fellowships (2013-14). Similarly, in the field of American Literature, Brauner is exploring queer ethnicities in his ongoing work as a world authority on Philip Roth. Following the positive academic and public response to his book on sexuality in dance, Stoneley has continued to explore queer cultures in the United States of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As much of the group's work is interdisciplinary by nature, colleagues use the RETF-funded Faculty Theme, 'Rights and Representations,' developed by Donnell, as a forum for seminars, conferences and grant planning with a particular emphasis on postgraduate engagement. Future plans in this area include projects relating to the local Irish diaspora in Reading, as mediated through the prison records of the era that Oscar Wilde was held in the gaol; further work recovering womens' writing from the Caribbean since the Second World War, and queer-theory led research into contemporary American fiction.

Science, Literature and Culture is now a university-designated research theme for those working in C19, with points of intersection at Reading between the biological sciences (including Evolutionary Biology, Medicine and Psychology), and literature and critical-cultural theory, with further work progressing on scientific discourses and institutions. This work has a strong historicist, archival and museum dimension, with regard to Victorian science, but also involves collaboration with scientists and scientific institutions to foster interdisciplinary scholarship and engagement between science and literature in the wider culture, such as Mangham's co-edited *The Female Body in Medicine and Literature* (2011). Holmes has been at the forefront of the establishment of the British Society for Literature and Science (BSLS) and is currently the Chair; Reading hosted a BSLS conference in 2009. The AHRC has funded two projects in the UOA under the Science in Culture highlight notice: a Collaborative Doctoral Award, with the Royal Society on the place of the Society in Victorian literary culture; and Holmes's fellowship researching science and the Pre-Raphaelites in collaboration with the Royal Society, the Natural History Museum, the Oxford University Museum, the Manchester Museum and the Manchester Art Gallery – a project invited to apply for second-phase funding support (2013). Future plans include an exploratory project on the value of humanities research to biologists also involving colleagues in Biology, History and Modern Languages. Forthcoming monographs relating to this theme include *Charles Dickens and Forensic Medicine* by Mangham and *The Pre-Raphaelites and Science* by Holmes.

c. People:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Staff development strategy: management, planning and support: Policies relating to the strategy for managing and developing research are made and implemented at School Level in line with the University's Code of Good Practice in Research, which includes policies relating to staff

development and equal opportunities. All aspects of recruitment and support for research conform to the University of Reading's new equality and diversity objectives introduced in March 2012 (<http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/humanresources/equality/humres-equality.aspx>).

The School Director of Research, whose remit is to ensure consistent good practice and to support cross-disciplinary dialogues, has produced guidance on professional standards and project plans, personnel and training, record-keeping and research ethics that are followed within the UOA. The School has its own Quality Assurance Manual and all research staff are given a copy of the National Research Concordat on appointment ([http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/505181/Concordat-to-Support-the-Career-Development-of- Researchers.html](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/policy-practice/505181/Concordat-to-Support-the-Career-Development-of-Researchers.html)). In line with this best practice, all staff in English Literature, along with all in the School, produce annual Research Plans which are discussed with the Director of Research and Head of Department. This planning enables support and staff development to be tailored to individuals' needs and requirements, whilst also reviewing contribution to broader research groupings and strategy. The English Literature Department Research Board, which includes the Professoriate and colleagues at all career stages, ensures implementation of strategy at both cross-disciplinary and subject specific levels. Key elements delivered at department level include establishment of research mentoring which draws upon expertise from the UOA's four members of the AHRC Peer Review College; peer reviewing of publications and grant applications; timetable and procedures with regard to large grant applications; and the oversight of applications and reports for research leave. The Board is chaired by the Director of Research (currently Matthews). Crucially, it receives termly reports from our research theme leaders. Through this reporting process, internal cross-disciplinary activity and our external links and research exchanges under our research themes, as well as the planning of major projects and bids, are monitored and recorded. Impact Strategy relating to our themes are also evolved in this forum.

We have, during this iteration, sought to improve considerably colleagues' understanding of the possible impact of their research, building this into annual research plans and financially supporting further interaction with non-academic communities via Research Board bids and teaching alleviation as appropriate. Important successes not included as Impact Case Studies include Donnell's work on a Critical Sexuality Studies Short Course in collaboration with the Caribbean International Resource Network in Trinidad, and her AHRC fellowship workshops with LGBT activists, NGOs, civil servants and the general public in Jamaica and Trinidad; and Stoneley's AHRC post-doc with Law and the Berkshire Record Office, "Enemies of the State: The Easter Rising and Irish Detainees in Reading Prison", that engages local Irish diaspora communities, BME and faith groups.

In addition to these formal measures, the UOA operates peer research groups of four colleagues, groups that provide a non-reporting, regular opportunity for staff at different career stages and with varied specialisms to share their research plans and discuss any issues arising. Regular research seminars (which operate alongside our external speakers' programme) given by colleagues at Reading, provide supportive internal feedback at all levels, including the doctoral and postdoctoral. Drafts of written outputs are formally circulated widely amongst colleagues for feedback, and staff can request meetings with the Director of Research at any time.

Early Career Researchers are assigned a senior mentor with whom they meet frequently, and in these meetings advice is relayed about publication outlets, grant applications, and national and international collaborative possibilities. EC Researchers are immediately integrated through becoming members of our research clusters, and are expected fully to participate in seminar series and conferences. There is an annual Faculty Research Prize for EC researchers, won by Bullard in 2011. Postdoctoral Researchers make a significant contribution to the research culture and are treated equally with permanent academic staff, although they again have the additional support of a senior academic mentor. The School Research Committee has postdoctoral representation and all postdoctoral researchers have an annual review with the School Director of Research to ensure that their working conditions comply with the Local Concordat, as do colleagues on fixed-term contracts: (http://www.reading.ac.uk/web/FILES/researchstaff/Local_Concordat_09_Final.pdf). They are offered the opportunity to teach in their specialist research field and encouraged to initiate activities that will enhance their profile (Wilson convenes the 'Archives and Texts' seminar series; Pollard is the lead organiser of the Reading Poetry Festival, and Sperling, who ran the social media outreach for the 2013 Festival, will have a lead role also next time).

Research Leave: All full-time members of staff are entitled to one term's leave in nine. An application outlining the proposed research is submitted to the Department Research Board for advice and approval. Reports detailing research undertaken during the leave period, if awarded, are submitted at the end of the leave so that progress can be monitored. Colleagues on externally-funded leave have termly progress meetings with the Director of Research. Competitively-awarded Faculty funding can also support additional teaching remission for completion of major outputs or submission of large collaborative grants (see d. below).

Career progression: Staff have twice-yearly minuted Staff Research Reviews with the Head of Department and Director of Research, at which career progression is discussed and any training needs are identified and subsequently met from a dedicated fund. SRRs also provide a positive context for the appropriateness of applications for promotion to be considered, although staff can also apply for promotion on their own initiative. Staff are required, as part of the research planning process, to apply for external funding in order to be able to undertake major projects; they are also expected actively to establish external networks in order to further their research conversations and ambitions. Since the last cycle, the University has promoted four members of staff to Professorships on the basis of their research: Donnell, Ioppolo, Lesnik-Oberstein and O'Callaghan. Brauner and Nixon have been promoted to Reader, and Carville, Holmes and Nash to Associate Professor.

ii. Research students

Research students at Reading are fully integrated into our UOA research activities, particularly our seminars and conferences for each dedicated research theme, in line with guidance from the Department's Director of Postgraduate Studies. They have meeting and office space in the Department, with computer and storage facilities. The University provides further resources for PGs – storage, computing, seminar rooms – at the Graduate School, housed in Old Whiteknights House. PGs have access to Research Training Support Funds at University Level. Two Graduate Centres, in Medieval Studies and International Research in Childhood (both interdisciplinary and based in English). Both areas have continued their high-level activities across the census period, which can be viewed at www.circl.co.uk and www.reading.ac.uk/GCMS and have delivered a range of PhD completions to time across this iteration.

Training and Review: While the most valuable training takes place in the work between the student and his or her supervisory team, there are two other significant layers of training and support. The University's Graduate School runs a large number of generic academic training sessions, as part of its Researcher Development Programme. Students undertake a Learning Needs Assessment on arrival and at regular intervals. They are encouraged and sometimes required to take M-level provision to fill in any gaps in their subject-specific training, whether involving work with manuscripts, editorial processes, theory, or period-based study. They also attend the Postgraduate Research Group, which meets fortnightly, and provides focused, small-group training in starting and finishing a PhD; becoming a teacher in HE; publication; CVs and interviews; funding and grant applications; public engagement; and careers advice. Our students are encouraged to undertake tutorial teaching in their second year of research, and are given training and mentoring towards this in their first year. Every student has an Annual Review, involving submission of written reports and sample work, with an interview panel consisting of a chairperson, the supervisor, the student, and a specialist assessor.

Student-Led Activity: Much intellectual activity among our postgraduate community takes place beyond supervisions, seminars, and training sessions. Student-led groups include a theory-reading group, and a contemporary poetry group. Students are strongly encouraged to organise and to present their work at conferences. To these ends, we provide £100 annually to every student, a sum that is then matched by the Graduate School. The UOA also supports collective postgraduate events with funding, which again is matched by funding from the Graduate School. Recent events at Reading include one-day interdisciplinary international postgraduate conferences, 'Minority Identities: Rights and Representation' (2010); and 'Shorelines and Shadows: Literary Representations of Queer and Postcolonial Mythical Beings' (2011). Our students are very active

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beyond Reading, participating at a large number of conferences, including, in the recent past, Bergen, Bristol, Cambridge, Kalamazoo, Istanbul, Miami and Oxford.

Recruitment, Completion, and Funding: Working now within the Block Grant Partnership, we can point to modest growth, in a difficult climate, in student numbers across the census period. We are currently building dynamic relationships with our partners in BGP2's Southwest Consortium. Under BGP1, we diversified our sources of funding through such means as the Felix Scholarship, Commonwealth Studentships, and Collaborative Doctoral Award Schemes. We will also in future benefit from the University's strategic investment in postgraduate research with Faculty and School studentships, and from studentships for the previously-mentioned new PhD Programme in Collections-based Research, a University-wide RETF-funded initiative that was designed and is directed from within the UOA (Donnell). Under the support mechanisms in place for our PhD students, the completion rate is comfortably within the AHRC's approved range.

Publication and Careers: Our PhD students have been effective in bringing their research to publication during their period of study with us, with twenty recent articles and book chapters on subjects including Swinburne's publishing history, Manchester in Victorian literary culture, Black British Theatre, Beckett, Jo Shapcott's influences, and literary onomastics. Graduates in this REF cycle have gone on to academic posts at Bath Spa, Liège, Leuven, San Diego State, Nottingham, UEA, Winchester and Southampton; others to librarianships and publishing.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The scholarly and organizational infrastructure around research income and support in the UOA functions at several levels. All staff have equal access to administrative and technical support. The UOA has a designated member of secretarial staff for research-related tasks, and a specified member of staff in the University Research and Development Office who supports the finding of appropriate funding schemes for projects, and the costing of grant applications. Dedicated IT support for our projects is provided by IT Services.

This support has aided a considerable up-lift in our income from external sources over all of our research areas across this cycle. There has been an increase of over 70% per capita income across this cycle from the previous one, to approximately £37k per staff member. This has generated significant overheads from FEC grants, 25% of which have been returned to the UOA to support targeted relief for the writing of further large grant applications, as well as to support projects and activities within our dedicated research groups.

All staff are provided with advice in income generation through our mentoring and twice-yearly annual research interview infrastructure. Financial support for research plans and grant applications under our dedicated themes is awarded at Department Research Board by an annual allowance for each area which underwrites seminar activities, external partnership discussions, and teaching relief for theme leaders and bid-writers. At Faculty level, there is a fund to encourage cross-university collaboration through which some of our themes (such as Science, Literature, and Culture) have benefited. Faculty funding also exists annually to support exceptional and strategically-important outputs, bids, and collaborations: the UOA has across this cycle been disproportionately successful in bidding for Faculty Funds that offer teaching relief for these purposes. In accordance with our considered research strategy, these awards have been planned to be particularly directed towards our Early Career researchers.

All staff are given an annual allowance for research expenses and are eligible to apply for funding from Department Research Board and The University's Research Travel Grant Sub-Committee for additional support for conference attendance, archive visits or impact activities.

As indicated, across this cycle and into the future we are aligning our research foci and strengths with institutional infrastructural possibilities. Our outstanding holdings at Reading include the Samuel Beckett archive, authors' papers, and extensive materials relating to the history of publishing (Archive of British Publishing and Printing, the W.H. Smith archives, the Sutton databases, the Location Register of Twentieth-Century Manuscripts, and WATCH). The publishing archive has been designated an 'Outstanding Collection' by the Museums, Library and Archives Council; the Beckett archive has received Designated Status from the Museums, Libraries and

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Archives Council as a “pre-eminent collection of national and international significance”. Our collections-based research has been the recipient of a great range of funding support across the period, and has developed plans in place for future initiatives. The prize-winning databases of Sutton, which have attracted over one million pounds since inception, have gained monies from the Strachey Trust, the Pilgrim Trust, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Arts Council, the British Academy and others since 2008, including a British Academy Research Development Award (2011-12) for ‘21st-century Location Register’. Two collaborations equally supported with the University of Austin, Texas, are of universal benefit to scholars in English Studies. ‘Writers, Artists, and their Copyright Holders’ (WATCH) is the primary reference source in the world for information on copyright holders and literary executors of authors, as well as artists, photographers and sculptors. Firms out of Business (FOB) records historical and archival information about printing and publishing firms and literary agencies no longer in existence. Both projects have Academy Research Project (ARP) status from the British Academy and will seek further project funding support across the next iteration 2014-.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Interdisciplinary and collaborative research is supported through the mentoring mechanisms, and via Research Directors, at UOA and school level, as well as by the leaders of the separate research themes. Indeed, collaborative arrangements informing networks and outputs are mainly coordinated through these themed groupings. Significant examples include:

Major international collaborations for **Book History** include the Leverhulme International Network on Diasporic Literary Archives (Principal Applicant Sutton, Co-Applicants, Donnell, and Nash), a new collaboration on accessibility and ownership with the Department of Modern Languages that involves the British Library, Society of Authors and UNESCO, as well as Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University; University of Trinidad and Tobago; the Centro di Ricerca sulla Tradizione Manoscritta at the University of Pavia; the Institut Memoires de l’Edition Contemporaine in France; and the National Library and Archive Service of Namibia.

International collaborations remain strong within **Beckett Studies**. As Co-Director of the Beckett International Foundation, Nixon advises the Estate of Samuel Beckett, as well as publishers Faber and Suhrkamp, and acts as the main media contact for Beckett-related issues in the UK and overseas. Nixon has also curated exhibitions using the archive materials in Berlin and with the Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, during the current REF cycle. The Beckett Digital Manuscript Project (BDMP) was launched in June 2011; directed by Nixon and Van Hulle (Antwerp; Visiting Research Fellow of Reading English Literature Department), this collaborative project between Reading, the Harry Ransom Center in Austin and the University of Antwerp builds on Nixon’s seed-corn RETF funding towards this major project in the last cycle. It is supported by the Beckett Estate, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris and Trinity College Dublin. BDMP will run to 2037.

Early Modern researchers are actively involved in a number of international collaborations: Bullard in ‘La Dispute: cas, querelles, controverses et création à l’époque moderne (France-Grande-Bretagne)’, funded by Agence Nationale de la Recherche. Houston is co-founder of the ‘Shaping Strangers: Early Modern English Travel Writing’ research network, which will produce a special issue of the journal *Journeys* in 2014. Hutchings is a founder member of the international network ‘Early Modern Spain and England: Conflict and Co-existence’, funded by the Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación. Morrissey is co-founder and organiser of the Sermons Studies Research Network and a collaborator on a three-year project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada on ‘Paul Cross and the “culture of persuasion”’. O’Callaghan is a principal investigator on the Australian Research Council funded international network ‘Mediating Early Modern Women’s Writing’.

Colleagues review regularly for the major UK and US academic presses and for journals in their specialist fields. Other activities undertaken by staff in the UOA that have contributed to the discipline and/or research base include:

Memberships of Research Council and international committees: Ioppolo, Fellow, Bibliographical Society (UK); Morrissey, elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (2012); Matthews, Member of AHRC Strategic Review Group (2010-), and of **University advisory panels**

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and review boards for research: Ioppolo, Lesnik-Oberstein, Matthews and Stoneley are members of the AHRC Peer Review College, with Lesnik-Oberstein also reviewer for the Irish Humanities Research Council (2005) and the European Science Foundation (2006-); Donnell, Matthews and Morrissey review for the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme; O'Callaghan is Reviewer for the Vidi-funding scheme, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and the Council for the Humanities; Stoneley is a specialist reviewer for the Agence Nationale de Recherche (France).

Leading positions in professional subject associations include Dentith, President of the British Association for Victorian Studies (2006-2009), Member, then Chair (2010-11) of the Advisory Board, English Subject Centre, Higher Education Academy; Holmes, Chair, British Society for Literature and Science; Nixon, President, Samuel Beckett Society; Sutton, Chair of the Group for Literary Archives and Manuscripts (GLAM) and the Section for Literary Archives of the International Council on Archives (ICA), Robinson, Fellow of the English Association (2007-).

There are seventeen editorships held within the UOA, including Cheyette, General Editor, *New Contexts in Contemporary Literature*, Continuum Books and co-editor of *The Oxford History of the Novel in English: British and Irish Fiction, 1940-2000*; Donnell, Founding and Joint Editor of *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* (1999-2011); Ioppolo, General Editor, *The Complete Works of Thomas Heywood*, OUP, 2012-18; Matthews, Palgrave Sourcebook Series 2008-, *Historicizing Modernism* series, Bloomsbury, 2011-; Nash, Period Editor and Reviews Editor, *The Review of English Studies* (2011-), Nixon, Managing Editor, *The Journal of Beckett Studies* (2013), Robinson, Poetry Editor for Two Rivers Press (2010-).

Nearly all colleagues entered into RA2 have **examined at least two doctorates** this cycle, including Brauner, University College London (2008); Dentith, Oxford University (2008); Donnell, Turku, Finland (2012) and The University of the West Indies, Barbados (2010); Hardman, University of York (2010); Ioppolo, University of Massachusetts (2012); Matthews, Dublin (2013); Nash, University of Sydney (2010); Stoneley, University of Edinburgh (2010). **HEI consultancies** include Cheyette, external reviewer for 7 senior promotions in the UK, Israel and North America; Donnell, external reviewer for promotions at Universities of Glasgow, Brunel and Tulane, 5 US tenure reviews including 2 at Columbia; Stoneley, selection panel for chair in US literature, University of Nottingham (2012) and external review for promotion at Edinburgh (2012).

Significant conference contributions not listed above include Brauner's co-organisation, as Program Chair of the Roth Society, of the 'PhilipRoth@80' international conference in Newark (2013); Dentith and Donnell, *The Good of Criticism*, University of Reading (2010); Morrissey's contribution to the 'History of British Political Thought' seminar at the Folger Library.

The UOA has been awarded a number of prestigious **Fellowships** during this cycle, including: 'The Clark and Huntington Libraries Joint Bibliographical Fellowship' and 'The Patricia Fleming Fellowship in Bibliography and Book History' for Bullard; Cheyette, Visiting Fellow, Frankel Center, University of Michigan (2013); Carville, Visiting Professor at the University of Hiroshima (2012); Donnell, Visiting Hurst Fellow, Washington University (2012), James M. Osborn Fellowship in English Literature and History, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University (2012), Visiting Professorship, New York University (2010), AHRC Fellowship (2013); Holmes AHRC Science in Culture Fellowship (2012-3); Hutchings, Visiting Fellowship, Universidad de Valladolid (2008); Ioppolo, Folger Shakespeare Library Short-Term Fellowship (2008), Malone Society Fellowship (2008), Exchange Fellowship, British Academy-Newberry Library (2009); Lesnik-Oberstein, Visiting Professorship at Shandong University in China (2011); Pollard, BA Postdoctoral Fellowship (2011-14), Harry Ransom Library Fellowship, University of Austin, Texas (2012-13); Sperling, Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship (2012-14).

Invited keynotes include Cheyette, Goldsmiths College, 'Race in the Modern World' (2009); Dentith, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, 'Literature Reading and Research: cross-cultural perspectives' (2010); Donnell, Association of Commonwealth Literatures and Language Triennial Conference, St Lucia (2013); Holmes, 'Victorian Other Worlds', King's College London (2012); Lesnik-Oberstein, Marie Curie lecture series at Queen Mary, University of London (2013); Nash, lecture on 'Textual Instability' at Stanford University (2013). **Prizes Awarded** during this iteration include: Ioppolo, Fredson Bowers Award, UK and US Bibliographical Societies (2008); Robinson, John Florio Prize for Translation from the Italian (2008); and a Poetry Book Society Recommendation (Spring 2012).