

<p>Institution: Canterbury Christ Church University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: English Language and Literature (29)</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>Based in the English and Language Studies Department in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the Unit is led by a Research Committee, Research Director and Head of Department. English Literature research from Anglo-Saxon to Contemporary involves 13 Unit members, with particular strengths in Early Modern, Victorian, 20th and 21st-Century Literature and Creative Writing; cross-period clusters exist in women's writing, textual editing, popular fiction, historical/biographical studies and Childhood Studies. It comprises all permanent members of the English team, a colleague in the Faculty of Education (Humphries), a colleague in French working on English translation (Jackson). Research is enhanced by the International Centre for Victorian Women Writers (ICVWW), established in 2012.</p> <p>The Applied Linguistics strand involves 6 researchers in cultural politics and development related to critical approaches to materials and textbook evaluation, international English language education, intercultural communication, and classroom interaction analysis.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>The UoA's research strategy is to: (a) support and promote individual and collaborative outputs; (b) generate income through external and internal funding bids; (c) develop research which can demonstrate impact; (d) build capacity across the department, enabling overlapping strands in English Literature and Applied Linguistics; (e) establish international links and partnerships resulting in joint activities and outputs, externally funded PhDs, and joint funding bids; (f) develop a vibrant research environment through a strong PhD programme, a 'visiting scholars' programme, research seminars and international conferences; (g) utilise the professional contexts of members of the Unit, including the classroom context, as data for research. These aims are facilitated by the annual allocation since 2009 of QR funding, the result of the Unit's RAE 2008 performance. Funds support periods of staff study leave and teaching remission (to pursue research or develop funding bids), research seminars and conferences in the department, attendance at international conferences, and ICVWW activities (see below).</p> <p>The Unit's RAE 2008 aim to 'consolidate and extend' previous advances in English Literature research and further develop its 'national and international reputation' has been met through period-based research and new cross-strand clusters (through Jackson). It established the ICVWW in accordance with its aim that some interests should 'meet and coalesce' in key places - such as Victorian literature, life writing, 20th and 21st-century literature, women's writing, textual editing and Childhood Studies. Directed by Gavin and Oulton, the ICVWW is the first centre devoted to Victorian women writers in the UK, with an International Advisory Board of pre-eminent scholars. It aims to create an international network, reassessing the canon of Victorian women's writing. Building on work by Gavin in the RAE 2008 census period, the Unit has produced new biographies (Oulton) and biographically inflected research (Bartram, Gavin, Merchant, Oulton, Stilma), as well as 10 new critical editions (Gavin, Merchant, Oulton); Oulton is general editor of the nine-volume Pickering & Chatto <i>New Women Fiction 1881-1899</i> series of both canonical and neglected works and was invited to become Literary Editor of publisher Victorian Secrets in 2013. Making texts available in scholarly editions, often for the first time, is a strategic intervention in current debates over canon formation, cultural studies and the status of popular fiction. Jackson's translating of bestselling novels from French into English develops this approach to widening access to texts internationally. Scholarly editing of essay collections (eight volumes produced or co-produced by Bintley, Ciocia, Gavin, Humphries, Merchant, and Oulton) draws together international expertise, challenging assumptions about periodisation or filling gaps in scholarship. Creating links with the Unit's educational research, the English Literature strand's strengths in Children's Literature have expanded into the growth field of Childhood Studies (Ciocia, Gavin, Humphries, Merchant). In 2011 Gavin and Humphries (then a PhD student) were awarded the (US-based) inaugural Children's Literature Association Edited Book Award for <i>Childhood in Edwardian Fiction: Worlds Enough and Time</i>. Research in American literature (Ciocia) and literature of war (Ciocia, Palmer) have</p>

expanded. The international reputation of the UoA's Creative Writing is enhanced through appointment of Glaser and Booker Prize shortlisted Fischer, whose short stories, collected as *Crushed Mexican Spiders/Possibly Forty Ships* (2011), were included in the 2012 Fiction Uncovered promotion.

Applied Linguistics research, led by Holliday, has contributed considerable professional experience in curriculum development and teacher education in supervising mature professional students. The strand develops its research profile against a background of curriculum development work overseas, pedagogic materials evaluation, and language teaching classroom practice. Holliday's co-authored submission is with a member of the Unit (Aboshiha). A top priority for the UoA is to develop the potential in Applied Linguistics in the area of practice-informed research, by capitalising on existing and new overseas partnerships, and on the opportunities for collaborative research that they offer. Holliday's research, focused on the ideological underpinning of intercultural communication, is at the forefront of paradigm change in the area, and is shared with two researchers in the strand (Kullman and Hyde) who are co-authors of the intercultural communication text featured in the Applied Linguistics impact case study. This research is then also applied to the cultural content of international English language education and 'native speaker' politics and also supported by work on the postmodern qualitative research methodology employed in these two areas. This links with other research within the Unit, looking at the ideological underpinnings of the cultural content of English language textbooks, and approaches to teacher education and classroom methodologies, including classroom interaction, which are appropriate to particular social contexts. This connects with research collaborations with partners in Malaysia and India, and a recent successful British Council bid for a curriculum project in Bangladesh. A recent development has been collaborative research making use of classroom transcript data and wiki postings and intercultural issues related to international students (Cullen & Kullman). There is a growing interest in intercultural communication associated with business which is linked to a new masters degree in the department.

The University provides centralised support through the Research and Enterprise Development Centre (RED). Each faculty has a Research and Knowledge Exchange Development Manager (RKEDM) who supports the research process, advising on strategy, income generation, dissemination and impact. UoA strategy across the research strands is developed and promoted by the department's Research Committee, Research Director and Head of Department, taking cognizance of Faculty and University policy. The Head of Department and Research Director write an annual research plan, detailing priorities and activities to be funded by the QR allocation, which is approved by the Pro-Vice Chancellor Research and Knowledge Exchange and forms the basis of the QR budget. Research Directors and committees at Faculty and University level also advise on strategy. UoA targets are driven by an annual departmental research plan, and monitored through its research report and annual reports supplied by the ICVWW.

The 2014-2019 research strategy for the UoA is to continue generating and supporting internationally recognised research by building research networks, attracting external funding for innovative Knowledge Exchange (KE) projects, expanding PhD programmes, building on and developing new international links and capturing impact and fostering debate through reading blogs and twitter feeds focused on local literary heritage and language change. For the English Literature strand a central focus will be 'Challenging the Canon' - investigating canon formation and its cultural determinants, recovering neglected texts and authors, and commemorating literary and cultural heritage. Two ICVWW projects reflect these aims. 'Brontë to Bloomsbury: Realism, Sensation and the New in Women's Writing from the 1840s to the 1920s' launching in 2014, on Victorian, 20th-century and neo-Victorian literature, will ask: how does women's writing get from Brontë to Bloomsbury and how do 20th and 21st-century women writers view their Victorian past? The Braddon Archive Project, based on substantial material formerly in private hands, transferred to the ICVWW in 2012, will drive outputs on bestselling Mary Braddon for her centenary in 2015. Strategy also involves key areas in Medieval, Early Modern, and American literature and literary memorialising; Creative Writing will be fostered through new networks and staff appointments, and validation of new placement modules developing and capturing impact. Finally, research links in the Applied Linguistics strand will be promoted through existing educational partnerships with HE

institutions and professional bodies in Malaysia, Bangladesh, China and South India. An example of this is a research conference planned in Kuala Lumpur in 2014 to mark the end of the BEd TESL twinning programme. This will involve staff and students from the four UK universities involved in the programme (CCCU, Warwick, Portsmouth and the University of St Mark and St John).

c. People, including:

i Staffing strategy and staff development

Strategy for staffing and staff development in the Unit covers the areas of staff recruitment, programme development, support for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) and the provision of opportunities for existing staff. All staff appointed to new academic appointments to the Unit are expected to be research active and this is stated clearly in the post specifications and criteria for selection. New programmes and modules within programmes are developed to reflect the research interests in the Unit and to capitalise on opportunities for cross strand research informed teaching. Thus, new staff are actively encouraged to develop new modules, or adapt existing ones, which are informed by their specialist fields of research, and new programmes and modules have been developed, e.g. the BA programme in Creative and Professional Writing, which provides opportunities for research informed teaching from staff from the Creative Writing, English Literature and Applied Linguistics strands. New staff and ECRs are mentored by senior members of the Unit through formal appraisals and informally, including through research collaborations.

The University provides a range of training and development opportunities for emergent and established researchers. The Researcher Development Programme, facilitated by RED and the Graduate School, is organised around the four main domains of the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF). The UoA utilises appraisals to identify researchers' needs and devolved QR funds and departmental resources to support activity including study leave, teaching remission, small grants and conference attendance. ECRs are supported by the Researcher Development Programme's 'getting started in' sessions. The University has clear criteria for promotion to Reader and conferment of the title Professor. Applications are invited on an annual, open basis, to the Promotions Panel or Professorship Committee. The university is committed to providing a fair environment in which everyone is treated with dignity and respect, evidenced by its holding Investors in People status since 2004, award of the two ticks symbol for commitment to the employment of disabled people and its role as a Stonewall Diversity Champion. Partnerships with industry, public and third sector organisations contribute to a vibrant research environment and facilitate knowledge exchange.

In English Literature new appointments have added Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Romantic Literature to the strand's period-based research (Bintley and Civale) and bolstered existing strengths in Creative Writing (Fischer, Glaser). Research leadership was enhanced by promotion of Oulton and Ciocia to Reader in 2010 and 2013 respectively and Gavin to Professor in 2011. Staff development has nurtured and consolidated the research careers of those who were ECRs in RAE 2008 (Bartram, Ciocia, Oulton, and Stilma) through study leave, teaching remission and research collaboration (Ciocia contributed to *Robert Cormier* edited by Gavin; Gavin contributed to Oulton's *New Woman Fiction 1881-1899* series). Former ECRs have produced substantial outputs since 2008. The ICVWW has a postgraduate Research Assistant and has appointed a world expert on the Braddon Archive, Dr Gabrielle Malcolm, as Visiting Research Fellow.

The plan set out in our RAE 2008 entry that all research-active members of staff should be engaged in doctoral supervision has been met, except for recently appointed staff. One colleague in Applied Linguistics is being supported to do a PhD. This is an ongoing strategy within the Unit (four have PhDs supervised within the Department). All research-active staff who have been employed by the university for three years are eligible to apply for term-length periods of study leave or shorter periods of teaching remission to support their research. These periods of study leave are funded through the Department's QR income allocation. Most members of the UoA, including ECRs, have been supported in this way within the census period (see section d). When allocating funding for study leave, special consideration is given to ECRs who are in the final stage of writing up their PhDs. ECRs and Research students are also mentored and supported by senior researchers formally (through annual appraisals) and informally. Advice on funding bids is offered

by the faculty's RKE Development Manager and colleagues who have had experience of writing bids.

ii Research students

Postgraduate students form a significant element in our research culture. English Literature and Applied Linguistics MPhil/PhD subject leads (Gavin and Holliday) work with the Graduate School to direct the postgraduate research programmes. The UoA is the second largest recruiter of PhD students in the University, with the largest number of doctoral completions since 2008: 17 (15 in Applied Linguistics, 2 in English) and 14 scholarships. The research carried out by students integrates with and informs the research of the UoA, enhanced by the planned new MA in English Literature by Research and including the recovery of the work and lives of neglected writers. In Applied Linguistics work includes research into social and cultural issues and classroom practice. PhD research is managed by a supervisory team, and enables the mentoring of new supervisors by senior researchers, building capacity.

Recruitment and support of postgraduate students is managed by supervisors and through the Graduate School, which provides training programmes for students and supervisors. All research students have a supervisory panel comprising a first and second supervisor and a Chair, and have annual reviews. The UoA orders library resources to support PhD research, the Graduate School encourages and funds research students to present papers at internal and external conferences, and students attend and give papers at UoA seminar series. They have also organised public events, including a staged reading of John Fletcher and Nathan Field's *The Honest Man's Fortune* (1613) (Orman, 2011), co-convened (Humphries) and assisted in international conferences and delivered papers at this University and elsewhere. PhD students are mentored by senior researchers. Merchant, for example, produced the edited volume *The Female Advocate by Sarah Fyge Egerton* with the credited assistance of PhD student Orman, who writes of his next project, 'my work on Summersett would certainly not have been possible without ... Peter's many years of guidance and support'. Humphries, mentored by Gavin, has produced significant and award-winning outputs for this submission. The UoA has a strong track-record of research students in Victorian literature, particularly working on neglected writers. Further applications in this area will be fostered by the ICVWW. A planned MA in English by Research will help sustain the vitality of our postgraduate student culture. On the Applied Linguistics side CCCU research students have been active in organising the annual Cutting Edges international conference and developing ongoing research relationships with their home universities.

Applied Linguistics PhD supervision involves all staff in this strand (14 PhDs completed in the period, six in progress) who address aspects of the relationship between culture and English language education in the professional settings from which the students come – Mexico, Kuwait, South Korea, the USA, the UAE, Iran, Japan, Taiwan and the UK and comprise both HE and FE contexts. These students have included five who have been fully funded with Mexican government scholarships to a total of £294,508. This is a continuation of a longer-standing relationship with universities and the British Council in Mexico which has resulted in a total of 13 completions since 2005 with one still in progress. Seven graduated PhD students now run biennial research conferences in each of two Mexican Universities (Guanajuato and Xalapa). Seven near-to completion or recently completed students are contributing chapters to an edited book on native-speakerism to be published by Palgrave Macmillan. Several have also published in Applied Linguistics, TESOL Quarterly and ELT Journal, one co-authored with an ex-supervisor, and in journals in Mexico, and have convened colloquia at the TESOL conference. One staff member who is being supported to do a PhD won a £1,500 British Council award to develop a research link in Kerala.

The Researcher Development Programme works within the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, the QAA Code of practice for research degree programmes and the 'Roberts' recommendations for postgraduate researchers and research staff. Investment in postgraduate research includes twelve MPhil/PhD studentships offered annually across the university, a new £30 million Library, and a dedicated computer suite and study area for research students open 24 hours a day. The student-led Postgraduate Research Association (PGRA)

organises regular forums and an annual conference.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The infrastructure and resources available include QR and HEIF funding, and library, archive and digital facilities, managed through devolved committees at department and faculty level.. The main source of research income is the QR funding that is allocated to departments on the strength of their 2008 RAE submission. Since 2009, the Unit has received a total of £238,763 QR funding to invest in research and this has been awarded in annual allocations of between £41,000 to £53,000. It is administered against the annual QR Research Plan and the approved budget (see section b) by a committee within the Unit which includes the Head of Department and the Director of Research. The main part of the allocation (around 65%) is used to 'buy in' sessional staff to support applications from staff for study leave and shorter remissions of teaching, with the remaining 35% used to fund small research grants to support activities such as staff attendance at international conferences to present papers, hiring of a research assistant, library and archival research, indexing of monographs, support for in-house research seminars, and the activities of the ICVWW.

From 1 Jan 2008–31 July 2013 nine term-long and three half-term periods of study leave were awarded, first centrally by the University, and following the RAE result, through the award of QR funding. Conference attendance has also been funded through the department's staff development budget (around 5-6 attendances per year). Knowledge Exchange awards have been made, for instance, to set up the Mary Cholmondeley website and curate an exhibition on the Braddon Archive. The ICVWW has secured future royalties funding from Gale Cengage for the digitisation of its Braddon Archive within Gale's prestigious *Nineteenth-century Collections Online (NCCO)*. Oulton was awarded external funding (£1,500) devolved from the Canterbury Arts Festival through Prosper for a creative writing KE project. Gavin was awarded The 2009 Billie M. Levy Travel Grant, by Archives and Special Collections, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut, USA (\$1,500). A match-funded partnership with Kent Libraries and Archives has been established, mentoring a research intern (June-August 2013). Funding in kind towards conferences, exhibitions and events has also been obtained from Oxford University Press, Pickering & Chatto and Waterstones.

An additional source of income has been through a visiting scholars programme, which has brought in £2,700 over the census period. This programme allows for academics from overseas universities who are on sabbatical to spend a period of time (ranging from a short stay of two weeks to a full year) pursuing a particular research project, making use of the CCCU library and the facilities of the department and collaborating with members of the UoA who share similar interests. Applications are made to the Head of Department. Over the census period, there have been three visiting scholars, all in the Applied Linguistics strand, one from Spain, one from Turkey and one from Singapore (see section e).

Extensive research funding support is available from RED, including identification of funding opportunities, bid development support and advice, facilitation of peer review through to project set-up and ongoing project management support. Facilities for research within the Unit include a designated study room for PhD students.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

The Unit contributes to the research base through collaborative projects, conference organisation, external PhD examining, and welcoming and working with visiting scholars.

Collaborative research projects

Projects include a collaboration between Gavin, Merchant, and S. Bray (L'Université catholique de Lille, France) resulting in the co-edited essay collection *Re-Embroidering the Robe: Faith, Myth and Literary Creation Since 1850* (2008). Gavin contributed a volume to the *New Woman Fiction 1881-1899* series (Pickering & Chatto, 2010-11, general editor Oulton) The 'Wild Woman to New Woman: Sex and Suffrage on the Victorian Stage' exhibition at the University of Kent (May 2013), was convened by the ICVWW, and University of Kent's Centre for Gender, Sexuality and

Writing, focusing on the ICVWW's Braddon Archive and the CGSW's 19th Century Theatre Collection. In an interdisciplinary collaboration with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and Peter Knight of Steeleye Span, Merchant produced words to accompany music for visitors to Anne Hathaway's cottage in Stratford (launched March 2013). Holliday's collaboration with the head of the Chinese National Association of Foreign Language Education is referred to in his impact case study.

Conference organisation

The annual *Cutting Edges* conference, established in 2006, has been central to developing and maintaining a vibrant research environment in Applied Linguistics and TESOL. Attracting 60 to 130 delegates each year from over 20 countries, it has provided an exciting forum for our research students and staff. A weekly open forum for research students and visiting researchers is also held.

Holliday has been an invited keynote speaker at conferences in China (2009), India (2013), Palestine (2012), Nepal (2011), Mexico (2011) and Singapore (2011), at ESRC-funded seminars in Bath and Birmingham (2012), at the BAAL Intercultural Communication SIG (2012), the International Association for Language and Intercultural Communication (2010), and the 3rd CICIN conference on internationalisation of Higher Education at Oxford Brookes University (2010). He has been a visiting speaker at UWE, UEA (public lecture), Essex, Reading, Portsmouth, Southampton and Newcastle. Kullman has been invited an keynote speaker in Portugal (2011), Mexico (2009) and South Korea (2008).

Gavin and Oulton co-convoked the 'Women Writers of the *Fin de Siècle* International Conference' at the Institute of English Studies (June 2010), with 80 papers and 120 delegates from 11 countries. Co-convoked by Gavin and Humphries, the 'Childhood in its Time: The Child in British Literature' International Conference, held at CCCU (2009), attracted 80 delegates from over 16 countries, with 47 papers. *The Child in British Literature* (edited by Gavin and contributed to by Humphries, 2012), is the first book-length study of literary childhood across British literature from 1200 to 2010.

Merchant served on the organising committee of the bicentenary 'Dickens and the Idea of "The Dickensian": A Tale of Four Cities' (February 2012), co-convoking the third leg with Dr Cathy Waters (University of Kent). Essays (including Merchant and Oulton) will appear in a collection to be co-edited by Merchant. Merchant and Oulton gave related media presentations, available on YouTube (700 hits by July 2013).

Ciocia organised the 2012 Faculty conference 'Rebels, Rioters and Revolutionaries', tied to the exhibition 'Nothing in the World but Youth' at the Turner Contemporary in Margate. Ciocia was an invited guest, translator and advisor at the international conference 'Brave New Worlds. Old and New Classics of Children's Literature,' Università degli Studi di Salerno, 11-12 June 2009. Bintley gave an invited paper at the London Anglo-Saxon Symposium in March 2013 to an estimated audience of 50.

The Renaissance Colloquium (RC), run by Bartram, has run conferences in 2006, 2008 and 2009, and a play reading with postgraduate students from across the UK and visiting academics from the Shakespeare Institute, Stratford and the University of Kent in May 2011. A book of essays is under consideration by Ashgate. The RC attracts a mixed academic and public audience and has worked with Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Library on events including short exhibitions. The English Literature Research Seminar series (convoked by Bartram) has run since 2008. Informal, inclusive and interactive, it includes formal papers, discussion papers and workshops, and is open to the public. Since 2011 a monthly series 'Writing Comes Alive,' has been organised by Palmer at the Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury (launching the student-led anthology *By someone like me for someone like you* in 2012) and Oulton and Merchant have been involved with the Folkestone Literary Festival, with audiences including senior citizens, some of whom have been inspired to return to postgraduate study. The UoA will build on these relationships to deliver innovative research and KE projects in the next census period.

External examining of PhDs

Staff make contributions to their disciplines through external examining of PhDs, and this enhances the Unit's reputation and standing. In the census period, four members of the Applied Linguistics strand have externally examined doctoral students (Aboshiha, Exeter; Cullen, Leeds Met; Hyde, Leicester; Holliday, IoE London, Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter), and one member of the Literature strand (Gavin, Hull, Reading and Deakin).

Visiting Scholars

The visiting scholar programme (see section d) contributed to the research base of the Unit, developing a productive environment. Two 2012 visitors, Dr Yasemin Oral from Istanbul and Dr Christine Goh from Singapore, were post-doctoral researchers whose interests coincided with those of Holliday and other members of the Applied Linguistics strand, in the areas of Intercultural Communication (Hyde, Kullman, Anderson) and Classroom Interaction (Cullen). They had regular meetings with members of the Unit and completed research for publication, developing ideas for potential future collaboration and conducted seminars open to all members of the group. Oral is contributing to the Palgrave-MacMillan edited book with Holliday, Aboshiha and the recently graduated doctoral students referred to above.