

Institution: University of Essex

Unit of Assessment: 23 - Sociology

a. Overview

The Department of Sociology is approaching its 50th anniversary, and almost from its birth has enjoyed a strong international reputation. Research in the UoA encompasses many aspects of social life, many different theoretical and empirical approaches, and many different societies (the latter facilitated by the University's comparative work, initially focusing on the US, Latin America and the former Soviet Union, and later on Japan and Europe). The Department has taken the view that Sociology is strengthened by close relations with cognate disciplines including anthropology, philosophy, social history, criminology and social psychology, and has welcomed staff with academic backgrounds in these disciplines. The Department was also a key actor in the establishment of the interdisciplinary Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), the Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies (CPS), and the School of Health and Human Sciences, which focuses on training health professionals – all places where some of those contributing to the Sociology UoA are now located. Together we have generated a strong, productive and creative environment for sociological research that both maintains the core of the discipline and pushes at its boundaries.

Research across the UoA, which now has 53 academics, is characterised by diversity, interdisciplinarity and an emphasis on theoretically-informed empirical research. These features are the foundation of the strength of Sociology at Essex, which has an enduring record of high quality research – a *sine qua non* of the UoA's activities.

Research clusters

The UoA has five broad research clusters (the research of many individuals straddles more than one). The constellations described in our last RAE submission have been sustained and strengthened. These evolving clusters facilitate staff in: thinking about the direction of their research; identifying colleagues with similar or complementary interests; sharing ideas and strategic approaches; generating innovative and creative thinking; and facilitating networks and collaboration with both academics and users, locally, nationally and internationally.

- 1. **Social Divisions and Economic Life** (Social Divisions)
- 2. **Public Policy, Welfare and Regulation** (Public Policy) focusing particularly on welfare benefits and public policy, health and health policy, and crime and its regulation.
- 3. Identity, Subjectivity, and Culture (Identity and Culture)
- 4. **Transnationalism, Nation and Rights** (Transnationalism)
- 5. **Sociological Foundations Theory, Concepts and Methods** (Theory and Methods)

b. Research strategy

(a) Evaluation of the UoA's RAE 2008 Strategy

Our main aims set out in the 2008 RAE were, and will continue to be:

- i. to enable high quality research in Sociology;
- ii. to strengthen the discipline of Sociology through our research and teaching; and
- iii. to contribute to the analysis of major social change

We have used seven main strategies to achieve these aims during the REF period and will continue to use the same strategies in the future. We indicate below some of the changes we are making to ensure their continuing effectiveness.

Recruiting excellent academics, strengthening research clusters and supporting early career researchers:

Recruiting excellent researchers, including early career researchers, is crucial to the continuing strength and vitality of the UoA research culture and its research clusters. During the REF period, fourteen non-professorial academics and researchers have been appointed, along with



four professors (ECRs underlined). Of these, Professor **David Voas** and **Linsey McGoey** primarily strengthen the Social Divisions cluster; Professor **Michaela Benzeval**, **Peter Fussey** (now professor), and Professor **Dick Hobbs** the Public Policy cluster; **James Allen-Robertson** and **Michael Bailey** the Identity and Culture cluster; **Neli Demireva** and **Renee Luthra** the Transnationalism cluster; and **Nick Allum** (now professor), **Cara Booker**, Professor **Paul Clarke**, **Olena Kaminska**, and **Peter Lugtig** the Theory and Methods cluster. Each ECR has a mentor from amongst the senior staff to provide support and with whom they meet regularly to discuss matters relating to research, teaching and administration and support for staff continues throughout their careers at Essex (for more details see Section **c.** point **(b)** below).

• Recruiting good research students and strengthening research training:

Research students also play a vital role in sustaining a lively and strong research culture and strengthening the discipline of sociology. The UoA has had ongoing success in recruiting research students with strong potential from many countries across the world. During the period we have awarded 171 PhDs. The University was successful in its bid for its ESRC DTC, one of only 12 single-institution DTCs. The DTC, established in 2010, funds a minimum of 16 full PhD studentships each year but has always exceeded this by generating match-funded (and co-supervised) studentships from a range of external partners including the Wellcome Trust, Ipsos-Mori, YouGov, ONS, Essex County Council and UNUM Insurance. These collaborations create excellent pathways to impact. The UoA has secured a high proportion of the available studentships each year in recognition of its status as a national centre for excellence for advanced quantitative methods and its broader reputation across the social sciences. Cox has been the PI for 'Going Digital', an interdisciplinary research training in digital skills for PhD students in the humanities and social sciences. As part of the research training provision a new system of training points, Proficio, is being introduced. Further details are given below (see Section c. point 2.).

Supporting research centres:

Research centres have increasingly been used to strengthen the culture of research excellence, to contribute to the analysis of social change and to ensure that research has an impact both within and outside academia. Centres are supported by allocating time to directors in their workloads, by financial support for seminar series, and assistance from both the UoA and the University for making funding applications. UoA centres include the Centre for Research in Economic Sociology and Innovation (CRESI) established in 2008 by Mark Harvey, which has played a key role in strengthening the Social Divisions and Economic Life cluster, not least by securing major research grants (see below); it has also facilitated international links with researchers across the globe. The ESRC Centre on Micro-Social Change and the ESRC UK Longitudinal Studies Centre have both been vital to the work of this cluster and to the Public Policy and the Theory and Methods clusters. Both centres have excellent international connections and strong links with government departments, NGOs and third-sector organisations. A new interdisciplinary Centre for Criminology has recently been established with academics from the Departments of Law, Government, and Sociology, which builds on, and is designed to enhance, research in the Public Policy cluster. The Centre for Identity and Sexual Citizenship set up by Roisin Ryan Flood in 2008 has played a similar role for the Identity and Culture cluster, hosting the journal Sexualities established by Ken Plummer (now Emeritus). The Centre for Social and Cultural History, which is supported by the UoA. also contributes to this cluster. The Centre for Trauma, Asylum and Refugees established by Renos Papadopoulos has provided a locus of expertise and contributed to the Transnationalism cluster. The work of this cluster is also enhanced by the University's interdisciplinary **Human Rights Centre** to which several UoA sociologists belong.

Securing research funding:

This is vital given the reductions in direct government funding for research and has been an important strategy for the UoA, and an area where we have had considerable success (see Section **d.** point **(b)**). It is supported by the UoA and the University's Research and Enterprise Office reviewing draft grant applications; by an internal system of review within the UoA; by providing financial incentives for research funds on a competitive basis for preliminary work on applications; as well as financial rewards for making applications and for successful bids. We



are now setting targets for research funding to ensure funding levels are sustained.

Supporting research and strengthening the research culture:

Ensuring high quality research across the UoA and maintaining and strengthening the research culture have also been supported by mechanisms such as generous research leave for those whose contracts include teaching (one term's leave after six terms' teaching); access to resources both in terms of infrastructure (see below) and support for attending conferences, networking, and collaborative links. There is also regular support for, and monitoring of, research performance through our mentoring and appraisal systems. Workload allocation is a key issue for those with teaching and administration responsibilities and is carried out with great care to ensure all academics have time for research, aided by judicious use of graduate teaching assistants to reduce teaching pressures while maintaining the quality of teaching. We plan further curriculum review to ensure we continue to use staff time efficiently. Numerous regular seminar series and special lectures across the UoA, many with external speakers, which staff and graduate students attend, help to sustain and enhance the research culture.

• Encouraging research collaboration, national and cross-national:

Key examples of success in cross-national research collaboration in the period include Guveli's research on migration with colleagues in six other European countries and Turkey; Harvey's research on sustainable bio-economies with colleagues from Brazil; Sutherland's work on the impact of tax and benefit changes across Europe via EUROMOD, the cross-national tax-benefit simulation model; Glucksmann's research on the division of labour with colleagues in France, Sweden, Korea and Japan; and Soysal's work on changing concepts of citizenship with colleagues in Asia (see also Section **e.** point **(a)** below). Collaboration with other UK colleagues is also common, as with Fussey's work on Resilient Futures.

Identifying and serving the needs of potential research users:

Always part of the UoA's activities, as for instance with a long tradition of research in the public policy field, co-operation and collaboration with research users has become more explicit in our strategic thinking and in the support provided. Serving the needs of users is, along with achieving impact, now embedded in all research proposals. Recent examples include the preparatory work for Understanding Society, Sutherland's work on EUROMOD, Green's with a local district council on houses in multiple occupation, and Hobbs' with local councils and the police on the Olympic Games and its legacy, selected as a show case for impact by the ESRC, as has Fussey's work on counter-terrorism involving links with the Metropolitan Police and the Home Office. Some activities in this area are detailed in Section e. point (c) below. Cox has just secured ESRC impact uplift funding for her research on the history of UK shop workers, and Thiel from the Technology Strategy Board for a KT partnership with Colne Housing.

Examples of notable achievements in each research cluster in the REF period are:

1. Social Divisions

Buck's establishment of Understanding Society, the largest panel survey in the world, with 40,000 UK households, that incorporates and expands the BHPS; Harvey's award of a 3-year ESRC Professorial Fellowship; Thiel's book on the construction industry, *Builders*, shortlisted for the Philip Abrams prize; Nixon's, *Hard Sell*, on the advertising industry that 'offers real depth in rethinking the post-war baby boom'; and Glucksmann's 2009 *Sociology* paper, selected as a key article in British sociology for the BSA's 60th Anniversary collection.

2. Public policy

Sutherland's research on tax-benefit modelling, EUROMOD, already used to model the likely impact of tax and benefit changes in Greece, Spain and Portugal; collection of the largest set of biomarker data as part of Understanding Society; Hobbs' 2013 prize-winning book, *Lush Life: Organised crime in the UK*, which is receiving excellent reviews.

3. Identity and Culture

Roper's major book, *The Secret Battle: Emotional Survival in the Great War*, described as 'powerful' and a 'remarkable advance', that drew on letters in the Imperial War Museum; Canessa's, *Intimate Indigeneities*, based on more than a decade's research in the Andes, judged 'wonderful ethnography' and an 'excellent book'; Samson's 'thought-provoking and timely' book on



indigenous peoples, A World You Do Not Know; and Voas's research on secularisation that led to a prize from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.

4. Transnationalism

Guveli's funding of over £1 million for research on migration with colleagues in six other EU countries and Turkey; Soysal's work on changing concepts of citizenship with colleagues in Asia (see Section **e.** point **(a)** below); Morawska's *A sociology of Immigration: (Re)making multifaceted America,* described in the *AJS* as 'Eclectic in scope, learned in formulation, and rich in description'; Morris' 'important book for the sociology of human rights', *Asylum, Welfare and the Cosmopolitan Ideal*; Blackburn's widely reviewed and highly praised study of slavery, *The American Crucible: Slavery, emancipation and human rights, 1992-1888.*

5. Theory and Method

The introduction of the concepts of 'strategic ignorance' (McGoey) and 'fuzzy fidelity' (Voas in his prize-winning paper); ffytche's important book, *The Foundation of the Unconscious*, and Hinshelwood's *Research on the Couch*, which examines methods of evaluating psychoanalytic knowledge; and Morris', *Social Theory and Human Rights*, which shows how different theoretical approaches can help to understand different types of rights. Essex has also become a world leading centre in survey methodology and the programme of research based on the Understanding Society Innovation Panel has greatly extended knowledge of the pros and cons of different data collection strategies. Carrabine has published a prize-winning paper on the use of visual imagery in the understanding of crime and punishment.

We also regard the large number of high quality publications (see the UoA outputs), and the high level of research funding (see below) as evidence of the success of research strategies during the REF period. UoA academics have published in many major journals such as ASR; BJS; BJ Criminology; Citizenship Studies; Ethnography; Ethnic and Racial Studies; European Societies; Int J of Comparative Studies; Int J of Human Rights; Int J of Psychoanalysis; Int Migration Review, J of American Statistical Assoc; J of Royal Statistical Society, Series A; Psychoanalysis, Culture and Society; Public Opinion Quarterly; Social Science and Medicine; Sociology, Sociological Methods; Sociological Review; Sociological Quarterly; Sociology of Health and Illness; Survey Research Methods; WES.

(b) Vision and Strategic plans

The vision of the Sociology UoA is, as before, to maintain and enhance the UoA as an international centre of research excellence with a vital and productive research culture in which all UoA academics are active researchers producing high quality research that strengthens the discipline, has an impact within and outside academia and contributes to our understanding of social change.

(a) New and developing initiatives

These are best described by listing some examples from each cluster:

1. Social Divisions and Economic Life

Research using panel study data will be a major focus with £29.5 million funding secured by Buck for waves 6 to 8 of Understanding Society. The biomarker data collected in waves 2 and 3 are now enabling examination of the relationships between social divisions and social changes and bodily health. There are plans to collect biomarker data from those under 16 and repeat biomarker data. Within CRESI, Harvey is developing his research on global competition and sustainability in food, energy and climate, facilitated by his 3-year ESRC Professorial Fellowship. Glucksmann is developing her ERC-funded research into the changing boundaries between paid and unpaid labour using her framework of the total organisation of labour; and McGoey is researching philanthropic players in the field of global health.

2. Public Policy, Welfare and Regulation

Benzeval will lead the Essex use of the biomarker data in Understanding Society which will generate valuable new insights into the factors underpinning health and will also inform health policy. Pevalin is researching housing, health and well-being with colleagues in Australia and Thiel is looking at the impact of benefit changes with a local housing association. Cox is researching



youth justice and aftercare over the period 1850-1945; Hobbs is working with the Royal United Services Institute to develop a research programme on organised crime; Fussey is continuing his Resilient Futures research on threats to the UK and his research on counter-terrorism and crowded places.

3. Identity, Subjectivity and Culture

There are several new and developing initiatives in this grouping. Canessa has secured ESRC funding of £423k for a unique study of Gibraltarian identity over the last century with support from the government of Gibraltar. Nixon, Benton and Pretty are engaged in new interdisciplinary research exploring the links between a growing consciousness of the natural world, fostered by both policy makers and environmental and conservation organisations, and the everyday feelings about, and engagement with, nature by the public. Ryan-Flood is developing research on donor egg recipients, and Roper is researching the impact of WWI on children born in Britain in the 1920s whose fathers fought in the war.

4. Transnationalism, migration and rights

Migration is currently high on the UK's agenda as well as that of many other countries and the UoA will continue to make major contributions to research in this field. There are plans to add a 'new immigrants' sample to Understanding Society, with a focus on EU migrants, and to boost the sample sizes of ethnic minority groups, which will enable further UoA research on these areas. Demireva is extending her research on social capital, trust and ethnic diversity, Soysal her research on changing concepts of the good citizen and the good society in Asia, while Morawska is developing a major comparative study using historical data on the ways in which cities have coped with multiculturalism, and Morris is planning further research on the welfare and immigration rights regime in Britain.

5. Sociological foundations – theory, concepts and methods

We anticipate a strong input into theoretical work associated with new and ongoing research such as that by Morawska on multiculturalism, McGoey on global philanthropy, and Morris on human rights, and also in qualitative methods via the developing research by Roper using documentary sources, Carrabine using visual images, and Bailey oral history. We also have plans to strengthen our research in quantitative methods, to which the work of Demireva will contribute. An important addition to Understanding Society is a demonstration project on the use and value of biomarker data, and also the Innovation Panel for methodological work which is allowing Essex sociologists to test approaches to using mixed mode data collection in a longitudinal context, such as web, phone and face-to-face interviewing, something not previously explored by other panel surveys.

(b) Priority development areas

None of the new developments has clear priority over others since it is vital to the UoA that we maintain and develop research in all five clusters and ensure that all UoA researchers are supported. Key themes are likely to relate to analysing social changes, informing policy challenges, understanding subjectivity, transnational migration, and enhancing theory and methods.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

(a) Staffing strategy and its links to research strategy

As noted, the Sociology UoA regards the recruitment and selection of new staff, as well as support for all academics throughout their careers (see (b) below and section **b.** above), as crucial to sustaining the high quality of the research culture and research productivity. Considerable care is given to recruitment in order to attract excellent researchers, whether junior or senior, and we have successfully recruited to all the research clusters during the REF period. Recruitment involves careful attention to the achievements, publication records and the research plans of applicants.

(b) Career development support and the implementation of the Concordat

Essex has a three-year probation period for those appointed to their first lectureship and each has a mentor from amongst the senior staff. The mentor's task is to meet regularly with the appointee,



discuss any concerns, provide advice and monitor progress. Particular attention is given to research performance with new staff expected to develop bids for external funding, for which advice is provided by their mentor and the University's Research and Enterprise Office. They are also required to publish on a regular basis. The criteria for permanency emphasise high standards of research performance. From October 2013 mentoring requirements will be further tightened with six-monthly written reports on progress by both parties for all staff and more regular assessments of performance for those in their probationary period. All new lecturers are eligible for a term's research leave after two years, which can be brought forward to the final term of the second year, and are strongly encouraged to take a term's leave during their first three years. ECRs employed specifically as researchers have mentors who provide careers advice, including identifying training opportunities, monitoring progress, and assisting with the search for further posts if and when contracts are due to end. All new researchers, including postdocs, have access to funding for attending conferences and network meetings. The HR Manager in the Social Sciences Faculty oversees compliance with the Concordat. All members of staff once on permanent contracts continue to have strong support for their research (and teaching) through the University's appraisal system, careful workload allocation, access to research resources, to seed-corn and conference funding, and to research advice and guidance, and their development needs are regularly assessed.

(c) Open competition personal research fellowships

Blackburn was awarded a 3-year research fellowship from the Leverhulme Trust for 2010-13 to continue his work on slavery and emancipation. He was also distinguished Visiting Professor, New School for Social Research, NY up till 2009. **Glucksmann**, secured an Advanced Investigator Award from the European Research Council for 2010-13; **Harvey** has been awarded a 3-year ESRC Professorial Fellowship for research on the Food-Energy-Climate Trilemma for 2013-16. **Bailey** secured a competitive visiting fellowship at Cambridge in 2010; **Canessa** invited fellowships at Ecoles des Hautes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, and the Free University, Berlin, 2012-3; **Fussey** a visiting scholarship, Monash, 2012; **Hobbs** a Visiting Professorship at U Western Sydney; **Morawksa** a fellowship at the Max Planck Institute, Gottingen, 2013; and **Soysal** a visiting Chair at Bielefeld U, 2013.

(d) International staff appointments, recruitment and visiting scholars

Of the new appointments during the period, **Booker** is from the US, **Demireva** from Bulgaria, **Kaminska** the Ukraine, **Lugtig** the Netherlands, **Luthra** the US, and **McGoey** Canada. Academic posts are widely advertised and many applicants are from those who were born and received much of their academic training outside the UK. For example, the majority of applicants for the recent post in the Department for someone with expertise in quantitative methods had been born outside the UK and needed permission to work in the country.

Visiting scholars in the REF period include amongst others, Professors Aki Aneha, Japan; Pat Armstrong, Canada; Hugh Armstrong, Canada; Annelies Blom, Mannheim; Thomas Boje, Denmark; Mick Couper, Michigan; Vernon Gayle, Stirling; Mike Kenward, London School of Hygiene; Stan Metcalfe, Manchester; Roland Robertson, Aberdeen; Kim Seo-joong, South Korea. Drs: Katrin Auspurg, Konstanz; Maria Davia, Castilla; Stephanie Eckasman, Mannheimm; Adem Yavuz Elveren, Turkey; Michele Grigolo, Portugal; Jan Lofstrom, Finland; Seiichi Matuskawa, Japan; Maria Orteca, Italy; Yukiko Seki, Japan; Momoyo Shibuya, Japan; Sergi Vidal, Bremen.

(e) Support for equality and diversity

The University of Essex has a very clear policy supporting equality and diversity in relation to both staff and students. Specific objectives are set each year and an annual report is produced indicating achievements against objectives. The University facilitates flexible working, has a set of harassment advisers, and trains all staff involved in making appointments in equality and diversity issues. It has carried out a project on 'Caring for Carers' that has developed recommendations to support staff caring for others. It recently secured an Athena Swan Bronze award for its work in eliminating gender bias and creating a culture that values all staff across the whole University. It also has accreditation for the use of the 'Two Ticks' disability symbol. Mentors and those carrying out appraisals within the Sociology UoA help to ensure that those whose research is interrupted for maternity leave or any other reason are fully supported in their return to research activity.



(f) Maintaining research quality and integrity

Ethical approval has to be secured for all research involving human subjects, whether the researcher is an employee or a research student (or indeed an undergraduate). The approval forms are detailed and the University also provides outline pro formas for informed consent.

ii. Research students

The research culture in the UoA benefits from its large and active graduate programme and the existence of the ESRC-recognised Essex DTC. Over the REF period PhDs were awarded to 171 UoA students and research student numbers have remained strong despite the difficulties for students of securing funding. PhD students in the UoA have been in receipt of 51 Research Council awards and studentships, 19 awards from overseas countries and the ORS, and 30 University of Essex scholarships.

(a) PGR recruitment

PGR recruitment is overseen by Graduate Directors with responsibility for ensuring the quality and academic standards of the students recruited, though final decisions and responsibility lie with the Graduate Dean (last Dean, Cox, from Sociology). Research students need a good first degree (a 2(i) or above), and a Masters level qualification in Sociology or a relevant social science. If they do not have a Masters they are normally required to complete one first in a 1+3 arrangement whether ESRC-funded or not.

(b) Training and support mechanisms

The UoA and University training for research students is extensive. Prior to arrival each student's training needs are assessed by their supervisor(s) and they are directed to Masters modules and other courses they need to attend. Training needs are then reviewed at each Supervisory Board to check the training completed and identify any new needs. Sociology research students attend a special training colloquium each year. In Year 1 they present their research proposals, Year 2 focuses on data collection and analysis, and in Year 3 they produce a research paper with a view to publication. University support includes a two-day PhD induction, First Steps, and free-standing courses addressing topics including presentation skills, assertive communication, building an academic profile, writing for publication, applying for grant funding, etc. English language courses are also available. PhD students have free access to one course per year from the internationally renowned Essex Summer School that offers advanced research methods training. The Department runs a one day Introductory Graduate Conference in the Autumn, a two-day Spring residential Graduate Conference, a one-day conference in the Summer, and several one-day mini-methods courses for research students across the UoA. A new scheme, Proficio, has just been introduced with each research student allocated points annually to be spent on a wide range of University training courses.

PhD students have desk space, phones and good access to IT with pcs and printers in shared offices and the 24-hour pc labs. They have access to the specialist software and documentation held by ISER as well the ESDS resources and material in the UK Data Service, both qualitative and quantitative. Research students have access to funds for research expenses and participation in external conferences. The Fuller Fund, a special bequest to the Department, supports the refereed *Essex Graduate Journal of Sociology* (ISSN 1361-3030), which offers graduate students an early experience of publishing, refereeing and editorial work.

(c) Progress monitoring

Graduate Directors oversee graduate student progression and ensure the appropriate resources for their research. Essex's Graduate Dean co-ordinates the University's monitoring of research student progress. Full-time students have two Supervisory Boards a year chaired by an academic who is not the student's supervisor to monitor progress and to provide intellectual input. A Chair's report on progress plus one from the student are submitted to a twice-yearly Research Students Progress Committee that reviews students' progress and makes decisions as to any necessary action. All research students aiming for a PhD are now admitted as MPhil/PhD students and their PhD status is not confirmed until the first (or sometimes the second), Board in Year 2. Year 1 research students must complete a fully developed research proposal for their second Board of



10,000 words covering the research aims and objectives, research design and a literature review. If carrying out empirical work they must be ready to go into the field early in Year 2 having first secured ethical approval.

(d) Outcomes

Of the PhD students completing during the review period many have gone on to university posts. Former students have moved to posts at the Universities of Anglia Ruskin; Bucks; Cambridge; Central Lancashire; East Anglia; East London; Essex; Kent; the OU; Oxford; Roehampton; Southampton; Swansea; Sussex; and University College Suffolk, and to posts at Max Planck Institutes in Gottingen and Halle; and the Universities of Barcelona; Cagliari; Concepcion, Chile; Guanajuato, Mexico; East China U of Science and Technology, Shanghai; Marmara, Turkey; Nat U of Cordoba; Nat U of Ireland, Maynooth; Nat U Sun Yat-Sen, Taiwan; Ottawa; Queensland; Saitami and Seikei, Tokyo; Nanyang Technological U, Shanghai; Punjab; Singapore; Thamassat, Thailand. A former student is now Head of Research at the Centre de la Francophonie des Amériques, another works at the UN International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth.

Their published work includes articles in the following journals, sometimes multiply: *Childhood*; *Cultural Studies*; *Disability Studies Quarterly*; *Globalization and Health*; *Howard J of Criminal Justice*; *I J of Human Rights*; *I J of Public Health*; *J of Social Policy and Society*; *Journal of Youth Studies*; *Lancet*, *New Media & Society*; *Sociology*; *Sociology Compass*; *Sociological Research Online*. Other publications include a Sociology introductory textbook (Nehring); an edited book on hate crime (Mason-Bish); and books on ageing prisoners (Mann); Mexican food narratives and cultural diversity (Mazaton-Paramo); child custody and visitation disputes in Sweden and the US (Pranzo); fair trade and the consumer (Wheeler); and analysing police interviews (Carter) awarded the *British Society of Criminology's* 2012 best book prize; Szewczuk's 'Infertility: a case of two technologies' was awarded *SHI*'s 2012 prize for the best first article. A current PhD student has been awarded a fully-funded 10-month pre-doctoral fellowship at the ASH Centre for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

(a) Specialist infrastructure and facilities

The data from the BHPS and now Understanding Society constitute major specialist infrastructure resources for the social science community with over 1500 users. The new Innovation Panel for methodological work of all kinds further strengthens these infrastructural resources. This Panel is already being used by external researchers for experimental work, e.g. by an LSE Research Leader Fellow for research on risk and trust. The UK Data Archive, which now incorporates Qualidata initially set up by Paul Thompson from Sociology, is a further major infrastructural resource. A £5.4 million ESRC grant has just been awarded for a new Administrative Data Service for streamlining access to data from government departments and other agencies as part of the Big Data Network, almost all the grant going to the Data Archive

(b) Investment in infrastructure and facilities

ISER, along with the UK Data Archive, was rehoused in a large, entirely new building in 2007 which provided them with larger and better facilities. The University has recently invested in a new Experimental Laboratory for quantitative experiments in the social sciences. A new extension to the Albert Sloman Library is currently under construction at a cost of £27 million. The Library now has 53,500 books and 760 journals in the sociological field.

(c) Research funding portfolio

The total funding secured by UoA academics over the period amounts to some £34.1 million. Funding is best indicated in relation to the research clusters (highlighting only grants of £50k+).

1. Social Divisions and Economic Life

The first waves (2009-13) of the new Understanding Society survey, were largely funded by the ESRC, which provided £25 million in 2010 for waves 3, 4 and 5. This major investment was followed by another grant of £29.5 million in 2013 to fund waves 6, 7 and 8. A further £4 million was secured from the ESRC for the collection of biomarker data, with genome-wide association



analysis conducted with Wellcome Sanger. Members of CRESI have had considerable success in securing external funding. Glucksmann was awarded just under £810k from the European Research Council (FP7) for research on consumption work and societal divisions of labour, and Harvey was part of the management team that obtained an ESRC grant (£1.5 million) for the Sustainable Practices Research Group, and led the research project on sustainable consumption of water at Essex (£300k). As noted, Harvey has been awarded a 3-year ESRC Professorial Fellowship (£471k) for research on the global competition for the Food-Energy-Climate Trilemma.

2. Public Policy, Welfare and Regulation

Funding includes Sutherland's roughly £1.25 million per annum over the REF period from the EC for EUROMOD, a micro-simulation model allowing for assessments of the effects of tax and benefit changes on household incomes, Green's £141k from Tendring DC for research on vulnerable people and £51k from the Essex Drug and Alcohol Action Team for research on integrated case and care management, and Iacovou's £111k from the EC for research on reproductive decision-making. Hobbs secured just over £360k from the ESRC for research on policing and police-community relations at the 2012 Olympics, and Fussey £200k from the ESRC/EPSRC for research on detecting terrorist activities as part of an interdisciplinary project, Resilient Futures, and a further £69k from the EPSRC for research on terrorism and crowded places. Cox has just secured £87k from the Leverhulme Trust for research on youth justice and aftercare over the period 1850-1945.

3. Identity, Subjectivity and Culture

Funding successes include Canessa's ESRC grant for £423k for work on Gibraltarian identity, Ryan-Flood's ESRC grant of £102k for research on the Irish queer diaspora in London and Voas' £124k from the Church Commissioners of England for research on church growth.

4. Transnationalism, Nation and Rights

The UoA's success in this field is evidenced by Guveli's NORFACE grant of over £1 million for a large study of Migration Histories of Turks in Europe, by Blackburn's award of £153k for a 3-year Research Fellowship from the Leverhulme Trust for work on slavery and emancipation, Soysal's £78k ESRC award for research on changing conceptions of citizenship in Asia, and Papadopoulos' £61k from the International Organisation of Migration for research on Enhancing Vulnerable Asylum Seekers' Protection.

5. Sociological Foundations

The funding for Understanding Society underpins much of the methodological research in the UoA, with ESRC support for an additional Innovation Panel being of particular value for this purpose (see Section **b**. above). Lynn secured £130 k from the ESRC for a survey resources network and Lugtig £162k for a study of survey data quality in panel surveys.

(d) Consultancies and professional services

The range of consultancies and professional services provided by UoA members 2008-13 is extensive. *Overseas consultancies* include: **Cox**, Plan International, a child rights NGO in Vietnam; **Fussey**, Jersey Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel; **lacovou**, UN expert group on Youth; **Kaminska**, US Neilsen Organization; Swiss Household Panel Survey, Gallup Europe; **Lynn**, Chilean Ministry of Finance, European Central Bank, European Fundamental Rights Agency, EU Statistical Office, German Federal Statistics Office, World Bank; **Samuels**, the US Democratic Party; **Sutherland**, the DG-EMPL of the EC. In the UK, UoA members have acted as consultants for, amongst others, the **Bank of England**; the **Church of England**; the **Clinic for Dissociative Studies**; the **Equality and Human Rights Commission**; the **Home Office**; the **ONS**; the **Suffolk Family Justice Council**; and **YouGov**.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

The Sociology UoA provides an important contribution to the discipline and its research base by generating the Understanding Society data, through the UK Data Archive, as well as through its numerous scholarly publications and training of PhD students. In addition members of the UoA contribute in many other ways.



(a) International research collaborations

Examples include: **Guveli**'s research on migration with colleagues in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands and Turkey; **Sutherland**'s work on the impact of tax and benefit changes across Europe via EUROMOD; the cross-national co-operation on panel studies; **Soysal**'s research on changing concepts of the good citizen and good society with colleagues in China, Japan and Korea and on immigrants to Spain with colleagues there; **Nixon**'s with colleagues in the US and Australia on the exporting of US advertising practices to Australia and the mediating role played by Britain. **Tanaka** has research collaborations with academics in Japan, Helsinki U and UC Santa Barbara. **Glucksmann** with colleagues in France, Korea, Sweden and Taiwan; **Pevalin** with colleagues in Australia.

(b) Interdisciplinary research

As indicated, the UoA itself has a strongly interdisciplinary character so much of its research crosses disciplinary boundaries. Interdisciplinary research may involve co-operation between colleagues in the UoA and/or outside it, whether with colleagues in other departments or institutions. Examples of interdisciplinary research outside the disciplines represented within the UoA include **Benton**'s work on society, economy and nature that involves extensive natural scientists; **Morris**' socio-legal research on the nature of judgement; **Speed**'s research with Glynos (Politics) on time banks; **Sutherland**'s EURMOD research which includes ISER economists; **Fussey**'s work on Resilient Futures, involves those with expertise in computer science, physical geography, and civil engineering, while **Hobbs'** research on policing the Olympics involved collaboration with experts in police studies, anthropology, and sports studies. **Nixon**, **Benton** and **Pretty**'s research will involve input from the natural sciences.

(c) Collaborations with users and links to research activities and strategies

Understanding Society and the earlier BHPS involve a strong commitment to meeting the research users' needs; this is also true of **Sutherland**'s work on EUROMOD where the key users are policy makers across Europe. Amongst many other instances, Harvey has worked with the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians on research on illegal self-employment, Berthoud with the DWP on incapacity benefit, Speed with NE Essex Primary Care Trust on a mental health strategic needs assessment and with West Essex Primary Care Trust on research into patient and public engagement, and Green with the Tendring DC on houses in multiple occupation. Fussey's Resilient Futures project has stakeholders from across central government and industry including the Department for Energy and Climate Change, the Cabinet Office, the Environment Agency, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, the British Red Cross and Tyne and Wear Emergency Planning Unit. **Thiel** worked with the Police Foundation for his report, *Policing Terrorism* (2009), with Essex CC on young people not in education, employment or training, and now with Colne Housing. Canessa's research on Gibraltarian identity involves the Gibraltar government and regular meetings with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office are planned. Hobbs has worked with local councils and the police in East London on the Olympics and is now working with the Royal United Services Institute on organised crime. Collaboration with users is fundamental to a significant proportion of the UoA research and we emphasised its importance in our 2008 RAE research strategy.

(d) Leadership in the academic community

Awards: Honorary degrees: Glucksmann (FBA), Stockholm; Pretty (OBE), Ohio. Voas, winner, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion's Distinguished Article Award for 'The rise and fall of fuzzy fidelity in Europe'; Hobbs, winner of the Int Assoc for the Study of Organised Crime, 2013 Outstanding Publication Award; South, Lifetime Achievement Award, Critical Criminology Division, American Society of Criminology; Carrabine, winner, BJ of Criminology's 2012 Radzinowicz Prize for 'Just Images: Aesthetics, Ethics and Visual Criminology'; Bailey, Hon Mention, the American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence for his book (with Clarke and Walton) Richard Hoggart: A pedagogy of hope; Thiel, short listed, Philip Abrams Memorial Prize for Builders: Class, gender and ethnicity in the construction industry; Blackburn short-listed, 2012 Frederick Douglass Prize, Yale for The American Crucible. Busfield, Glucksmann and Morris are elected academicians, AcSS.



Editorships: Canessa, J of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology; Plummer (emeritus), Sexualities replaced by Ryan-Flood; Green, International Editor, AIDS Care; Lynn, Survey Research Methods. Associate Editors: Lynn, Survey Methodology; Clarke, J of the Royal Statistical Society Series A.

UoA members are also on the Editorial Boards of many journals including: *BJ Criminology*; *BJS*; *Citizenship Studies*; *Crime, Media, Culture*; *Int J of Microsimulation*; *J of Latin American Studies*; *Multicultural Education Review*; *Self and Society*; *Studies in Sexuality and Gender*; *Society and Ecology*; *SHI*; *Theoretical Criminology*; and *World Development*.

ESRC seminar series: South was one of the successful applicants for a series on Green Criminology, Carrabine for one on Visual Criminology and **McGoey** is PI for one on RCTs. Many have given papers at ESRC-funded seminar series during the REF period.

Learned societies and professional bodies: The contribution over the REF period is considerable with the UoA providing: Vice-President, International Assoc of Survey Statisticians; Gen Sec, European Survey Research Assoc; Chair: UK Council for Psychotherapy; Treasurer, UK Society for Psychotherapy Research; Secretary, General Applications Section, Royal Statistical Society. Board members: US Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology; UK Society for Latin American Studies; National Executive, Social History Society; Executive Board, ISA's Research Committee on International Migration, its Research Committee on Historical Sociology and on Immigration and Ethnic History Society. Council members: ASA's Political Sociology section; British Society for Population Studies. Members: RC3 Panel, European Research Council; two Royal Society Commissions, People and the Planet and Reaping the Benefit; UK Expert Panel for National Ecosystem Assessment; BSA Medical Sociology Committee.

Organising Committees: The UoA also provided members of the organising committees of: American Society of Criminology 2013 Annual Conference; BSA Medical Sociology 2012 and 2013 annual conferences; International Migration and Historical Sociology sessions, 2012 ISA Conference; International Association for Jungian Studies conference, 2011; Royal Statistical Society conferences from 2011; co-organiser, 2011 Spring Meeting, ISA Research Committee; Economies, Cultures and Consumption sessions, Social History Annual Conference, 2010-13; Work, Employment and Economic Life stream, BSA Annual Conference, 2012; two plenary sessions, ASA Annual Meeting, 2010.

Keynotes: As well as numerous keynotes in the UK, UoA academics have delivered many elsewhere. Examples include: Blackburn. the Future of the Welfare State. CUNY: Pensions. Brussels; Buck, Swiss Household Panel, Lausanne; Canessa, Latin American Experiences, Berlin: Weingarten: Deutschen Gesellschaft fur Volkerkunde, Berlin: Fussey, Olympic Surveillance, Cardoza Law School, NY: Glucksmann, Labouring Feminism, Stockholm: Green, Health and Society, Cyprus Sociological Association; Harvey, Swiss Bioinformatics Institute; Hinshelwood, Int Fed of Psychoanalytic Societies, Athens; Hobbs, Olympics, U of Western Sydney; Lynn, French Nat Instit for Demographic Studies (INED); European Survey Research Assoc, Warsaw; Stats Canada Int Methodology; Morawska, Int Migration, Finnish Academy of Social Sciences, Helsinki; East European Migrants, Freiburg U; Morris, Migrations, Telc, Czech Republic; Migrants in the City, Padua; Nixon, Elite Formation, Consumption and Urban Spaces, Humboldt U; Advertising, Stockholm U; South African Masculinities, Stellenbosch U; Pevalin, Health Inequities, Adelaide; Youth Studies, Taipei; Pretty, World Food Systems, Otago U; American Museum of Natural History; American Society for the Advancement of Science, San Diego; Roper, Post-traumatic Cultures since the Great War, U Copenhagen; German Historical Society; Samuels, European Association for Counselling, South, Presidential Panel, American Society for Criminology; Soysal: Beyond Multiculturalism, Berlin; Presidential Plenary, ASA Annual Meeting, Atlanta; Finnish Society of Science and Letters; Korean Association for Multicultural Education, Seoul; Presidential Plenary, Annual ESA, Lisbon; Sutherland, Economic Crisis, Paris; Voas, Religion in Eastern and Central Europe Assoc, Brno; Religion and Society in the UK, Rennes; Sociology of Religion, Umea; European Values Study, Tilburg, and Zagreb.