

<p>Institution: Loughborough University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: D27 Area Studies</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>Politics, History and International Relations (PHIR) draws strength both from its individual component disciplines and from the interaction between them. As the Department of European Studies, it was established in 1972, and was one of the first multi-disciplinary European Studies units in the UK. During the late 1990s and early 2000s, the unit successively evolved into the Department of Politics, International Relations and European Studies (PIRES), and then into PHIR to reflect a strategic commitment to History that has resulted in five new full-time appointments from 2008 onwards. Throughout this period, the unit continued to produce strong results in successive Research Assessment Exercises, and retained its position as a leading centre of multi-disciplinary research. The current submission comprises 23.5 FTE staff, compared with 17.6 in RAE2008. The submission reflects the growth of research groups and centres within the department, and their linkages with national and international networks, as means of organising collaborative work and encouraging research initiatives. It also reflects the continuing vitality and sustainability not only of individual staff research and external research income but also of postgraduate research in a number of key areas. In 2011, the unit became part of the School of Social, Political and Geographical Sciences (SPGS), creating a new relationship with the departments of Social Sciences and Geography which will influence the future development of its research.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>In the context of the 2008 RAE, PHIR (PIRES at that point) identified a number of key contextual factors influencing its research strategies and set out a number of areas in which it had focused and would focus its research effort. The key aim of the strategy was to maintain the unit's position as a leading centre for multi-disciplinary research, and to enhance this through a proactive approach to the opportunities created by the introduction of History as well as the consolidation of excellence in Politics and International Relations. This strategy was designed to inform research well beyond the RAE accounting period, and at an early stage in the post-RAE2008 period, discussion started on a strategic action framework to reflect the changing composition of the unit and of external opportunities and challenges and to underpin the general strategic aims. The framework was developed by the unit's Research Committee, led by the Research Coordinator, and then discussed and adopted at unit level. It has been reviewed on a regular basis since 2008, and still forms the core of the unit's thinking about its strategic positioning and priorities.</p> <p>The strategic framework consists of the following key elements: Identification of key challenges and opportunities in the changing research environment, both internal and external; Exploration of options for staffing and for the disciplinary structure of the unit in light of the changing research environment; Consolidation of research student numbers and development of capacity for research supervision in new areas of the unit; Promotion of initiatives through centres – especially the Centre for the Study of International Governance - and research groupings, but also the continuing support of individual research; Continuation of support through study leave and support for external funding applications where these either link with or supplement study leave; Continuation of annual monitoring of research activity and research outputs, with the aim of enhancing the quality of outputs across the unit and identifying opportunities for publication and funding applications; Maintenance of the research infrastructure within the unit and continued provision of resources for the support of research (travel, subsistence, and related resources). Alongside this there was a continuing commitment to close linkages and interaction between research and the unit's teaching programmes. This action framework is central to the continuing vitality and sustainability of research in the unit.</p> <p>During the six years since the general aims and strategic framework were established, the context has changed in a number of ways, but the key elements of the overall strategic action framework have been pursued consistently, and will continue to be pursued over the next five years. The anticipated expansion of History as a key discipline within the unit has taken place as planned, giving the unit new research directions in the areas of European, South Asian, East Asian and Cultural History, and the consolidation of research groupings and centres has continued, with the establishment of the Anarchism Research Group in 2010 and agreement to establish a second centre – provisionally named the Centre for Public Scholarship – to be formally proposed in 2014. Staff continue to publish regularly in outlets of high quality, and have</p>

maintained a high level of activity in academic networks and the profession more generally. Since January 2008, colleagues submitted to the REF have published a total of 20 single or co-authored books, 19 edited or co-edited volumes, 73 articles in international refereed journals and 98 chapters in edited volumes, and have delivered around 130 papers at international conferences. Members of the unit also edit or co-edit three international journals: *Anarchist Studies*, *Cooperation and Conflict* and the *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*. The unit has also organised the annual Macaulay Lectures for 2012 and 2013, delivered by Catherine Hall (UCL) and Chris Bayly (Cambridge) respectively. Postgraduate research student numbers have been consolidated, with an overall population maintained in the mid-twenties; there has been a significant increase both in overall numbers of degrees awarded and to a higher number of degrees awarded per FTE staff even after taking account of increased staff numbers (see REF4 and section c.ii below). Research funding applications have been pursued in both existing and new areas, with a significant increase in funding from research councils (see REF4 and section d below). Study leave has been maintained and has been supplemented with key external grants that have extended research opportunities for a range of staff. Further development of degree programmes at both undergraduate and taught postgraduate levels has enabled research interests and teaching to be aligned especially in the delivery of final year undergraduate and Masters options, for example through the new Masters programme in Crisis Management which has its first intake during 2013 and through development of a Single Honours History programme offered from 2014 onwards

The establishment of the School of Social Political and Geographical Sciences in 2011-12 has provided a **new context for development of the unit's research strategy**, and is a key element in research planning for the period ahead. The School brings together three units (Social Sciences, PHIR and Geography) with strong records of research achievement, and with significant resources in the areas of postgraduate research training and the attraction of external funding. During 2012 and 2013, it has discussed and developed a number of strategic research commitments, both at the level of principles and at the level of structures. In particular, the School has committed itself to the support of both individual and collaborative research, and to the promotion of interaction between the core elements of its staff, as a means of ensuring the vitality and sustainability of research in all of its subject areas. PHIR has taken a proactive role in all of these discussions and in the identification of opportunities for new initiatives including those prompted by the development of thematic research at university level as well as by external opportunities. In particular, the university and School research themes 'secure and resilient societies' and 'communications, culture and citizenship' will provide key points of reference. The development of collaborative work in security, resilience and crisis management (Miles, Dover, Zebrowski), identity and memories (Szejnmann, Tamaki, Lambert-Hurley, Knight, Collins), Anarchism and alter-globalization (Kinna, Berry, Christoyannopoulos, Gordon) and European and global governance (Drake, Smith, Roberts, Miles, Leaman, van Kessel, Olgamueller, Zartaloudis) will go alongside individual research in areas such as gender (Lloyd), women's autobiography (Lambert-Hurley) democracy (Parvin) and cultural history and theory (Collins, Fraser) to provide a vibrant 'mixed economy' within the unit and to resonate with university and school priorities.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The current submission of 24 staff (headcount) reflects a situation in which only eight of these were submitted by PIREs to the 2008 RAE. One shaping factor in this process of change has been the appointment of five Historians (Collins, Klein, Lambert-Hurley, Szejnmann, Winkler) in accordance with the strategic priorities set before 2008. Another factor has been the departure of existing staff to senior posts elsewhere, and their replacement by a combination of staff with established international reputations (for example, Miles and Roberts) and excellent early-career staff (for example, Zebrowski, Gordon, Oelgemoller, van Kessel, Zartaloudis). A third factor has been the phased retirement of some senior staff over the period since 2010. Finally, some shorter-term appointments (Gordon, Zartaloudis) reflect the award of external fellowships to existing members of staff and the availability of resources for replacement staff.

In the context of these changes, **the unit has dedicated itself to maintaining consistency in and commitment to high quality research activity**, ensuring that new colleagues are supported in the development of their research activities at the same time as they undertake new responsibilities in both teaching and administration. The strategic approach to this challenge has

been informed by the search for research excellence as well as contributions in other areas. It has also been shaped by the opportunity to appoint new members of staff to replace those in receipt of major research awards (Parvin in 2012-13, and from Autumn 2013 Lambert-Hurley, Lloyd, van Kessel). New appointments have thus been viewed through the prism of the unit's research strategy and its priorities, and the expectation that research of international quality will result.

Early Career academic staff are provided with a comprehensive package of support both from within the department and from the university more generally. At university level, Early Career staff undertake the New Lecturers Course, which specifically involves units introducing the University's Research Culture and support available from the Research Office. Within the unit, the delivery of the probation process provides early career staff with a systematic check on their research performance and commitments, with attention to the generation of outputs and to the securing of appropriate funding as well as to the development of the research career more generally. Probationary staff are given a reduced teaching and administrative load and are closely mentored by a probation adviser. They are incorporated in the broader assessment of the unit's research performance through annual discussion of their Personal Research Plans (PRPs), which are also reviewed by the university Research Performance Monitoring Committee (RPMC).

Established academic staff are likewise supported through the PRP and annual Performance Development and Review (PDR) processes, and opportunities for the development of their research are identified through the discussions accompanying these. This process embeds research in performance review and reward systems and is monitored by the University's RPMC, chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research (PVC(R)). Opportunities are disseminated to Schools via the Research Office webpages, and the Research Staff e-bulletin and blog. Mentoring is available for research staff, and academic staff are encouraged to participate as mentors, which is beneficial to both parties. The Research Office provides bespoke one-to-one support for staff writing grant proposals, which further underpins the research culture.

The University has a well-established **Staff Development Policy** and accompanying processes, which give clear guidance as to expectations and opportunities for development. In turn, these are supported by a comprehensive suite of professional development programmes including those focusing on research processes, research funding and the supervision of research students. Research staff can also attend courses run by the Graduate School, Careers and Employability Centre, and Staff Development courses. There is a clear route for all staff towards career progression based on research attainments, and PHIR has a strong record in pursuing this aspect of staff development. The University holds regular (annual or more frequently) exercises for promotion and progression: for probationers, this involves systematic appraisal of research achievements including outputs, grant applications and awards, and training for research student supervision. For established staff, the process for promotion to Senior Lecturer takes into account the balance between research and teaching; the unit has without exception put forward staff on the 'research' track, with a strong record of success. Applications for Readerships or Personal Chairs can be made at any time and are subject to extensive internal and external evaluation; since 2008, PHIR has seen two successful applications for Personal Chairs (Kinna, Drake); several staff have been promoted to Senior Lecturer via the 'research' track (Christoyannopoulos, Collins, Dover, Lambert-Hurley, Parvin) and two (Fraser and Klein) are in the process of applying for Readerships.

The unit has a well-established policy for recommending **study leave**: proposals from individual colleagues are first considered in terms of their academic viability by the Research Committee, which advises the Head of Department, and can also recommend revision of proposals in order to strengthen them. The Head of Department then takes a strategic view with reference to resources and programme sustainability, and makes a recommendation to the Dean of School, who is advised by the School Senior Management Team. Final approval is given by the PVCR. Through this mechanism, PHIR has sustained a pattern in which up to ten per cent of the unit's staff are on study leave at any one time, and in which applications for study leave can be considered on the basis of entitlement to apply for two months' leave for each year of service. The unit has also been able to take advantage of major funding awards that entail the granting of study leave or leave of absence. During the REF period, 12 members have received study leave, in addition to those with specific external awards, and for the forthcoming period the aim remains to sustain this pattern.

Although the unit has had no purely research staff over the REF period, it should be noted that the University undertook a comprehensive analysis of its alignment with the **Concordat to support the Career Development of Researchers** in 2009/10, and published an implementation plan in

2010, which received the EC's HR Excellence in Research Award. As noted above, Performance and Development Review has been put into place for all staff, and up-take for research staff is strongly encouraged. Loughborough provides mandatory recruitment and selection training which embeds Equality and Diversity policy. The University is committed to Athena SWAN, and is a Bronze award holder, with one School having achieved a Silver and with further applications in process. In 2011/12 Research Staff and early career Lecturers were eligible to apply to participate in the Developing Future Research Leaders programme, and for more established staff the university initiated the Loughborough Excellence Awards for Developing Research Leadership (LEADeR). PHIR benefited from the latter programme through the involvement of Dover, who as a result became co-theme leader of the University research theme 'Secure and Resilient Societies', and who has been involved in a number of major funding initiatives for the post-2013 period.

The unit is committed to high levels of ethical conduct in its research, and this is pursued through a well-established university structure. The university's **Ethics Committee** advises on ethical matters arising in the conduct of the University's business and one of its sub-committees - the Ethics Approvals (Human Participants) Sub-Committee - ensures that any work that involves human participants meets required ethical standards. The University also has a Research Misconduct and Whistle-Blowing Policy and Procedure which allows staff to feel comfortable in reporting issues of research misconduct without fear of recrimination.

ii. Research students

As previously noted, the unit has set itself the aim of maintaining a **population of postgraduate research students** in the mid-twenties, which implies a recruitment of around five such students per year. This aim has been met over the REF period, thereby sustaining a thriving PGR community which is linked closely with the research interests of specific groups of staff within the department. A number of PGRs are linked with the research pursued by the Anarchist Research Group, whilst others have a close link with the work of the Centre for the Study of International Governance [for example, those engaged in the INCOOP Marie Curie Initial Training Network, which focuses on institutional aspects of EU diplomacy]. The growth of History as a focus within PHIR has also resulted in the recruitment of a growing number of students in this area, beginning in 2011. In addition to university resources (including a number of studentships), PGR training has also been supported by such projects as the INCOOP Network, of which PHIR is a core member, and which has injected c. £400,000 for support of PHD Fellows, research networking, professional training and dissemination into the department over the period 2011-2013.

The **research student community** in PHIR is thus fully integrated with the broader academic community and has been and remains a fertile source of research initiatives. Our students are very active in professional networks such as the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) and British International Studies Association (BISA) Research Student Networks, they publish regularly, and they are active in organising conferences and seminars, both via professional networks and via departmental channels, especially CSIG (and it is intended that this will be enhanced through the new Centre for Public Scholarship to be proposed during 2014). As examples, two major conferences in the REF period have been largely organised by PGRs – the 'Is Black and Red Dead?' conference which took place at the University of Nottingham in 2009 and produced an edited volume of which two of the editors were either current or ex-research students in the department, and the conference on 'Reassessing the Grand Strategy of the EU' which was organised by two PGRs with assistance from senior staff through CSIG in 2011. Our students are also successful in gaining employment of an academic or academic-related nature, both in the UK and beyond (for example, Lectureships at Bristol, Exeter and Maastricht and research posts at Bath and the Open University), and ex-students are active in national and international professional associations such as UACES, BISA and EUSA.

A key feature in ensuring sustainable **support for PGRs** in the unit is joint supervision. The first supervisor allocated is someone whose specialism is close to the student's area of research and is supported by the second supervisor who will also have an interest in the proposed area of study. The student is also assigned another academic member of staff who acts as a reviewer of the student's work for the three or four years of the degree and is part of the monitoring of the student's progression. The student's supervisory team also includes the Director of Research Degree Programmes who takes an overview of the supervisory arrangements and can assist in the resolution of any issues. Applicants with disabilities are invited to identify any special needs or

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support requirements they may initially have and they are supported in their programmes of study through the University's Counselling and Disability Service.

Research student progress is monitored through regular supervisory meetings which are held at least on a monthly basis and normally much more frequently. Written records of these meetings are maintained by supervisors. In addition a major academic progress review, against published criteria, is held at the end of each year of registration, and students are required to produce a significant piece of written work and in some cases publications, as well as undertake an interview with their independent assessor before being permitted to progress to the next year of registration. Records of these meetings are entered on the University's central student record and re-registration is automatically blocked where an unsatisfactory review is entered. It is notable that research students in the unit have a consistently high on-time submission and graduation rate.

Throughout their period of study all students are provided with **training in research methods**, some of which will be linked directly to their specific project and others of which will be of more general relevance to their potential career as a researcher. Within the unit, General Research Training is available if a student has not previously studied at master's level. Subject-Specific Research Training is delivered in two ways: Student-led seminars where students give presentations of their work to their peers and to academic staff; and Tutor-led workshops that are run across the academic year by the Director of Research Students and with contributions from other staff, typically covering: Conference Papers; The Writing Process; Publishing Articles; Writing a Book Proposal; Researching Moving Targets; Individual vs Collaborative Research; Evaluating Research Proposals; The Viva. Supervisors help students to review their existing skills and attainments and identify areas of potential development or improvement. They also encourage students to attend conferences and other activities likely to enhance their professional awareness and skills, and the unit and the Graduate School offer financial support for the presentation of papers at national and international conferences.

In addition to postgraduate research training delivered in the unit, there is close liaison with the **University's Graduate School**. The initial university training programme comprises full-day induction sessions for new Postgraduate Research Students, attendance at which is compulsory for all new students. This is followed up by University Training Workshops and Short Courses. The Graduate School also runs a PGR Training Programme: this covers a wide range of topics, from 'Ethical Thinking in Research' and 'Getting the Most out of Supervision' to 'The Viva - What Happens?'. The Professional Development Unit also runs a workshop on teaching (Teaching Skills for Postgraduates and Research Assistants); attendance on this course provides an in-house certificate of attendance, required by the University if the student is to be involved in teaching duties. PHIR offers opportunities for all PGR students to be involved in seminar teaching at appropriate stages of their research programmes. The Library runs a range of workshops and courses relevant to research, ('Database of the Month', for instance). The University Careers and Employability Service provides a specialist service for research students, offering individual career consultations, and guidance on applications and CVs. The University offers a **wide range of support facilities**, including the Graduate School, the Student Advice Centre, the Research Student Office in the Registry which provides dedicated administrative support to research students, the Maths Education Centre and the English Language Support Unit. PHIR itself is responsible for the delivery of the University Wide Language Programme, and as a result postgraduate research students in the unit have direct access to a wide range of languages support – a key resource for much of the unit's work.

Within the School, **quality assurance of research degree programmes** is provided by an Associate Dean for Research who is a member of the University's Research Committee (chaired by the Pro Vice Chancellor for Research). At the institutional level, quality assurance is provided by the Dean of the Graduate School, who is responsible for considering and approving a range of research student business from admissions to examinations, as well as, for example, chairing student appeals, thereby ensuring consistent and equitable treatment. The Dean of the Graduate School leads a cycle of regular research degree programme reviews as part of the University's quality assurance mechanisms (the School of SPGS was most recently reviewed in this way during April 2013, with very positive outcomes). The outcomes of these reviews are reported to the university Research Committee. The University also participates in the UK wide Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) thereby gaining useful student experience feedback from its research student population which can be benchmarked nationally.

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This attention to PGR recruitment and the PGR experience within the unit and more broadly has led to a **substantial increase in research degrees awarded** (22 in the REF period as opposed to 12 during the RAE 2008 period). The aim is to sustain this growth during the next five years and align it with the changing focus of the unit as well as key university and School research themes.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The commitment of the unit to tapping external funding opportunities draws on a **supportive context in the university as a whole**. The University has significantly increased its research funding over the years since RAE 2008. Of specific relevance to the unit, over £4 million has been invested in the 'Transforming the Library' project to provide a wide range of improvements to the existing facility, increasing study space and improving the learning environment. University IT Services support a variety of communications and information technology facilities which can be accessed by staff and students. The University Research and Enterprise Office offers a complete service for the costing and pricing of research grants and contracts, facilitating collaborative bids. It also actively targets funding opportunities, supports drafting of applications, negotiates legal agreements and provides financial support on an on-going basis.

PHIR is strongly committed to providing the best possible **facilities** for its staff and PGR students. All staff have individual offices, and comprehensive IT facilities supported by the School technical staff. Support is available for staff participation at national and international research events, and (through CSIG) for the organisation of conferences and workshops up to a maximum figure of £3000 per event. Students enjoy shared office space (usually two students per office) and have full IT and other facilities available to them. Staff and students have access to unit travel funds for approved conference attendance (basic allocation of £750 per annum for staff and £400 for PGRs, with the opportunity to apply for more for specific events), and also to Graduate School resources. CSIG grants for conference organisation have also been awarded to a number of research students during the REF period, and have contributed to the development of publications.

Within the unit, research activities are formally overseen by a **Research Committee** chaired by an experienced member of staff (currently Miles). The Research Committee considers applications for study leave, organises research training events and advises the Head of Department on the allocation of discretionary Departmental and Faculty funds to support research travel by staff and PGR students. Under the Committee's auspices, the Department also undertakes annual reviews of Personal Research Plans, frames a section on research targets for the annual Departmental Development Plan, and maintains liaison with Faculty and University bodies concerned with research support. Since the creation of the School of SPGS, a key link is that with the Associate Dean for Research and through them to the University Research Performance Monitoring Committee and the Research Committee, chaired by the PVCR.

PHIR has a **long tradition of involvement in key networks and cross-national projects**, and this tradition has been maintained in the current REF period. The unit places great store by supporting staff who are engaged in such projects, and in ensuring that they lead to high quality outputs. As noted above, the unit is also committed to supporting staff who obtain research funding enabling them to prolong periods of research leave or to experience research contexts in other institutions or countries. During the REF period, key projects falling into this category include the following: Dover (work with UK Cabinet Office), Drake (Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellowship at Sciences Po, Paris), Knight (British Academy Network on Ethnicity in the Cold War), Lambert-Hurley (AHRC funded network on 'Autobiographies of Women in Islamic Societies, and Leverhulme Fellowship 2013-14), Miles (work for Swedish Government and other agencies), Parvin (Leverhulme Fellowship for work at UC Berkeley 2012-13), Lloyd (Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship 2013-16), Smith (Jean Monnet and Marie Curie projects), van Kessel (Humboldt Research Fellowship). At the same time as supporting substantial collaborative research projects, PHIR has encouraged staff to apply for **individual awards** to support the production of specific research outputs and to undertake research initiatives that might in time be linked to larger-scale funding. Examples of this type of project are: Berry (British Academy for archival work on Daniel Guérin), Christoyannopoulos (Political Studies Association award to support Anarchist Studies Conference), Lambert-Hurley (Islamic Studies Network for digitising source materials), Szejnmann (German History Society and Stanley Burton Centre for Holocaust Studies, for a conference on 'Space, identity and National Socialism').

As a result, the unit's **success in obtaining external funding** has been enhanced during the REF period. Since 2008, as REF4 shows, £659787 in external funding has been obtained,

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resulting in a figure of £28076 per FTE member of staff in this submission over the period. This compares to £431815 and an average of £24534 for RAE2008, when only 17.6 FTE were submitted; the figure is even more notable when the changing composition of the unit and departure of experienced staff is taken into account. In addition, the spread of awards across members of staff has been enhanced, with success in funding councils and charities as well as European funding sources. The unit's research strategy aims to maintain this growth during the next five years, building on experience gained and on networks consolidated since 2008 and exploiting the opportunities provided by Horizon 2020 as well as research council programmes.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

As already noted, **collaborative projects and networks** are a key feature of research in the unit. A number of these are linked to research groups or centres: for example, the Anarchism Research Group plays a central role in the running of national and international networks, and the Centre for the Study of International Governance has provided a framing structure for projects such as those on diplomacy (Jean Monnet Multilateral Research Network, INCOOP Marie Curie Network – links especially with Maastricht, Leuven and other EU centres). Work on sport and national identity involving historians, political theorists and international relations specialists has likewise led to the development of growing international networks. Individual members of the unit have highly developed networks in their areas of research interest, for example Dover (intelligence and security, with governmental and academic colleagues in the UK), Miles (governance and regional policies especially with Swedish and German colleagues), Klein (religion and Chinese history), Knight (ethnicity in the Cold War), Lambert-Hurley (women's autobiography in Islamic societies, linked with her AHRC-funded project 2010-11 but continuing and linked with scholars in the US, India and the UAE), Lloyd (gender issues, particularly with Finnish colleagues), Parvin (democratic theory, with UC Berkeley), Smith (diplomacy and negotiation studies with both universities and research institutes in the EU). The unit has also hosted academic visitors from a number of countries since 2008, including colleagues from Spain, Malaysia, Finland, Bulgaria and India.

A number of colleagues have taken leading roles in **subject associations** most notably Drake (Chair of the University Association for Contemporary European Studies from 2012, Convenor of the PSA specialist group on French Politics, Policy and Society from 2010), Dover (Convenor of PSA Security and Intelligence Group from 2010, Secretary of the European Consortium for Political Research Standing Group on the EU, 2008-12), Leaman (Steering Committee of the Euromemorandum Group of Economists from 2013), Lloyd (executive committee, Britain and Ireland Association for Political Thought 2009-12; also a member of the working group that set up the Association), Miles (Co-convenor, PSA specialist group on Scandinavian Politics from 2010, Committee Member, Swedish Network of European Studies from 2010), Szejnmann (Committee Member, German History Society, 2006-9). Alongside this, many members of the unit have operated in **editorial positions**, most notably Berry (Associate Editor and Reviews Editor, *Anarchist Studies*), Gordon (Co-editor of Continuum/Bloomsbury book series *Contemporary Anarchist Studies*) Kinna (Editor, *Anarchist Studies*), Klein (Review Editor, *H-Soz-u-Kult*), Leaman (Managing Editor, *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*), Lloyd (International Editor, *Redescriptions*, Review Editor, Wiley-Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*) Miles (Lead Editor, *Cooperation and Conflict*, Joint editor of Routledge book series *Europe and the Nation State*) and Szejnmann (Co-editor of book series *The Holocaust in Contexts*). Other colleagues have performed editorial board roles on journals including *Dissidences* (Berry), *Journal of the William Morris Society*, *Theory in Action*, *Anarchist Developments in Cultural Studies* (Kinna), *Zeitgeschichte* (Knight), *Journal of Pakistan Women's Studies* (Lambert-Hurley), *Debatte* (Leaman), *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Social Movement Studies*, *Thirdspace: A Journal of Feminist Theory and Culture* (Lloyd), *Cooperation and Conflict*, *European Integration Studies* (Miles), *Peacebuilding*, *Journal of Zemiology* (Roberts), *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, *UACES Monograph Series on Contemporary European Studies* (Smith), *Journal of Politics, Religion and Society* (Szejnmann). Since 2008, all members of the unit have been involved in **refereeing for journals/and or book publishers**.

One of the key commitments of PHIR colleagues over the REF period has been the continuation of the unit's activity in **organization of conferences, workshops and panels**. During the period, members of the unit have been responsible for organizing and co-organizing 15 international conferences, including the 2009 PSA Conference (Kinna, Lloyd), the 1st and 2nd conferences of the

Anarchist Studies Network (Berry, Kinna and Christoyannopoulos with PGR students), the conference 'Is Black and Red Dead?' (PGR students with oversight by Berry) – this later produced the edited book *Libertarian Socialism: Politics in Black and Red*, 'The Beatles at Fifty' (Collins – this will lead to a journal special issue in 2014), four conferences linked with the AHRC-funded project on 'Women's Autobiography in Islamic Societies' (Lambert-Hurley), conferences in 2008 on youth culture in Europe and in 2010 on tax justice (Leaman – both of these produced edited volumes), a major conference on EU diplomacy in Brussels, 2012 (Smith – part of the Jean Monnet Multilateral Research Network of which he was lead researcher, and which will also produce an edited volume). In addition, colleagues organised or co-organised 7 international workshops, 35 panels at international conferences and 4 seminar series with international participation, including those linked to the Anarchism Research Group, CSIG and the sport and national identity project in Loughborough itself. The unit has thus maintained its position as a major instigator of academic events, has extended it into new areas, especially History, and continued its engagement with multi-disciplinary encounters. The unit has maintained a high level of activity in **presentation of papers at international conferences**: since 2008, members of the unit delivered well over a hundred papers at key international events. Colleagues were also very active in the delivery of **invited keynote addresses and papers**: around a hundred such addresses and papers were presented during the period, including keynote addresses at major international events. Invited contributions included addresses by Drake in Paris and Boston (MIT), Knight in Vienna, Lambert-Hurley at a British Library conference on British Asians, Lloyd at conferences on gender and critical political theory in Helsinki and Essex, Miles in Brussels, Stockholm and Copenhagen, Smith in Bruges, Brussels and Maastricht, and Szejnmann in Dresden, Lund and Hanover.

The unit remains very active in **examining and evaluation**. Since 2008, members of the unit externally examined 27 PhD theses both in the UK and abroad. Others acted in advisory and related positions, for example Collins (member of advisory council for History Lab and History Lab Plus), Knight (Member of Advisory Board, Vienna Wiesenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies), Lambert-Hurley (refereeing proposals for British Council, Aga Khan Fellowships), Leaman (referee of research proposals for ESRC), Lloyd (member of supervisory pool for Finnish Gender Studies Doctoral programme, referee of research proposals for Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences), Miles (member of Jean Monnet List of Experts from 2010, Member of CREST Advisory Group, Swedish Ministry of Enterprise), Parvin (refereeing proposals for ESRC), Smith (Evaluator and Chair of Evaluation Panel, Finnish Academy, 2008-9). Smith was Chair of the 2008 RAE European Studies Sub-Panel and a member of the Expert Advisory Group on the REF; he also reviewed research proposals for the FWO (Flemish Research Council) and provided advice to several institutions in relation to research development and to REF2014. He was a member of the Loughborough University Research Performance Monitoring Committee from 2008-2013.

A number of members of the unit have been recognised through **scholarly awards or fellowships**. Collins and Knight were elected Fellows of the Royal Historical Society. Dover was a Senior Fellow of the Centre for Defence Studies, Kings College London, and a Senior Associate Research Fellow, Institute for Statecraft and Governance. Drake was named *Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques* by the French Government in 2010, was the recipient of a Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellowship (2010) and was appointed to the *conseil scientifique* of ESSCA Angers in 2013. Gordon received a UNESCO Fellowship for research activities in 2009. Klein was a Research Fellow at the College of Cultural Studies, University of Konstanz, 2008. Lambert-Hurley received an Islamic Studies Network Award in 2011-12, was principal investigator in 2010-11 on an AHRC-funded network project, and in 2013 was awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship for 2013-14. Lloyd was elected to the Academy of Social Sciences in 2009, and in 2013 gained a three-year Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship. Miles was Honorary Professor in the Department of Scandinavian Studies at University College London, and Honorary Professorial Fellow in International Relations, University of Lancaster. Parvin received a Leverhulme Research Fellowship for work at the University of California Berkeley in 2002-13. Smith was presented with the UACES Award for Lifetime Achievement in Contemporary European Studies in 2010, and continued to be a visiting Professor at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok and the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. Tamaki was a Research Fellow of the Institute of Asian Cultural Studies, International Christian University, Tokyo. Van Kessel gained an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Research Fellowship for the years 2013-2015.