

Institution: UEL

Unit of Assessment: 36

a. Overview

We constitute a long-established centre of excellence that received a 5 in RAEs 1996 and 2001 and ranked seventh nationally in RAE 2008, with a 2.95 average and 80% of our overall quality profile rated 3* or 4*. Since then we have continued to produce leading work in our established core strengths of cultural history, cultural politics and cultural practice, while consolidating our work in cultural diversity and globalisation. The Raphael Samuel History Centre and the newly formed Centre for Cultural Studies Research have been particularly active in supporting our work. Following our relocation from the old School of Humanities & Social Sciences (home of our UOA66 submission in 2008) to the new School of Arts and Digital Industries (ADI) in 2011, we have contributed to the creation of a new research centre, the Moving Image Research Centre. The University has also created a new central research hub, the Research and Development Support team, responsible for new sabbatical, intern and research development funding.

Since 2008 we have more than doubled our HESA research income and almost doubled our number of PhD completions while maintaining the number of Category A staff submitted. Two professors (Humm, Nava) submitted in RAE 2008 have overseen the consolidation and development of the UOA's international research profile, including the appointment of four new professors (Gilbert, Lawrence, Morey, Radstone), the appointment of four readers (Hardy, Hodgkin, Kempadoo, Vitali), the introduction of eight members of staff for the first time (Butler, Carr, Daniels, Dave, Goodman, Hardy, Maddison, Morey) and the incorporation of two ECRs (Fisher, Sosa). All 18 researchers, therefore, have contributed to the increased dynamism of our environment and the broadening of our profile during a period of organic regeneration.

b. Research strategy

Our 2008 submission included three key **strategic aims**. First, it sought to sustain and develop its core strengths in cultural history and cultural politics through the Raphael Samuel History Centre (RSHC) and the establishment of a new research centre, the Centre for Cultural Studies Research (CCSR). Second, it aimed to advance its cultural practice—including screen media, music and performing arts—in conjunction with Matrix East Research Lab (MERL) and the Institute (now Centre) for Performing Arts Development. Third, it planned to expand its PhD programme. In addition to achieving and in some cases surpassing these objectives, we have consolidated our profile in the area of cultural diversity and globalisation while remaining true to the core principles of Cultural Studies as a political, interdisciplinary and intellectual project.

We have continued to produce ground-breaking research in the area of **cultural history** and **memory studies**. Examples include our work on East London memoryscapes, (**Butler**), madness and sin in early modern England (**Hodgkin**), the publication of a book on Woolf praised as the largest study of any 20th century writer's involvement in the arts (**Humm**) and the publication of a field-defining edition on memory studies (**Radstone**). **Carr**, who researches gender and masculinity in Enlightenment Scotland, and **Sosa**, who publishes on memory and dictatorship in Latin America, have bolstered this work. Founded in 1996, RSHC is now part of a four-way collaboration with Birkbeck, Queen Mary University (QMUL) and the Bishopsgate Institute, with Hodgkin, an original member of the organising committee, now UEL Director, http://www.raphael-samuel.org.uk. **Butler**, **Hodgkin** and **Radstone** contribute seminars and projects to RSHC's annual programme as well as projects such as 'Ports of Call', for which **Butler** created a series of walking trails with members of the communities surrounding London's Royal Docks. As part of its outreach, RHSC also organises the History and Heritage Adult Learning London network, which draws together some of London's leading museums, galleries and archives, including the lauded Raphael Samuel archive.

Our work in **cultural politics**, key to our research profile since the 1980s, engages with the broad ambitions of Cultural Studies. **Fisher**'s *Capitalist Realism*, which critiques the naturalisation of capitalism, is, according to Slavoj Žižek, the 'best diagnosis of our predicament'. **Gilbert** has published two single-authored books on the subject of neoliberal capitalism, politics and community, and delivered a keynote at Crossroad 2012 (Paris) on this theme. **Hardy** has taken his research into the politics of media ownership and advertising, including two single-authored books



since 2008, into the public realm through policy submissions, including one to the Leveson Inquiry. **Lawrence** has continued his major investigation into New York's downtown music culture during the 1970s and 1980s. **Maddison** critiques the neo-liberalisation of pornography. Much of this work has been supported by CSSR, http://culturalstudiesresearch.org, established in 2008, with **Fisher**, **Gilbert** (co-director, 2010-12), **Lawrence** (co-director 2011-13) and **Maddison** members. The Centre has run events with Aditya Chakrabortty (on debt), the Fawcett Society (austerity and women), Judith Halberstam (queer art of failure) and Neal Lawson (consumption).

One of our strategic aims in 2008, **cultural practice** has grown so rapidly in the School of Arts and Digital Industries the number of staff being entered into UOA35 in 2013 has increased by 50 percent while the number submitted in our UOA has remained constant. **Butler** covers the history of East London in his multi-media walking trails. **Daniels** makes documentary films that interrogate identity, memory and place. **Fisher** integrates interviews, critical reflections and digital music commissions in his Suffolk Coast audio-essay *On Vanishing Land*. **Goodman** produces bass driven electronic dance music that articulates and explores his research into the politics of frequency. These contributions are complemented by **Dave**'s materialist critique of film and **Vitali**'s analysis of the inter-connection between history, economics, technology and mise-en-scène in cinema. The Matrix East Research Lab (MERL), created to house media arts and creative practice, co-founded the Museum Integrated Digital Archiving Service. In 2013 the Moving Image Resource Centre (MIRC) replaced MERL to bring together practice and theory-based researchers from across ADI, http://www.uel.ac.uk/adi/news/news/archive/parallaxviews.htm. **Vitali** co-directs.

Our research on **cultural diversity and globalisation**, which dates back to the 1990s, has maintained its strength and visibility thanks to our rootedness in the local community and in international perspectives. Practitioner, theorist and CCSR member **Kempadoo** analyses multimedia practice and Caribbean culture while working as the first animateur of the Stuart Hall Library at the Institute of International Visual Arts (Iniva) in Shoreditch,

http://www.iniva.org/library/news/stuart_hall_library_animateur. Morey researches the post-9/11 depiction of Muslims as PI for 'Framing Muslims: Structures of Representation in Culture and Society Post 9/11' (AHRC International Research Network), Leadership Fellow for 'Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue' (RCUK Global Uncertainties programme), http://framingmuslims.org, and co-author of a book on the subject. Nava, first co-director of CCSR with Humm, has extended her research into women social scientists and race relations in postwar Britain, funded by the Reed Foundation (USA). CCSR is closely linked with the on-line post-race journal, darkmatter, whose founding editor is ADI colleague and CCSR co-director Ashwani Sharma,

http://www.darkmatter101.org/site/. The research centre has also collaborated with the Centre for Migration, Refugees & Belonging and the London East Research Institute, both contributing to UOA 23. As a mark of her international profile, **Kempadoo** was invited by Crossroads in Cultural Studies 2012 to co-convene three linked panels on the cartographies of decolonisation.

Our first strategic aim for 2014-19 is to continue the growth of our PhD programme by developing our work with the New London Graduate Consortium. Second, we will build on grant capture—including **Butler**'s Bethnal Green Disaster Memorial Project, http://www.raphael-samuel.org.uk/bethnal-green-disaster-memorial-project-0, **Hodgkin**'s Early Modern Memory and Subjectivity Research Network and **Morey**'s Global Uncertainties Leadership Fellowship, all ongoing—through additional bids to conduct research into East and South London electronic dance music culture (**Gilbert** and **Lawrence**), develop an oral history version of the Museum of London's Street Museum app (**Butler**) and review the introduction and development of product placement in European television systems (**Hardy**). Third, we will develop our globalisation and cultural diversity agenda through planned contributions to UEL's New India Centre. Fourth, we will reorient our work from Docklands towards the East End of London through use of the University's newly opened campus in Stratford, University Stratford Square. Finally, we will consolidate the successful regeneration that saw younger researchers be responsible for driving the UOA forward.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

We have responded to the retirement of a group of professors entered in RAE 2008 by nurturing three distinctive groups of researchers. International and world-leading researchers have been promoted to Professor (**Gilbert**, **Lawrence**, **Morey**, **Radstone**) and Reader (**Hardy**, **Hodgkin**, **Kempadoo**, **Vitali**). Thanks to sustained institutional backing, eight researchers are being entered



for the first time in REF 2014 (Butler, Carr, Daniels, Dave, Goodman, Hardy, Maddison, Morey). The regeneration of the cohort has been further supported by the inclusion of two ECRs (Fisher, Sosa), an improvement on our previous entry. With professors Humm and Nava guiding the regeneration, which includes all researchers submitted in UOA36, we have maintained the number of Category A staff entered (14.9 in 2008, 14.8 now). Hidden by the REF1 employment data, Humm and Nava took only short, unpaid periods of leave during 2008-13 and remained involved with CCSR throughout. We actively support the University's equality and diversity policy, with our cohort mixed in terms of ethnicity, sexuality and gender. Women, for example, account for six of our ten readers and professors. Our UOA selection process has followed the University's equal opportunities guidelines.

To develop UEL researchers across their careers our Researcher Development Programme offers a wide range of skills development workshops and on-line resources designed to meet the needs of research-active staff and postgraduate research students. This training curriculum uses the Vitae framework and is designed to help UEL meet the UK Concordats for researcher development and integrity. In addition to winning sabbatical leave support, we have benefited from the Undergraduate Research Internship scheme, which funds a student intern to contribute 200 hours of supervised paid research to a specified project (**Daniels**, **Hardy**, **Hodgkin**, **Lawrence**); the Research Development Fund scheme, which provides researchers with support to develop grant applications (**Gilbert** £1,830, **Lawrence** £2,980); and an early career accelerator grant (**Carr** £3,850). Additional support has been provided for the development of a website archive (**Lawrence** £2,000).

We have also benefited in significant ways from School support. With the exception of the new appointees, all of us have been awarded a sabbatical since 2008. The School has also waived the fees and granted four hours teaching relief per week to the four members of staff (including **Daniels**) who are completing their doctorates with UOA36 supervisors. Researchers in the School can apply for up to £500 per year for conference fees (including accommodation and travel), and £600 per publication for indexing and artwork costs, with £20,000 made available during 2012-13. In addition the School earmarked £50,000 to grant teaching relief for REF-focused staff, including **Gilbert** and **Lawrence**, and to support REF preparation, again during 2012-13.

The School's mentor scheme allocates experienced mentors to less experienced researchers (and in particular ECRs) to provide advice on research plans, grant and sabbatical applications, publishers and conference presentations. Researchers also set themselves targets during annual Staff Development Reviews and are encouraged to undertake training sessions in PhD supervision, research management, research bidding and maximising impact. The Research Development Support team, http://www.uel.ac.uk/research/reds/, provides researchers with detailed support on funding opportunities and applications. The University's annual research conference fosters a collegial atmosphere among staff across schools while providing an opportunity for all researchers to present their work.

The School and University foster exchanges between researchers and business, industry and public/third sector bodies through a number of initiatives. The business network CEWE facilitates connections between researchers and businesswomen. The Knowledge Dock provides local business with space, facilities and the opportunity to link with our expertise. Researchers who wish to ring fence time for their cultural practice and the development of small businesses are able to negotiate fractional contracts. For example, **Daniels** (0.5) runs the production company High Ground Films and **Goodman** (0.2) the record label Hyperdub. University-wide flexible working practices also allow staff to take parental leave when necessary.

ii. Research students

Thanks to our international reputation we have recruited students from Brazil, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Greece, Israel, Kenya, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Spain and Turkey as well as the UK since 2008, with approximately 70% of the cohort made up of women. We have also increased our number of successful PhD completions since RAE 2008 from 9.5 to 16, a notable development. Among our graduates, Branch is now a full-time researcher at UEL while others have found work in the universities of Columbia (USA), Institute of Education, Kingston, Lapland (Finland), Nottingham, Sheffield, Victoria (New Zealand) and Warwick. We are currently supervising 16 postgraduate students. Three are AHRC funded (Clements, Hawkins, McNally) and four hold UEL scholarships or fee bursaries (Campbell, Hakim, Popoola, Williams).



Ortega studied at UEL for a semester while completing her PhD at the University of Barcelona. We provide students with a dynamic and nurturing environment, delivering a programme of intellectually challenging seminars, some of which are run collaboratively with colleagues in sociology (UOA23). The offering is complemented by the Graduate School, which delivers workshops on topics such as research skills, networking and giving conference papers as well as core cross-disciplinary research themes. PhD students are encouraged to participate in the UOA's research culture, including Research Centre events. Pettit and Johansen became members of RSHC while Baker, Hakim and McNally have worked for CCSR. All students are invited to submit articles and progress reports to a PhD yearbook, *Crossing Conceptual Boundaries*, jointly published with students and staff in the School of Law and Social Sciences. They are also encouraged to participate in postgraduate research conferences, including the three organised by CCSR since 2008, and full research conferences, including CCSR's 'Radical Space' conference of 2013, where McNally presented.

Supervisory teams must have a minimum of two completed supervisions and are led by a senior researcher as Director of Studies, allowing less experienced colleagues to develop supervision skills. Doctoral students complete an electronic report following each supervisory session. All doctoral students are required to undertake an annual review chaired by experienced supervisors, who assess their progress and needs with reference to the supervisory reports along with a detailed Postgraduate Research Skills Development Plan, an initiative overseen by the Graduate School that encourages students to evaluate their learning needs and develop their research and communication skills in preparation for employment. PhD students enjoy exclusive access to a space equipped with 50 workstations plus an adjoining common room. A Research Degrees Leader (Hodgkin) and a dedicated administrator oversee the PhD provision. In addition to the support provided to students by their supervisory teams, the University and School offer a range of financial support schemes to students including full studentships, bursaries, fee-waivers and conference funding support.

In order to sustain its successful PhD provision, UEL joined the New London Graduate Consortium (NLGS), established in 2011, through which applications for AHRC funding are channeled. Bringing together UEL, Greenwich, LSBU and Middlesex, the Consortium was awarded an annual PhD studentship in Cultural Studies for the period 2011-14. Expanded to include Anglia Ruskin University, NLGS provides an exceptionally broad programme of shared events, seminars and training. It also provides PhD students with opportunities to take up placements with organisations in the cultural and creative industries such as Stratford Circus and Four Corners Film Workshop, which enhances their engagement with third sector bodies and offers career development opportunities.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Although funding bodies have faced cuts and competition for funds has increased, we have **more than doubled our HESA income from £153,178 in RAE 2008 to £388,461**. Successful awards include the AHRC International Research Network for 'Framing Muslims' (**Morey**, PI, £34,490); the AHRC Research Leave Scheme (**Lawrence** £26,258); the AHRC Research Network Scheme for 'Memory and Community in Early Modern Britain' (**Hodgkin**, PI, £9,099); the British Academy Overseas Conference Grants fund (**Kempadoo** £750); the Heritage Lottery Fund (**Butler** £11,704 for the 'Bethnal Green Disaster Memorial Project'); and the RCUK Global Uncertainties Leadership Fund for 'Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue' (**Morey**, PI, £55,127). The Reed Foundation (USA) provided **Nava** with £29,436 for her research into 'Ruth Landes and Race Relations Research in Postwar Britain'. The HESA figure excludes the final £23,333 awarded to **Butler** for the 'Ports of Call History Trail' project, the £800 awarded to **Humm** by the British Academy Overseas Conference Grants fund and the £27,264 awarded to **Radstone** for AHRC Research Leave, all between 1 January and 1 August 2008, as well as the £9,964 awarded to **Sosa** by British Academy International Partnership and Mobility Scheme in July 2013.

The UOA's record in **non-HESA grant capture** includes a number of notable achievements. Among them, **Butler** secured additional funds from the Royal Docks Trust (£5,464 and £8,050) and Newham Precious Places (£1,464); **Hardy** won grants for the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom (Open Society Institute £22,622, Unison £13,250); and **Lawrence** received c. £3,400 (€4,000) from Red Bull Music Academy for book artwork. While at QMU **Sosa** secured £45,000 from the Overseas Research Students Award Scheme and the Drama Department to



complete her doctorate along with £600 from the Society for Latin American Studies and £1,150 from the University of London Central Research Fund for fieldwork. **Carr** received awards of £2,000 from the Australian Bicentennial Fellowship, £426 from the Strathmartine Trust and £409 from the Scouloudi Foundation Historical Award. **Bodies that have made awards to cultural practice researchers** include Arts Council England (**Fisher** £9,000), Performing Rights Society (**Fisher** £3,000), filmdirecting4women (**Daniels** £4,000), rhizome.org (**Goodman** c. £2,000 [\$3,000]) and Sodium Productions (**Daniels**, £4,000).

Our HESA and non-HESA income therefore totals £575,657. This figure excludes the fees, travel and accommodation costs Fisher, Gilbert, Goodman, Humm, Kempadoo, Lawrence, Nava and Radstone have received for numerous national and international papers. For instance, the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia along with Griffiths, New South Wales and Wollongong Universities funded Nava's two-week lecture/workshop tour of Australia, April-May 2011. The figure also excludes the overall value of the large-scale interdisciplinary grants won individually by PIs Butler (£93,000), Hodgkin (£31,835) and Morey (£49,555 and £391,133) for their research projects, which totals £565,523. In this manner our grant capture contributes to the vitality of our UOA as well as colleagues employed by other universities. It is also sustainable inasmuch as these research projects extend to 2014 ('Memory and Community' and 'Bethnal Green Disaster') and 2015 ('Muslims, Trust'). As an example of our commitment to continue to increase our external grant capture, both HESA and non-HESA, Lawrence is PI with Gilbert co-investigator on a £672,251 AHRC bid to research electronic dance music culture in East and South London.

In 2010-11, the University created the new School of Arts and Digital Industries, which brought together strands of the old Schools of Humanities & Social Sciences and Architecture & Visual Arts. The new School has continued to provide research centres with an annual budget of £2,000 as well as a 0.4 administrative post for the Raphael Samuel History Centre. Research primarily takes place within the University's Docklands campus, short-listed for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Building of the Year in 1999. Key activity is also undertaken in association with numerous partners, many of them located in East London, including Bishopsgate Institute, Iniva, the Light, Museum of the Docklands, the New Empowering Church, Plastic People, Stratford Circus, the *Wire* and others. The UOA therefore works within a milieu that connects it to local organisations and East London's historic communities, many of which are internationally embedded.

The University's Docklands campus provides researchers with facilities (including a state-of-the-art conference centre) to stage events ranging from small-scale symposia to international conferences. UEL's Media Production Services have invested £790,000 in production facilities since 2008, enabling cultural practice researchers to develop their work on campus alongside the thriving practice-based cohorts that are submitting to UOAs 34 and 35. The Moving Image Research Centre has taken over MERL's media and technical facilities, sponsored by Sony UK and the Science Research Innovation Fund. Developed during 2007-12, its equipment includes a 15-screen facility and a state-of-the-art Hokusai Slim scanner system that has been used in work with the Science Museum, the National Maritime Museum and others.

Developing its infrastructure in Stratford in partnership with Birkbeck and Theatre Royal Stratford East, UEL opened a new multi-million pound, state-of-the-art Performing Arts and Media centre, University Stratford Square (USS), located in Stratford's thriving cultural quarter, in September 2013. The facility, the last major HEFCE-funded HEI building project, features multi-media recording/production rooms and specialist performance spaces that are supported by Mac labs, a technical store and administrative offices. RSHC has moved its office into the new building, having donated its archive to the Bishopsgate Institute. CCSR also held its three-day 'Radical Space' international conference there in October 2013.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

We have made a wide-ranging contribution to the discipline, with much of our work international in its scope. We have entered into **collaborative arrangements** and **partnerships** with organisations such as Birkbeck, Bishopsgate Institute, QMUL and the University of Notre Dame London Centre. We have participated in numerous **research networks**, including AtGender, the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education at the University of British Columbia, City Centre UCL, the Cultural Memory Network, the Centre for Transcultural Research and Media Practice, the



History and Policy Network, the History of Feminism Network Discussion Group, the In Search of Transcultural Memory in Europe network and the Media Reform Coalition. We have also played leading roles in the Critical Advertising and Media Network (**Hardy**, co-organiser), the Memory and Community in Early Modern Britain research network (**Hodgkin**, PI), Modernism Research Seminar and the Stuart Hall Library Research Network (**Kempadoo**, first animateur). Our involvement with **joint research projects**, many of them **interdisciplinary**, includes 'Framing Muslims' (**Morey**, PI), 'Irregular Migration in Times of Global Economic Crisis', 'Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue' (**Morey**, PI) and 'Women Film Pioneers'. These networks and projects have resulted in an array of collaborations with institutions such as the British Library, the Centre for Sociological Analysis and Intervention (France), Leiden University (Netherlands), Liverpool John Moores, Michigan State University (USA), Newcastle University, New York University (USA), Queens University Belfast, SOAS and the University of California, Irvine (USA).

We hold leading positions in professional subject associations and learned societies. ranging from Crossroads, for whom Gilbert sits on the executive committee, to the Virginia Woolf Society, for whom **Humm** sits as a judge for the annual essay prize. We also serve on a large number of advisory and editorial boards, including Body & Society, Cultural Studies, Dancecult, darkmatter, Debate Feminista, Feminist Theory, Interference: A Journal of Audio Culture, Journal of Commonwealth Literature, Journal of Consumer Culture, Memory Studies, Porn Studies, Revista Canaria. SineCine: Journal Film Studies. Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism and Speculative Realism. Our peer review engagements include the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Australian Research Council, the Austrian Science Fund, the British Academy, the Economic and Social Science Research Council, the European Science Fund, the Flanders Research Foundation, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Hong Kong Research Grants Council, the Leverhulme Trust, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and the Wellcome Trust. Our contribution is often sustained, so five of us—Hodgkin, Humm, Kempadoo, Morey and Nava—have contributed to the AHRC Peer Review College. With regard to HEI consultancy work, Nava served on the RAE 2008 Sub-panel 66. We also review applications for professorial and reader promotions, with Humm, for example, involved in six reviews since 2008, including for Auburn, Bowdoin College and Penn-State in the USA. Gilbert, Hardy, Humm, Lawrence, Radstone and Vitali have contributed to university research advisory panels, serving on UEL's Professorial and Readers Designatory Committee, Research Advisory Group and Research Committee, with Lawrence convenor of the Research Advisory Group on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor. Many of us have examined PhDs in the UK and abroad, including Gilbert. Hardy, Hodgkin, Humm, Kempadoo, Lawrence, Maddison, Morey, Nava, Radstone and Vitali.

Our contribution extends to a range of editorial positions. Of particular note, Butler is the editor of History Workshop Online, http://www.historyworkshop.org.uk, and Gilbert is the editor of New Formations, http://www.lwbooks.co.uk/journals/newformations/contents.html. In addition we have edited special issues of journals such as History Workshop Journal, Interventions: Journal of Postcolonial Studies and the Journal of Latin-American Cultural Studies, while Fisher works as a commissioning editor for Zero Books. We have edited and co-edited major collections within the field, including Advertising Handbook (Hardy), Culture, Diaspora, and Modernity in Muslim Writing (Morey), Edinburgh Companion to Virginia Woolf and the Arts (Humm), Memory: History, Theories, Debates (Radstone) and Truth, Dare or Promise: Art and Documentary Revisited (Daniels). Extending our involvement, we referee national and international publications and proposals on behalf of more than 60 journals and publishers, including Bloomsbury, Cambridge University Press, Cultural Studies, darkmatter, Deleuze Studies, Edinburgh University Press, Feminist Review, the History of Psychiatry, Indiana University Press, Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, the Journal of Consumer Culture, the Journal of Latin-American Cultural Studies, the Journal of Popular Music Studies, Journal of Postcolonial Writing, Memory Studies, Oxford University Press, Routledge and Theory, Culture & Society.

We have been prolific with regard to the organisation of **conferences and scholarly encounters**. CCSR's flourishing programme has included two international conferences ('Radical Foucault' and 'Radical Space'), eight one-day symposia (including 'After the Crunch: The End of Neoliberalism?', 'Future Sex' and 'The Hardcore Continuum') and a regular annual seminar series (including 'Culture & Polity', 'Debt, Work, Pain' and 'Musical, Politics, Agency'). Since 2008 CCSR has invited more than 200 outside speakers to participate in its events, including international scholars and critics such as Beatrix Campbell (independent scholar), Rosalind Gill (Kings College



London), David Graeber, (Goldsmiths College), Laurence Grossberg (University of North Carolina, USA), Beverly Skeggs (Goldsmiths College), Timothy Taylor (University of California, Los Angeles, USA) and Handel Kashope Wright (University of British Columbia). CSSR's an annual lecture series has featured international scholars Tariq Ali, Marshall Berman, Homi Bhabha, Jacqueline Rose and Richard Sennett.

RSHC, a second major hub for inter-institutional encounters, stages a full programme of workshops, film screenings, policy discussions and symposia, including 'Bad Kids: The Politics of Childhood Past and Present', 'History, Nation and the Schools', 'Madness in the System' and 'Queer Homes, Queer Families', with Juliet Gardiner, Alessandro Portelli and Jerry White among those who have given memorial lectures to commemorate Samuel since 2008. MIRC, www.uel.ac.uk/mirc, held the 'Parallax Views of Moving Image Practice' symposium in the summer of 2013 as the first of a series of interdisciplinary events presenting the work of artists, filmmakers and scholars. Nava co-organised the 'London, City of Paradox' conference with colleagues from UOA23. We have also joined with other universities to organise events, seminar series and symposia, including the 'Cultural Memory' seminar (with Goldsmiths and Birkbeck), the 'Mapping the Life and Legacy of Arthur Russell' conference (with NYU and Bloomfield College, USA), the 'Memory Up Close' symposium (with seven Australian universities), the Modernism Research Seminar (with Birkbeck, Goldsmiths, Kent, QMU and Royal Holloway), the 'Society Culture and Belief 1500-1800' seminar (with Birkbeck and Kings College London) and the 'Staging the Future: Argentine Films in Dialogue' (with the Institute for the Study of the Americas). Initiating dialogues, encounters and collaborations, these and other collaborations have contributed to the discipline.

Our work has been **recognised in scholarly and other settings**. **Daniels** won Best Direction for *Not Reconciled* at the Brussels Documentary Film Festival (2010), Best Documentary for *Small Town Girl* at the Los Angeles British Film Festival (2009) and London's filmdirecting4women (2010). **Humm**'s *The Edinburgh Companion to Virginia Woolf and the Arts* was 'highly commended' for the Wheatley Indexing Medal (2011). **Lawrence**'s *Hold On to Your Dreams* was included in the Village Voice Best Books of the Year list of 2009. **Sosa** received the Most Distinguished PhD Thesis of 2012 award by the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland plus the Spanish Embassy. We have also had our work re-printed in collections on *DJ Culture in the Mix* (**Lawrence**, Bloomsbury Academic, 2013), *Electronica, Dance and Club Music* (**Lawrence**, Ashgate, 2012), *Genre in Asian Film and Television* (**Vitali**, Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), *Il Porno Espanso dal Cinema ai Nuovi Media* (**Maddison**, Memesis, 2011), *Interrogating Trauma* (**Radstone**, Routledge, 2011), *Transcultural Memory* (**Radstone**, Routledge 2013) and *What Can a Body Do?* (**Maddison**, Campus Verlag, 2012).

An important index of our influence and reach, we have been invited to give more than 230 invited keynotes and papers. These have taken place in UK universities such as Aberdeen, Durham, Goldsmiths College, Kings College London, Leeds, New College Oxford, Nottingham, Ruskin College, UCL, Wales, Warwick and York as well as 27 different countries, including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Mali, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago and the USA. Our engagement with these countries, where we have given half of our invited lectures, is by no means fleeting; in the USA alone we have given 16 such talks. As a mark of our international influence, **Gilbert**, **Kempadoo** and **Nava** were invited to represent British Cultural Studies at the Advanced Cultural Studies Institute of Sweden (ACSIS) 'Issues in European Cultural Studies Conference' (2011).

The award of **visiting fellowships and professorships** to our UOA offers further evidence of our sustained international influence. During 2013 alone, **Carr** held the Australian Bicentennial Fellowship at the University of Sydney (Australia), **Nava** worked as Visiting Professor in Cultural Studies at University of the Applied Arts, Vienna (Austria), and **Radstone** holds senior honorary fellowships at the Australian National University and the University of Melbourne. In addition, we have hosted Handel Kashope Wright (University of British Columbia, Canada) as visiting professor and Carlos Palombini (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil) as visiting fellow, both in CCSR. Since 2008 our single-authored books have also been translated into Croatian, Czech, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish and Turkish. Taken in combination, our contribution to the discipline has therefore expanded its international reach while maintaining its deep connection with East London.