

<p>Institution: University of Aberdeen</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: English Language and Literature</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>The English unit in the University of Aberdeen comprises English Literature, Creative Writing, and Language and Linguistics (a separate programme), and is part of the School of Language and Literature, a single administrative entity which includes Modern Languages, Film and Visual Culture, and Literature in a World Context. The School is one of six in the College of Arts and Social Sciences, which also contains the Centre for Modern Thought, the Elphinstone Institute (for ethnographic research, including literary) and the Research Institute of Irish and Scottish Studies, whose Director (Craig) currently serves as Head of School. Staff research in English is led by a Research Coordinator (Duff), working with the School's Director of Research (Schell, Modern Languages). Postgraduate teaching and research are administered at School level and through the College's Graduate School, which oversees PG recruitment, arranges block grant partnerships and awards scholarships. Two members of staff (O'Connor, returned with Modern Languages, and Wills) hold joint appointments with other schools; others contribute to interdisciplinary programmes in the School or College, or to cross-College programmes such as Medical Humanities. Of the 24 staff in English, eight have been appointed since 2008 (five since 2012), altering the demography of the unit: seven of the appointments were at lecturer level, while five senior staff retired or left in the same period. With a large new cohort of early career researchers, a stable core of mid-career staff whose research profile has matured in this cycle, and five established or recently promoted professors, the English unit has a strong and sustainable research base, reflected in its publications, postgraduate numbers, record of grant capture and other performance indicators detailed below. With two exceptions (both ECR), all eligible staff in the unit have been submitted.</p> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>The assessment period saw the completion of two large-scale editorial projects which have been central to the research of the unit and featured prominently in previous RAE submissions, the Edinburgh Edition of the Waverley Novels (30 volumes, 1993-2012) and the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jane Austen (9 volumes, 2005-9). The challenge of maintaining the high profile, strong funding record and healthy postgraduate recruitment associated with the editions, and of carrying forward the accumulated expertise in scholarly editing, has been met in various ways: by the development of other editorial projects; publication of critical work that draws on the editions and the research that underpinned them; cultivation of the impact of the editions beyond academia; and other research which develops the unit's expertise in this historical field. Research centres have played a vital role in this process. Most of the key areas in which the unit's research is concentrated – early modern literature, Romanticism, the nineteenth-century novel, Scottish and Irish studies, and linguistics – have one or more research centres devoted partly or wholly to them, providing a catalyst for new projects and funding applications, and making possible an ambitious programme of conferences, symposia, visiting lectures, public readings and other forms of dissemination and public engagement. Given the strategic importance of the centres, the research achievements and future plans of the unit are defined below partly in relation to them, though inevitably many outputs have been the autonomous work of individual scholars.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarly Editing <p>The publication of <i>Woodstock</i> (2009) and five other volumes since 2008 brought to completion the Edinburgh Waverley edition (general editors Hewitt, Alexander and Lumsden), which has provided a focus for textual research and Scottish literary studies at Aberdeen for over twenty years. The expertise of the editorial team will now be carried forward into a 10 volume Edinburgh Edition of Scott's Poetry, with Lumsden as lead editor. A pilot project was supported by grants from the British Academy (£7.5k) and Carnegie Trust (£35.8k), with the first volumes expected in 2015. Lumsden's monograph <i>Walter Scott and the Limits of Language</i> (2010) fulfils a second strategic aim of the unit, of producing critical work which develops the insights of the edition. Jones too has published Scott criticism, building on her 2003 monograph, as has Craig as part of his broader work on Scottish literary and intellectual traditions, and Baker in his exploration of the sources of modern Scottish gothic. Three former PhD students (one currently a Teaching Fellow at Aberdeen)</p>

have published on Scott and his literary circle since 2008, and four other Scott PhD projects are underway. The Walter Scott Research Centre has hosted four workshops and symposia on textual editing since 2008, and in 2014 Aberdeen will host the 10th International Scott Conference. Under the theme *Activating the Archive*, the conference will explore the richness of the Bernard C. Lloyd Collection, purchased for the University in 2002 with National Heritage Lottery funding and now housed in the Special Collections of the new Library.

The Cambridge Austen edition was completed in 2009 with Todd and Bree's edition of the *Later Manuscripts*, since republished in paperback with the juvenilia by Broadview Press. The impact of the edition has been felt both in specialist fields and in Austen's broader reception, and Todd's *Cambridge Companion to Pride and Prejudice* (2013) is one of her many publications which build on its findings. The symbiosis of the Scott and Austen editions was reflected in the creation in 2006 of the Centre for the Novel, which helped to secure Aberdeen's reputation as an international centre for textual editing. **Crotty's** hugely successful *Penguin Book of Irish Poetry* (2010), described in an impact case study, is one fruit of the unit's broader editorial enterprise. Other scholarly editions in preparation include **Crotty's Complete Collected Poems of Hugh Macdiarmid** (3 volumes, from 2014); **Wills's** co-editing of the multi-volume *Skaldic Poetry of the Scandinavian Middle Ages* (2014-), of whose accompanying online database he is sole editor; Schlicke's (a former staff member still active in the unit) *Sketches by Boz* for the Clarendon Dickens (2015); **Hutchison's** edition of *The Turn of the Screw and Other Tales* for the Cambridge Edition of Henry James (2016); and **Duff's Oxford Anthology of Romanticism** (2015), a major new teaching anthology. The appointment of **Wheatley** brought fresh editorial expertise, his Beckett *Selected Poems 1930-1989* (2009) being the first annotated edition of the author's poetry. Research by early modern staff on textual transmission, notably **Elliott's** work on the history of the Bannatyne manuscript, represents another strand of editorial inquiry.

- **Centre for the Novel**

The Centre for the Novel, under its new director **Hutchison**, continues to be a focus for both research and public engagement, and to form a bridge between critical/editorial work and creative writing. Besides scholarly editions, publications by affiliated staff include **Baker's** *George Mackay Brown and the Philosophy of Community* (2009) and essays on Compton Mackenzie (2010) and James Leslie Mitchell (2012); **Hutchinson's** articles on Mary Borden and Henry James, and a *Brief Lives* biography of James (2012); **Craig's** survey of 'Scottish Fiction' for *The Oxford History of The Novel* (2011); and theoretical studies of Joyce, Beckett and Jean-Luc Nancy by **Janus**. The appointment of Lewis in 2011 added expertise in mid-Victorian fiction, a long-standing strategic need: her essay on trauma in *Wuthering Heights* (2010) is part of a book-length project informed by recent work in Medical Humanities. **Jones's** work on the transatlantic writer-physician Benjamin Rush (2014) explores an earlier phase of connection between medicine and literature. The Centre's strategy of linking criticism and creative writing is illustrated by the annual Centre for the Novel Lecture, which has featured major writers and broadcasters such as Michèle Roberts (2009), Janice Galloway (2010), Sophie Hannah (2011) and James Naughtie (2012). In 2010 a link-up with Aberdeen's WORD Festival made possible a three-day visit by Margaret Atwood, which attracted audiences of 700, and local media coverage, at two keynote public readings. An international conference in 2008 on 'The Novel and its Borders' attracted over 300 delegates, generating a surplus which subsequently part-funded three PhD studentships. The Dickens Programme (2012), described in the impact template, combined academic events with screenings and public performances, and featured an exhibition of rare Dickens material in the new Library. Staffing considerations necessitated the merger in 2013 of the MLitt in the Novel with the general MLitt in English Literary Studies, but postgraduate courses in the novel continue to feature in the programme, often leading to PhD recruitment.

- **Romanticism**

Besides its work on Scott and the Romantic novel, the unit has significant strengths in other areas of Romanticism. **Duff's** *Romanticism and the Uses of Genre* (2009) is acknowledged as the most comprehensive study of Romantic poetry for many years and won an international prize. His *Oxford Handbook of British Romanticism* (2014) is a major critical mapping of the field, with 50 commissioned essays by international scholars, designed to complement his *Oxford Anthology of Romanticism* (2015). **Jones's** *Literature and Music in the Atlantic World, 1767-1867* (2014) is an

interdisciplinary, comparative study which will provide the first detailed account of the interweaving of musical and literary forms in this phase of transatlantic history. Three of her essays submitted for assessment belong to this project. **Craig's** *Intending Scotland: Explorations in Scottish Culture since the Enlightenment* (2009) is another major work of cultural and intellectual history which sheds new light on Romanticism; a future project will chart the history of Scottish philosophy in the Anglophone world. Other planned publications includes **Duff's** monograph on the genre of the 'prospectus' and **Jones's** on C18th and C19th writer-physicians.

- **Research Institute of Irish and Scottish Studies (RIISS)**

From 2000 to 2010 RIISS was host to two five-year phases of the AHRC Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies (£800k and £1.3m), for both of which it was peer-reviewed as 'outstanding'. It subsequently acquired a substantial legacy (£400k) which, together with its annual funding from the University, will secure its future activity until 2020. As part of its strategic plan, it has established an international network of research centres, the International Research Consortium for Irish and Scottish Studies, which holds major conferences every two to three years (2008 Wellington; 2010 Toronto and Guelph; 2013 Simon Fraser University). Its large publishing portfolio includes the *Journal of Irish and Scottish Studies*, the *Journal of Scottish Thought*, the creative writing magazine *Causeway/Cabhsair*, selected papers from the postgraduate *Crosscurrents* conferences, and books relating to its research activities, among them **Alcobia-Murphy's** *Medbh McGuckian* (2012), in the series *Aberdeen Introductions to Irish and Scottish Studies*, and three new works by Scottish migrant author Kenneth White, formerly professor of Modern Poetics at the Sorbonne. RIISS research on the Scottish diaspora has produced major book chapters by **Craig** in MacKenzie and Devine (eds), *Scotland and the British Empire* (2011) and Varricchio (ed.), *Back to Caledonia* (2012), and essays by **Craig, Crotty** and **Wheatley** in MacKay, Longley and Brearton (eds), *Modern Irish and Scottish Poetry* (2011). **Crotty's** work as an Associate Editor of the *Oxford Companion to English Literature* (7th edition, 2009) included writing or rewriting c.250 entries on Scottish, Irish and Welsh writers. Staff associated with the Institute from History (Bartlett) have developed a major research project on Scotland and Ireland in the First World War, in collaboration with Queen's University Belfast, which will have a significant literary dimension, incorporating the work of **Hutchison** on WW1 writing, as will a project on 'Mental Health in Migrant Communities' (Harper, History), undertaken in conjunction with Otago University in New Zealand. This will include work by **Crotty** and **Craig** on writers in the Scottish and Irish diaspora. Linguistic work undertaken by RIISS is noted below.

- **Centre for Early Modern Studies**

Two appointments in 2012-3 brought to five the researchers working in pre-1700 literature. All are members of the Centre for Early Modern Studies, co-directed by Friedrich (History) and **Gordon**, who convenes the Centre's Research Seminar and instituted an annual Manuscripts and the Material Text Lecture; he also organised a symposium on 'Acts of Writing' in 2013 and other events related to his research on correspondence and manuscript circulation networks. **Gordon's** *Writing Early Modern London: Memory, Text and Community* (2013) interprets both print and manuscript representations of urban life through the transformations of communal memory. Memory is also central to **Rist's** *Revenge Tragedy and the Drama of Commemoration in Reforming England* (2008), which explores links between religious and theatrical practices in wake of the Reformation, and to **Elliott's** comparative study *Remembering Boethius: Writing Aristocratic Identity in Late Medieval French and English Literature* (2012). **Gordon** and **Rist's** co-edited volume *The Arts of Remembrance in Early Modern England* (2013) is a further contribution to this thriving interdisciplinary field. **Pugh's** work explores rhetorical communities via another kind of networking, intertextuality, concentrating on classical citation and its political resonances, the subject of her *Herrick, Fanshawe, and the Politics of Intertextuality: Classical Literature and Seventeenth-Century Royalism* (2010) and shorter studies of Spenser, Marlowe and Gascoigne. **Lynch's** *Milton and the Politics of Public Speech: Poetry, Oratory and Polemic in the Seventeenth Century* (2014) combines intertextual analysis with an Arendtian methodology to link *Samson Agonistes* with rhetorical constructions of community rooted in the Greek *polis*. While adding a new comparative strand to existing research clusters, the appointment of **Elliott** also fulfils a strategic need of the programme by providing supervisory expertise in medieval and early Scottish literature.

- **Creative Writing**

The unit's strategic plan to expand creative writing was fulfilled by the appointment in 2013 of **Wheatley**, a well-established poet and translator with scholarly interests in modern Irish and Scottish writing, and **Lynch**, a writer of fiction and early modern scholar. The fact that both have expertise in academic fields as well as creative writing makes possible a further harmonisation of these disciplines, another strategic aim. **Wheatley's** publications since 2008 include three books of poetry and three collaborative volumes, as well as many essays and reviews. His publishing and broadcasting experience will strengthen a creative writing team keenly attentive to public engagement, as shown by the highly successful WORD Festival, hosted annually at Aberdeen under the direction of **Spence**. The importance of WORD to the unit's research environment and impact strategy is detailed elsewhere. **Lynch's** award-winning first collection, *The Elephant and the Polish Question* (2009), was launched at the Festival, and she won Creative Scotland funding (£10k) to complete a second collection, due in 2014. **Spence's** latest novel *Night Boat* (2013), research for which was also funded by Creative Scotland (£4.5k), will be followed by a new short story collection in 2014. The critical success of **Price's** first story collection, *Furnace* (2012), long-listed for the prestigious Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award, follows a series of prizes for individual stories and poems. With its additional staff, the creative writing programme is expanding at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, and developing new research collaborations and outreach activities with local, national and international strands.

- **Linguistics**

In three key replacement appointments, Barras reinforced existing strengths in sociolinguistics and dialectology, while **Skrzypek** brought expertise in second language acquisition and cognitive linguistics, and **Edelstein** in theoretical syntax. Senior members of the unit have attracted significant external funding: **Fennell's** work in this period has centred on her collaborative research project, 'Language and Linguistic Evidence in the 1641 Depositions', funded by a grant of £334k from the AHRC; **Millar's** 'Fisher speak' project, about dialect death in the fishing communities of the East Coast, won AHRC funding (£250k) in the previous RAE cycle, but much of the research has been done since 2008, with outputs starting to appear in 2013 and a monograph due in 2014. Millar's other publications include two books on historical sociolinguistics, *English Historical Sociolinguistics* (2012) and *Authority and Identity: A Sociolinguistic History of Europe before the Modern Age* (2010). Conferences hosted by the group include the British Association for Applied Linguistics annual conference (2010), the Forum for Research on the Languages of Scotland and Ulster triennial conference (2012), a two-day research dissemination conference on the 1641 Depositions, and a series of one-day interdisciplinary workshops on e-supported research. Despite its small size, the group runs two successful MLitt programmes and has supervised more than 12 completed PhDs in this period.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Staff research is supported in various ways at University, College and School levels. The University has a dedicated Researcher Development Unit (RDU) providing a programme of professional development opportunities for researchers, irrespective of level or discipline. These range from induction courses for new appointees, professional accreditation via the Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (**Baker**, 2011), to an International Leadership Development Programme, with training by external consultants and visits to leading universities in Hong Kong and the USA, which **Duff**, **Fennell** and **Lumsden** completed in 2013. All activities are aligned with the national Researcher Development Framework (www.vitae.ac.uk/rdf) to demonstrate progression across phases of a career. The RDU also supports researcher-led and co-development initiatives through the Researcher Development enabling fund. The University was awarded a bronze Athena Swan Award for its supportive environment for female researchers, and has achieved Investors in People (IiP) status across the institution.

The Principal's Excellence Fund and Interdisciplinary Fund, available to staff at all levels, have been particularly useful in providing early career researchers with small pump-priming awards. Additional support is available from Continuing Professional Development Services, which part-funded the Centre for the Novel's 'Novel Approaches' symposium in 2012, delivered by **Hutchison** and colleagues to 30 local school teachers; positive feedback meant this was repeated in 2013.

English staff regularly attend workshops offered by the RDU and CPD Services, which are organised for both early career and senior researchers. The University's Research and Innovation Office actively encourages academic staff to apply for external research funding by continually updating information on funding opportunities on its website and via email circulars, organising workshops on how to prepare applications, and working closely with academics to ensure proposals are accurately costed. In 2012 the Directorate of Information Technology introduced a new research support infrastructure to advise on IT elements in external funding bids, including in arts and humanities. Visits from representatives of funding bodies such as the AHRC, Leverhulme, Wellcome and the European Framework are always well attended. The School Research Committee organises its own information sessions and application-writing workshops, led by staff with a successful track record in obtaining external funding. Research centres also play an important role in initiating and developing proposals, as illustrated by the success of **Craig's** and **Fennell's** AHRC bids and, pending, **Alcobia-Murphy's** 'Trauma and Contemporary Irish Culture' application, part of the Phase 3 RISS funding bid.

College budgets for research are devolved to schools. The School Research Committee allocates funding to research centres, conferences and visiting speaker programmes, and a sub-committee assigns funds for individual research travel and conference attendance. To encourage a culture of bidding for external funding, evidence of simultaneous application to outside funding bodies is required. For external funding applications, the School operates a peer review policy: all major applications are reviewed by two members of the Research Committee prior to submission to ensure bids going forward are of the highest quality. The School has a Research Ethics Officer (**Hutchison**), who ensures applications comply with the University's Research Ethics Policy.

The School Research Committee oversees a self-funded internal research leave rota, providing all research-active staff with one semester's leave every 3 years. To be eligible, staff are required to present a viable programme of research and are encouraged wherever possible to have their internal leave be contiguous with externally funded research leave. New appointees are given restricted teaching loads during their first 3 years (starting at 100 contact hours per year), and are assigned a mentor with whom they organise a development plan, with agreed milestones in research and publication. The probation period (usually 3 years) counts towards research leave entitlement, meaning that early career staff normally receive a full semester's research leave in the year after completing probation.

Besides the formal mentoring system for probationers, the School encourages peer mentoring on an informal basis for post-probationary staff. These mechanisms are separate from (but necessarily overlap with) the formal appraisal system within the University, in which all staff participate. Most senior staff within the School act as appraisers, with the Head of School appraised by the Head of College. One of the purposes of appraisal is to identify appropriate staff development and research training opportunities; another is to advise on promotion and career progression. Equality and diversity is embedded in all institutional policies and procedures: training on equality and diversity legislation and on the university's R&D policy is compulsory for all staff who sit on selection or promotion panels, or are involved in the REF selection process.

The fortnightly English Research Seminar (convened by **Duff**) provides an opportunity for staff to discuss work in progress, alternating internal and external speakers. Similar forums exist in the research centres, which work together by cross-advertising events and often co-hosting outside speakers to maximise audiences and encourage interdisciplinary engagement.

ii. Research students

All research postgraduates are provided with shared offices and their own fully networked PC. After the first year they are normally offered undergraduate teaching, which is seen as an important way of integrating them into the intellectual life of the School as well as giving valuable professional experience. The School has its own monthly Postgraduate Research Forum, while the College's increasingly high-profile international Postgraduate Conference, 'Moving Forward', has become a popular event in the annual calendar, in which students from English have played a prominent role.

The College Graduate School offers a robust postgraduate training programme for all students in the College. All PhD students attend an induction course covering research methodology, bibliographical searches and academic writing, and this initial training is complemented by a series of University-wide workshops and training courses based on RCUK guidelines and the QAA Code of Practice. The Graduate School supports corresponding training of new and experienced

supervisors, and expects that refresher training is undertaken every 5 years. All postgraduates attend annual monitoring meetings with a panel of senior academics in the School, who provide a report on their research progress to the School's Postgraduate Committee. PhD students in years 2 and 3 have to deliver a paper at an annual PhD presentation event, open to all staff and students within the School, as part of their ongoing professional training and development. A Postgraduate Monitoring Framework explains what is expected at each stage of the PhD, and a written Code of Practice details the reciprocal responsibilities of students and supervisors.

The School's Postgraduate Committee publicises PGT and PGR opportunities for assisting students with external funding applications, oversees the taught MLitts, and encourages as many MLitt students as possible to progress to doctoral research. The School has developed a number of taught postgraduate degrees aimed at boosting PG numbers. The MLitts in the Novel and in English Literary Studies (merged in 2013 for staffing reasons) both attract high-quality students and have a good conversion rate to PhD (25% in 2010-11). Other programmes with good conversion rates are the MLitt in Irish and Scottish Studies and MLitt in English Linguistics for Advanced Teachers of English; a new MLitt in Professional Communication was added in 2013. Overall PGR numbers in English (counted with Film) doubled between 2005 and 2011, from 32.1 FTE to 60.23; completed PhDs in English rose from five in 2011 to eleven in 2013. English was awarded three fully-funded studentships through the AHRC Block Grant Partnership, and has also been successful in attracting College postgraduate funding. College awards are offered on a competitive basis, ranging from bursaries covering fees to fully-funded scholarships. For research travel and conferences, postgraduates can apply to the School's Research Travel Sub-Committee, which ring-fences money for this purpose.

As in other areas of the research environment, research centres play a key role in supporting postgraduates. Postgraduate students across the College working in the field of Scottish and Irish studies organise an annual interdisciplinary conference – the 'Crosscurrents' series – in conjunction with other members of the Irish-Scottish Academic Initiative. This is funded by RISS and the proceedings are published by the AHRC Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies. Students attached to the Centre for Early Modern Studies can apply for funding to attend the annual postgraduate conference at the Newberry Library in Chicago: several have done so and subsequently had essays published in the conference proceedings. Students affiliated to the Walter Scott Research Centre have opportunities to work as paid research assistants on editorial projects. Two were awarded a national prize, the Ross Roy Medal, in successive years for the best PhD in Scottish literature submitted to a Scottish university (McIntosh 2009 and Newsome 2010).

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The University Library contains well over a million books and manuscripts, including a world-class collection of C18th and C19th fiction (dating from the time the University was a copyright deposit library), enhanced by the acquisition in 2002 of the Bernard C. Lloyd collection of Walter Scott material. The Library also has significant incunabula and early-modern holdings, as well as important collections in other periods. In 2011, the University opened its new £57m Sir Duncan Rice Library building, which features state-of-the art IT and research facilities, dedicated exhibition spaces, a Special Collections area with its own seminar room, and a variety of other meeting rooms on each of the seven floors. The quality and flexibility of the accommodation have made possible new forms of interaction, for example seminars with rare books and manuscripts in situ, and interactive public exhibitions. Many workshops, seminars and visiting speaker events are now held in the new Library, making this the hub of humanities research in the University and attracting new audiences. Aberdeen has invested heavily in subscriptions to online e-journals and bibliographical databases such as the MLA Bibliography, LION and JSTOR. Library budgets are devolved to individual disciplines, and in addition to the basic allocation, extra funds are routinely made available for new research projects, or to support the needs of newly appointed staff.

In terms of external research income, major successes during the assessment period include Phase 2 funding of £1.3m awarded to the AHRC Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies, directed by **Craig**, in 2006-10 (rated 'outstanding' in a final peer review), **Fennell's** 2010-11 AHRC award of £334k for the collaborative 'Language and Linguistic Evidence in the 1641 Depositions' project, in the Digital Equipment and Database for Impact Call, and **Lumsden's** award of £35.9k from the Carnegie Trust (2011) for her pilot project for the Edinburgh Edition of Scott's poetry. **Fennell's** work builds on the original 1641 Depositions digitization project supported by the AHRC and the

Environment template (REF5)

Irish IRCHSS, with backing from the Research Institute of Irish and Scottish Studies. RISS is the ongoing beneficiary of monies from the Glucksman family to support the Glucksman Chair in Irish and Scottish Studies, and was also the beneficiary of the Margaret Jones legacy of £400k+ (final amount uncertain because some of it is held in shares). In 2013 English Literature received a bequest of £200k from the Ledingham family to support PhD students.

Smaller awards include Carnegie Trust grants won by **Jones** (2008, 2012), **Duff** (2009, 2010, 2013), **Hutchison** (2012), and **Lynch** (2013); British Academy grants awarded to **Lumsden** (£7.5k, 2011-12) and **Hutchison** (2008); **Jones's** Wellcome Trust conference grant (£10k, 2013); and an AHRC Training Award and British Fund for Women Graduates Award won by Lewis. External funding in creative writing includes **Lynch's** Writers Bursary of £10k from Creative Scotland (2011), **Spence's** Professional Development Award of £4.5k from the same source (2011) and **Price's** New Writer Award of £2k (2010-11). In his previous post, **Wheatley** won two writing bursaries from the Arts Council of Ireland/ An Chomhairle Ealaion (2008, 2012, total €18k).

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Collaborative and individual research are granted equal priority by the unit and have both been well received. The success of the Edinburgh Waverley and Cambridge Austen editions illustrate the strong record in collaborative research: both have been extensively reviewed and cited (Hewitt, **Lumsden**, Todd). Individual achievements have also been recognised: **Duff's** *Romanticism and the Uses of Genre* won the 2010 ESSE Book Award for Literatures in the English Language; **Edelstein** was joint-winner of the 2013 Hogg Prize of the International Society for the Linguistics of English. Prizes for creative writing include **Wheatley's** Vincent Buckley Poetry Prize (2008), **Lynch's** Bluechrome Short Story Award (2009) and joint-winning of the Tonto Prize for Short Fiction (2009), and several prestigious awards for **Price**, among them 1st place in the Poetry on the Lake International Open Competition (2012) and 2nd place in the Bridport International Short Story Awards (2010) and the William Trevor/Elizabeth Bowen Short Story Awards (2012). Lewis was a finalist in the BBC/AHRC New Generation Thinkers Competition in 2012.

Aside from large-scale editing projects, academic collaboration is pursued through research centres and research networks, and through symposia and conferences. To extend the work of RISS, **Craig** founded the Research Consortium for Irish and Scottish Studies, with members in New Zealand, Canada, Ireland, Australia and the USA. The Centre for Novel forged links with the Stanford Center for the Study of the Novel, whose former director Margaret Cohen visited Aberdeen in 2009. **Gordon** established the Early Modern Studies in Scotland Seminar with funding from the Society for Renaissance Studies and developed the international 'Cultures of Correspondence' project (2010-11), co-hosted with Plymouth (70 participants over two meetings). The Centre for Early Modern Studies is a member of the Chicago-based Newberry Library Consortium, from which **Gordon**, **Lynch** and others have benefitted. **Jones** is a named collaborator in the Scottish Medical Humanities Research Network, which is supported by a grant from the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Major international conferences hosted at Aberdeen include the 'Borders of the Novel' conference in 2008 (lead organiser Todd, 300 delegates), the British Association for Applied Linguistics conference in 2010 (**Millar**, 250 delegates), the Sixth Skaldic Symposium in 2010 (**Wills**), and the Association for Medical Humanities conference in 2013 (**Jones**, 114 delegates), supported by a £10k conference grant from the Wellcome Trust. In 2014, Aberdeen will host the Henry James Society International Conference (**Hutchison**) and the International Scott Conference (**Lumsden**).

Many staff play prominent roles in national subject associations or serve on influential advisory panels. **Duff** is Chair of the Council for College and University English (2011-14, previously Secretary 2009-11), sits on the Higher Education Committee of the English Association and is a member of the Common English Forum. In 2012 he was elected Fellow of the English Association. **Craig** is a Council Member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (2009-12) and of the British Academy, and an Honorary Fellow of the Association of Scottish Literary Studies. He was previously appointed OBE for services to literature and education, a distinction also awarded to Todd in the 2013 New Year's Honours. **Alcobia-Murphy** is the elected UK representative of the European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies. **Gordon** sits on the Council of the Renaissance Society of America. **Jones** is former Vice-President of the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society (2009-12) and a Council Member of the Association for Medical Humanities (2012-15). Lewis is a Committee Member of the British Association for Victorian Studies and edits the *BAVS Newsletter*. **Hutchison** is currently Vice-President of the Henry James

Society and has been elected President from 2014. **Crotty** sits on the Academic Advisory Board of the Yeats Society and was previously on the Advisory Board of the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry at Queen's University Belfast. **Janus** has an organisational role in the Scottish Network of Modernist Studies. **Fennell** is Chair of the Language, Linguistics and Area Studies Advisory Board, a member of the Universities Committee on Modern Languages, Scotland, and Chair of the national THiNK network. **Lumsden** is outgoing Chair of the Universities Committee for Scottish Literature. **Millar** is Chair of the Forum for Research on the Languages of Scotland. **Wills** is a member of the Council of the Viking Society for Northern Research.

Publishing consultancy is another area in which staff are active. **Gordon** serves on the Advisory Board of Ashgate's 'Material Cultures' series; **Duff**, of Edinburgh UP's 'Edinburgh Studies in Romanticism' series; **Lumsden**, of the Oxford Burns, the Walter Scott Minstrelsy Project and the *New Edinburgh Edition of the Works of Robert Louis Stevenson*. **Millar** is series editor of the *Publications of the Forum for Research on the Languages of Scotland and Ulster*. **Hutchison** is on the International Advisory Board of the Cambridge Henry James. Staff read proposals and manuscripts for a wide range of publishers, including Cambridge UP, Oxford UP, Manchester UP, Edinburgh UP, U of Wales P, Palgrave Macmillan, Ashgate, Wiley Blackwell, Johns Benjamins, Cambridge Scholars, Routledge and Norton.

Many staff are closely involved with journals, as editors or in advisory roles. **Craig** edits the *Journal of Irish and Scottish Studies* and the *Journal of Scottish Thought*; **Millar**, *Scottish Language*; **Elliott**, the *Journal of the Northern Renaissance*; and Wheatley, *Metre*. **Pugh** is a Contributing Editor to the *Spenser Review*. **Gordon** serves on the Editorial Board of *Literary London*; **Lumsden**, of *Studies in Scottish Literature*; **Millar**, of *English World-Wide*; and **Duff**, of the *European Journal of English Studies*.

In addition, almost all staff either review for journals or act as peer reviewers for journal submissions. Examples include **Crotty** and **Wheatley**, regularly poetry reviewers for the *Times Literary Supplement* (and, in Wheatley's case, the *Guardian*); **Rist**, a referee for *Early Modern Literary Studies*, *Early Theatre*, *Shakespeare Studies*, and *Renaissance Drama*; **Baker**, for *M/C Journal*, *Christianity and Literature*, *Mortality*, *Religion and Literature*, *International Review of Scottish Studies*, *Scottish Literary Review*; and **Alcobia-Murphy**, for *Irish University Review*. This is a small selection from over fifty journals and other periodicals.

Plenaries and invited papers at international conferences and seminars include: **Craig** (Wellington 2008, Princeton 2011, Toronto 2012, Guelph 2012, Simon Fraser, 2013); **Duff** (Harvard 2009, Munich 2011, Freiburg 2011, Istanbul 2012, Verona 2012, Prague 2013); **Wheatley** (Trieste 2011, Halifax, Nova Scotia 2011); **Fennell** (Wuhan 2009, Taiwan 2009); **Lumsden** (Wyoming 2011, Paris 2012); **Janus** (Cork 2010, Reims 2012); **Jones** (Galway 2008, New York 2010); **Wills** (Sydney 2008, 2011, Bonn 2012); **Elliott** (Padova 2012); **Alcobia-Murphy** (Leuven 2012); **Millar** (Flensburg 2009); **Spence** (Tokyo 2012); **Baker** (Minnesota 2012); **Jones** (Galway 2008); **Gordon** (Dublin 2009); **Crotty** (Sligo 2008); **Pugh** (Kilkenny 2009); **Rist** (Dublin 2010). Invited talks and plenary lectures in the UK are too numerous to list.

External evaluation of research: **Craig** serves on the Peer Review Panel, Strategic Review Panel, Collaborative Doctoral Awards Panel and Block Grant Partnership Panel of the AHRC. He is also a member of the British Academy Events and Prizes Committee and is the Academy's grants officer for Language and Literature. **Hutchison** is an evaluator for the Leverhulme Trust. **Duff** has acted as an external assessor for Junior Research Fellowship competitions at Cambridge, an international evaluator for the IAP Network Programme of the Belgian Science Policy Office, and an external advisor to the doctoral programme in the Humanities at the University of Verona (2013-16). He chairs the judges of the annual CCUE Book Prize for early career researchers.

External examining of PhDs and other research degrees has been undertaken by **Hutchison** (Cambridge, Bristol, Sydney, Edinburgh); **Lumsden** (Edinburgh, St Andrews, Glasgow); **Duff** (Cork, Salford, Newcastle, London); **Millar** (Lancaster, Belfast); **Craig** (Edinburgh, Dundee); **Jones** (St Andrews, Glasgow); **Pugh** (Wellington); and **Gordon** (Lampeter).

Professional service is accorded a high priority by the University and is a major theme in staff appraisals and mentoring discussions, as well as a criterion in promotion decisions. Senior and junior staff are encouraged to maximise their involvement in national and international organisations, to join and, where necessary, create cross-institutional research networks (within and between disciplines), and to play a full part in the evaluation and dissemination of research.