

<p><b>Institution:</b> University of Liverpool</p> <p><b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 21 - Politics and International Studies</p> <p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>Since RAE 2008, the Department of Politics has separated from Communication Studies to become part of the School of Histories, Languages and Cultures, which is one of four Schools in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS). We are one of five Departments in the School, which supports the research activities of departments and provides the framework for research management and funding as well as opportunities for cross-disciplinary activities and development networks.</p> <p>This restructuring has enabled us to focus our research activities into two distinctive, but intersecting research groups: the <i>Europe and the World Centre (EWC)</i> and <i>Governance and Security (GaS)</i>. These groups reflect the focus of our research (e.g. British and Northern Irish Politics, international policy transfer, changing norms in warfare, immigration, nationalism and ethnic conflict, democratisation in Eastern and Central Europe, Southern Europe and North Africa and Latin America) and provide a framework through which we support the sharing of research expertise, the integration and development of PGR students, identification of funding and other research opportunities, and programmes of activity such as seminars and conferences. We prioritise the strengthening of these research groups, fostering internationally-recognised expertise, strong leadership and a supportive and dynamic environment for staff and PGR researchers alike. Our research groups reflect University research themes of <i>Security and Conflict</i>, <i>Living with Environmental Change</i> and <i>Changing Cultures</i>, which support cross-Faculty collaborations.</p> <p>All staff submitted under UoA 21 are members of the Department of Politics. One member of the Department, <b>Gavin</b>, whose work is focussed on political communication, has been submitted to UoA 36.</p> <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>While our RAE 2008 research strategy sought to develop the nexus of political science and communication studies, subsequent restructuring enabled the Department of Politics to cultivate a clearer research strategy comprising three strands: fostering individual excellence; strong leadership and management; and the development of strong, externally-recognised research groups.</p> <p><b>Individual research excellence</b> is fostered by encouraging all staff to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate innovative research agendas within one or both research groups, in collaboration with colleagues and external academic partners.</li> <li>• Publish research monographs with high quality presses e.g. <b>Harris's</b> <i>Nationalism: Theories and Cases</i> (EUP and Columbia University Press, 2009) has received excellent reviews in numerous major journals; <b>Tonge's</b> <i>Abandoning historical conflict?</i> (MUP, 2010) received the PSAI Brian Farrell prize for best Politics book of the year.</li> <li>• Develop high-quality published research in refereed articles in journals of international standing (e.g. an article by <b>Tonge</b> won a European academic prize and <b>Dolowitz's</b> article was selected by the American Library Association among the 'Top 20' journal pieces in 2008).</li> <li>• Produce applications for external funding (preferably from prestigious funding bodies, as detailed below) with end users in mind and, where appropriate, incorporating PGR studentships in bids.</li> <li>• To engage in Knowledge Exchange and internationalisation of research and activities.</li> <li>• To maximise research impact via engagement with an appropriate variety of policy stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p>Our focus on developmental areas and our strategy of identifying strengths and encouraging their development has delivered academic outcomes in line with University research strategies of excellence and engagement. Our main areas of outputs are: ethnic conflict management and resolution (<b>Tonge</b> – reconciliation in Northern Ireland and <b>Harris</b> – new understanding of 'the nation' and ethnic politics in post-communist regions); cross-national and intra-state policy transfer</p>
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(**Dolowitz**); immigration and human trafficking (**Balch**); geopolitical challenges of Euro-Mediterranean space (Gillespie) and privatisation of war and changing norms of warfare (**Petersohn**).

**Strategic leadership and management** is exercised through the Department's *research advisory group* (**Dolowitz, Harris and Tonge**) which is guided by University research strategy and operates with direction from the School Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee. It is the role of this group to provide strategic leadership within Politics, actively promote research excellence, develop research impact and ensure that staff are aware of and responsive to research expectations, policies and best practice. The strategy includes:

- *Regular and ongoing developmental discussions with all research-active staff and a supportive process of research monitoring.* The six-monthly discussions with individual members of staff are based on research plans that are submitted by individual staff and scrutiny of previous plans. Our objective from the outset has been that staff should be REF-returnable with the highest possible quality output through this monitoring policy.
- *All funding bids* are discussed and read by relevant members of the group with a view to improvement and advice on the most appropriate funding body before they are submitted to the School Peer Review and Ethics approval process prior to submission. While we are focusing on the success of applications rather than their number, we expect that all staff regularly apply for external funding, which has trebled in the REF period compared to RAE 2008 (for income see under d.)
- *Strategic programmes of research, publications and dissemination* within and beyond the academic community, developed via the EWC and GaS research groups (see below).
- *The attraction of top-quality PhDs* via the Department's participation in the ESRC North-West Doctoral Training Centre (NWDTC) Politics Pathway since 2011 and the inclusion of studentships in research bids and via their integration within all aspects of departmental research activity.
- *The award of sabbatical research leave* (of one semester's duration) to suitable applicants, on a competitive basis, with a minimum of two beneficiaries per annum. Such leave has facilitated e.g. **Harris's** book on *Nationalism*, Gillespie's and **Tonge's** successful ESRC bids. We monitor research output and activities through reports submitted at the end of research leave. It is University policy to allow each member of staff at least one day a week for research, but preferably two days.
- *Research mentoring for all staff:* Members of the research group engage in reading all pre-published materials for advice on improvement and appropriate placement in refereed journals and quality University presses, and all published materials in order to judge the Unit's progress.
- *Participation by all staff* in international conferences both academic and policy/practitioner orientated (**Balch, Gillespie, Harris, Dolowitz, Petersohn**). Details below under e.

**The development of strong externally-recognised research groups** has been achieved by supporting conferences, seminars and programmes of research, and encouraging the development of high individual research profiles, for example:

- The **EWC** has staged several focused seminar series and international workshops funded by the University's Research Development Fund and the School's annual allocation to the Centre, external funding and individual researchers' grants. Examples include: yearly international conferences following developments in the Middle East (2011, 2012 and 2013), linked to the research of **Harris, Gillespie and Tonge**.
- Within the **GaS** group the main focus of current research programmes has been on *British Political Ideologies* (Hickson) and, via four ESRC and Leverhulme-funded programmes since 2009, *Political Conflict and Change in Northern Ireland* and rolling programmes of dissemination activities (**Tonge**).
- Some activities also reflect evolving research synergies between two groups e.g. the seminar series: *Nationalism, Regionalism and Identity in the EU*, one of several events associated with a major ESRC project on ethno-regional nationalism (Gillespie) and ongoing research into ethnic politics (**Harris**) and migration within the EU (**Balch**).
- Both groups encourage partnerships with users, especially governmental agencies, quasi-

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judicial bodies and community organisations. We also provide briefing papers for such bodies e.g. **EWC: Balch's** work on more effective monitoring and enhanced response to human trafficking and forced labour for the South Yorkshire Police, the Gangmasters' Licencing Authority and UK Human Trafficking Centre. **GaS: Tonge's** chairing of the Youth Citizenship Commission and the assistance to the Parades Commission and Paramilitary Disarmament Monitoring Commission (NI); Hickson's work for the Community and Public Sector Union in Australia and **Petersohn's** work on outsourcing of military to the US Army, the US Senate and Bundeswehr.

- By the same token, we encourage media appearances (**Tonge** was awarded a special 'Civic Contribution' prize for representing the University in the media and community) and disseminate activities through websites.
- Our research groups are also central to PGR recruitment and to the integration of Ph.D. students into the research activities of the Department (see below).

Our future research strategy focuses on maintaining the dynamism of our research groups and sustaining momentum in attracting research council funding. We will continue to increase funding and research training in breadth and depth (particularly via the ESRC NWDTG) for a vibrant PGR community which holds a near 100 per cent completion rate over the four-year cycle, and extend financial support for ECRs. We intend to build on our knowledge exchange activities in developing more impact-related research which is gathering in strength (e.g. **Harris** building on increasing involvement with ethnic civil society organisations in the Balkans; **Balch** extending his work into corporate responsibility at the EU level; **Tonge** and Gillespie via their ESRC projects on Irish Republicanism and nationalist dynamics in Spain respectively; and **Petersohn** into outsourcing of military in contemporary warfare). Within these research groups, we intend to continue growing our strongest areas of research: Northern Irish Politics, nationalism in Central and Southern Europe and the Balkans, UK politics (ideologies), policy transfer (specialising in environment), human trafficking and changing norms of warfare/privatisation of war).

### c. People, including:

#### i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Since reorganisation, we have focused investment opportunities on our two research groups, *Europe in the World* (e.g. **Balch**, 2010) and *Governance and Security* (e.g. **Petersohn**, 2013), and will continue to do so in the future. Three post-doctoral Research Assistants (2012-13) attached to **Tonge's** Leverhulme funded research (recent graduates of EUI Florence, Queen's Belfast and Liverpool) added to the Department's research vibrancy, as has a two-year ESRC-funded RA (2013-14) working on 'dissident' Irish republicanism and security issues. The Department has also benefited from scholarly input from visiting Spanish and Bulgarian researchers attached to Gillespie's project and **Dolowitz's** research respectively. A number of Visiting Fellows have been appointed to strengthen research and impact e.g. Irwin, an expert on public opinion polling in peace processes (whose work is part-funded by the Norwegian government, £43, 423); Kilfoyle, a former government minister and Hesford, a former Labour MP. Together, this staff group provides a supportive and engaging context for individual researchers.

In addition to the above mentioned departmental support for individual researchers, there is University training available on a wide range of research-related development topics; funding bodies are invited to the University to discuss funding schemes available to staff (particularly EU funding with **Harris** sitting on the University's EU funding steering group). Staff development is underpinned by yearly PDR discussions with the HOD which includes Portfolio of Activity (incorporating future research plans in order to support and maintain the emphasis on research). Staff are encouraged to participate in the University's range of staff development training (e.g. the Leadership programme and extensive Early Career Researchers programme on which the post-probation appointment is conditioned). In addition to this training, new staff have a mentor allocated at departmental level. Flowing from the annual PDRs, there is a systematic promotion track comprising increments and promotion, in which research and knowledge exchange activities are recognised (e.g. **Balch's** growing research profile was recognised by the award of an increment even before his probationary period expired). The future growth of the Department of Politics (currently, in terms of permanent staff, two professors, two Readers, two Senior Lecturers and three Lecturers) is strongly supported by the University and is predicted to double during the

next research exercise cycle.

## ii. Research students

All staff have undertaken and continue to be involved in Ph.D. supervisions. In this REF cycle there have been 12.5 completions (against 3 in the last cycle). The Unit attracts international students: among the current cohort, one-third are international students; among the 12.5 completions 2009-13, five were international and among five new PGR's (2012), two are international students. We actively seek to recruit well-qualified students to pursue PhDs within our research groups by:

- Integrating MA students in all research activities in the Department and nurturing promising MA students to help convert them into PGRs, accounting for 50% of recruits.
- Offering a number of *fee-waivers* (three completing 2012-13) to recruit top quality students.
- Encouraging external funding applications: in our current cohort there are two AHRC grants (Laksa/environment, Williams/Labour Party), one ESRC studentship (Gray/nationalism), and one John Lennon scholarship (Roberts/Liverpool sectarianism), The ESRC NWDTC scholarship funds PGRs, (e.g McCaldon, working on the Orange Order in N. Ireland). Furthermore, students have received funding from the Milliband Trust (Hukelova/Muslim identity) and the British Council for Levant (Howson/Religious Parties in Israel) for their fieldwork.
- We encourage our *PGR's to participate in research activities* in Liverpool and more widely, as appropriate. This includes: support for attendance at conferences in the UK and abroad (Hukelova -Prague/Portugal; Howson - Israel; Fatmi-USA). They participate in the organisation of departmental conferences and present papers (Fatmi – the Arab Spring for the EWC, Spanish-Moroccan relations at an LSE workshop; Hukelova and Whiting-Conflict and Security conference).
- PGRs are *encouraged to publish* high quality outputs. e.g. Whiting published an article in *Terrorism and Violence* (2012) Ben Williams has contributed a chapter in *Retrieving Big Society* (Wiley-Blackwell 2012); Howson has a submission with the *Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*.

The Department organizes an annual PGR conference where all PGRs present their research in progress and receive advice from senior academics on oral and written presentation skills. Moreover, the Department is an active participant in the collaborative *North West Doctoral Training Centre* (NWDTC): **Tonge** chairs the Politics Pathway, linking Liverpool to Manchester's and Lancaster's PGR communities. The Department hosted the highly successful NWDTC PGR conference in 2013, attracting participants from Lancaster and Manchester and providing plenaries on passing the viva publishing and securing academic posts, in addition to numerous panels. The NWDTC has enhanced the research environment by attracting more Ph.D. applications from excellent candidates and offering exchanges of ideas and new networks between PGRs from different institutions.

Following completions, our PGRs have moved on to academic and policy roles in the UK and abroad: **Balch**, after ESRC funded post-doc is now one of our f/t lecturers; Tamil has an academic post in Turkey; Whiting has been employed as a post-doc on a Leverhulme Trust-funded departmental research project and subsequently appointed to a temporary lectureship; **Davies** got a full time job with the Institute of Public Policy Research even before completion; **Sherif al-Nasr** has a government job in Egypt; **Darbouche**, after a diplomatic EU post, is a commercial advisor for the Austrian energy company OMV.

## d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The Department has employed a number of strategies to generate grant income appropriate to the discipline. Nearly all members of staff have applied for larger funding (minimum £40K) and continue to do so. The volume of research projects currently stands at over £1.1 million in total value with £725k in funder contribution in the REF period, more than treble the £211k in RAE 2008 (REF4b income £324k, July 2013). This funding has been mostly generated through Research Councils (£496k) and UK Charities (Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and the Leverhulme Trust, £98k), and the European Union (£44k).

Recently awarded grants include:

**Tonge:** LVRHM Membership Survey of the Dem Unionist party in NI (£89,000)

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**Tonge:** ESRC Dissident Irish Republicanism (£284,580)

**Gillespie:** ESRC Dynamics of nationalism in cont Spain (inc PhD. Studentship; £279,792)

**Tonge:** ESRC 2010 Northern Ireland General Election Survey (£55,538)

**Balch:** (Project Director), European Commission 'Facilitating Corporate Social Responsibility in the field of Human Trafficking' (Liverpool amount awarded: £43, 855)

Staff take advantage of the University pump-priming funding which is available on a competitive basis through the Research Themes interdisciplinary fund/School Discretionary Fund (£4,756).

The majority of output is linked to external funding e.g. **Tonge's** 2011 and 2012 books (and several articles in leading journals) on former paramilitary prisoners and the Orange Order were supported by Leverhulme and ESRC funding respectively, whilst his Directorship of the 2010 Northern Ireland General Election survey (also ESRC funded) has yielded a series of publications and he has reapplied for similar for the 2015 election. **Harris's** articles on 'Battle for Identity' between the nation-state and the EU (2011) and much downloaded 'Eastern Nationalism' (2012) are both linked to her BA funding whilst her very favourably reviewed book on *Nationalism: Theories and Cases*, a critical assessment of theories of nationalism (2009) drew partially on research from previous BA funding. Gillespie's article on the 'Western Sahara' (2010) and two articles on the 'Union for the Mediterranean' (2011) and 'Euro-Mediterranean space' (2012) all utilized research from ESRC and BA funding respectively. **Balch's** EU funding on social corporate responsibility resulted from his impact-related Joseph Rowntree funding.

The Department provides well-equipped single occupancy offices for all academic staff and full-time PhD students (part-time PhDs share offices), containing state-of-the-art computing facilities (re-equipped on a three year cycle) with IT support available at the School level. The University maintains extensive library provision, including an exceptional range of online materials, with a subject librarian providing support to staff and training to all PGRs. The Department keeps databases of a) research applications (to assist colleagues in drafting bids); b) media contacts (to boost impact) and c) user groups (for the same purpose). See Impact template for deployment.

The University's research strategy involves pump-priming funding (see above) which resulted in two seminar series (**Tonge:** *Political Change in Northern Ireland*; Hickson: *Ideology in British Politics*); **Tonge's** successful Leverhulme bid studying the membership of the Democratic Unionist Party; and opened new possibilities for international networks (**Harris** ethnic politics, Bosnia/Israel). The School allocates each member of staff conference allowance and technical support for research projects. To ensure that the Department is actively involved in shaping the direction of wider University research policy, members of the Research Advisory Group sit on School research and PGR committees (**Harris, Dolowitz and Tonge**).

#### e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Members of staff have been recognised for their expertise in the UK and abroad and selected for various evaluating roles (e.g. **Tonge**, the REF 2014 sub panel 21 and is ex Chair and President of the PSA; **Harris**, serving on the accreditation panels for Political Sciences in Croatia, 2014 and the Slovak Academy of Sciences 2012-17). Other members of staff serve on various national committees (Hickson, PSA). Others have briefed public bodies. For example: **Balch** has worked with the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC), the Gangmasters' Licensing Authority (GLA) and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in Vienna. Gillespie has advised the British-Spanish All Party Parliamentary Group in the House of Lords (2010). Sives led a Commonwealth monitoring team observing the last General Election in the UK for the Royal Commonwealth Society and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Hickson provided briefings to Westminster and Community and Public Sector Union (Australia). **Tonge** has a very high media profile (over,1, 200 radio and television appearances during the REF cycle, including BBC and ITN News, BBC Radio 4's Today and World at One programmes, BBC 5 Live, World Service, *The Politics Show* and *Sunday Politics*, plus numerous international outlets, such as the *Washington Post* and *Le Monde*). He has provided policy advice to the Independent Monitoring Commission, which monitored paramilitary activity in Northern Ireland for the British and Irish governments (October 2010) and to the Parades Commission, which adjudicates on the routes of

contentious marches in Northern Ireland. His evidence to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Lords reform appears in several parts of the final report (on the appropriateness of STV as a system to elect peers, based on the NI model). **Tonge** has appeared before the Constitutional Committee of the Irish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly regarding political engagement, based on his chairmanship of the Youth Citizenship Commission. Findings of **Petersohn's** book, *Hired Guns*, for which he used exceptional access to the US military to gain the first hard data about the use of armed contractors in Iraq, have been presented to the US Senate Commission on Wartime Contracting.

The *Europe in the World Centre (EWC)* provides a hub for research activity via workshops, lectures, and conference sponsorship (since 2008, it organised over 30 research events).

Currently, the Centre has three main projects:

1) *Ethnic politics in post-communist Europe* which was launched with an international workshop focusing on the evolution of ethnic politics in Eastern and Central Europe and seeking to reassess the largely Western developed methodologies used to study ethnicity (June 2011).

2) A knowledge exchange project on the evolving *New Politics in the Arab world* – a theme that has informed three international conferences thus far (February 2011, 2012 and 2013).

Both projects have given rise to international networks and are looking to extend their research in both inter-disciplinary and geographical directions e.g. **Harris** has developed a new framework for studies of ethnicity which incorporates historical memory and diasporas and is seeking to extend this network into Middle Eastern politics. Gillespie, while continuing to work on the relationship between the EU and its periphery, has increased his research interests towards identity and sub-state nationalism-related issues (Spain).

3) Research into *human trafficking and social responsibility* which started with Balch's participation in the Joseph Rowntree Foundation programme on forced labour and includes a number of different research projects (for example a workshop *Counting the cost: human trafficking, forced labour and corporate social responsibility*, held in the Department in Spring 2012). This led to the formation of an international research project *Facilitating Corporate Social Responsibility in the field of Human Trafficking (Balch, Project Director)* funded by the European Commission in collaboration with Tilburg University (Netherlands). **Balch's** work forms part of ongoing developing research synergies among the core Europeanists (**Harris**, Gillespie and **Balch**) which examine societal cohesion, citizenship, migration and their impact on democratisation. All three projects have contributed to international collaboration and produced research publications as well as KE and impact related activities for the unit.

Other EWC activities include the *Liverpool Forum: Diversity and Regeneration Knowledge Transfer Workshops* (convened by **Harris**, 2008-2010, funded by the University of Liverpool Reach Out Fund): five interdisciplinary cross-faculty workshops sought a closer integration of the University with the local community. The workshops covered wide ranging EU-related topics: 'Sectarian and Ethnic Divisions in Liverpool'; 'Children and Their Mental Health: Therapeutic Responses and the Law'; 'Jamaican Diaspora in the North-West'; 'Regional Action Recommendations for Policy'; 'Getting the Best out of the European Union?' and finally, 'What does "Europe" mean today to Liverpool and the North West?' This series serves as a template for 2013-4 EWC's programme of seminars and conferences, 'Re-imagining Europe', exploring topics which appear increasingly more relevant to Western Europe such as: the prospects of statehood for Scotland and Catalonia (November 2013); migration into the UK from Bulgaria and Romania (February 2014); and new forms of citizenship and dual affiliations in the Balkans (May 2014).

The EWC's Annual Lecture draws a wide audience from across and beyond the University, recent subjects being: 'Devils we miss, democrats we don't trust: Israel and Arab world', Prof. Clive Jones (2012); 'The Arctic: From Canadian and European Perspectives' (The Canadian High Commission 2011); 'Intelligence, Risk, Terrorism and the challenge to democratic control within the EU' (2009, Peter Gill, Honorary Research Fellow). The EWC organizes research seminars especially for our postgraduate community. Examples include: 'Security, Governance and Community beyond the European Union: Exploring the Practices of Euro-Mediterranean Civil Protection' (2010, by Visiting Fellow Niklas Bremberg, Stockholm University) and 'What changes does Lisbon bring?' (2010, The European Commission in the UK).

The *Governance and Security* group has organised a range of conferences and seminars on

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political ideology and change. Hickson's conferences on British political ideologies have been followed by a series of colloquia and seminars, such as *The Future of Social Democracy*, sponsored by *Political Quarterly* with speakers including Roy Hattersley, Peter Kilfoyle (a departmental visiting fellow) and two Labour MPs (Twiggy; Ellman). Security and governance issues were covered in **Tonge's** seminar series on *Political Change in Northern Ireland*, at which a range of academics examined issues of dissident republican violence, continued segregation, victims, gender, parades and policing (2013).

In line with our increased commitment to interdisciplinarity we are seeking to maximise cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary collaborative research and PGR supervisions (including via the already mentioned ESRC NWDTC) in line with our research themes (as discussed above). For example: **Tonge** has collaborated on research projects with the Institute of Irish Studies, at Liverpool, plus Queen's University, Belfast, Aberdeen University and the LSE. **Balch** is collaborating with History on modern day slavery (workshops), **Harris** is an advisor to a 3 million euro ERC funded research project on citizenship in the successor states of the former Yugoslavia which is based at the Law School in Edinburgh. Staff participate in a number of networks. **Balch**, in addition to the collaboration with Tilburg University, collaborates with SVR (Berlin) in a comparative European project on international student migration (2011-12). Gavin convenes the 'Climate Change, Environment and Sustainability' network (the Media, Communication and Cultural Studies Association). Gillespie is a member of the GR:EEN ('Global Re-ordering: Evolution through European Networks', EU Commission-funded FP7 research project). **Dolowitz**, in his work on sustainable urban water management systems, collaborates with academics from George Washington University, the Free University Berlin, and a Senior Environmental Planner working for the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, USA; this collaboration resulted in a co-project (\$49,700) and two much-cited articles (*Environment and Planning* and *Policy studies* journals).

All staff disseminate their research by participating in international conferences and/or give keynote papers and invited lectures. **Tonge** has given some 26 invited contributions to conferences in the UK and abroad since 2008 and participated in many more. Gillespie was invited to speak about Euro-Med relationships at various meetings at Harvard (2010), Copenhagen and Amman (2010). Sives has given a paper to the UN staff on democratic governance in the Caribbean (2011)). **Harris** has given 6 public lectures in Slovakia (2008-2011) and has been invited to speak about post-communist nationalism to Universities in Israel and Croatia (2012) and gave a keynote to a journalists' workshop on nationalism and racism (London 2012) and to a Croatian cultural organisations conference in Sarajevo (2013). **Petersohn** has given 7 invited guest lectures (2008-2011 in Germany and Canada) and **Dolowitz** has given keynotes in Rome, Berlin, and Austria. **Tonge's** co-authored book "Abandoning Historical Conflict?" (2010, with Shirlow, McAuley and McGlynn) was awarded the Brian Farrell best book on politics prize by the PSA of Ireland. His co-authored article, 'A Big Idea for the Big Society? The Advent of National Citizen Service', *Political Quarterly*, 2011, 82.1, 56-66, with Andrew Mycock, won the Children's Identity and Citizenship European Association best research publication of the year.

Finally, our contribution to the discipline is augmented by encouraging staff to:

- Pursue membership of editorial boards and editorship positions (most staff are journal editors or sit on editorial boards). Editorships include *Mediterranean Politics* (Gillespie co-editor); *Parliamentary Affairs* (**Tonge**, co-editor). Members of staff are on editorial boards: **Harris**, *Filozofia* and *Človek a Spoločnosť* [Slovakia]; **Tonge**, *Irish Political Studies*; **Dolowitz**, *Journal of Information Technology and Politics* and book editor for the Liverpool University Press series *Migration and Identities*.
- Act as assessors for major grant awarding bodies in both the UK and overseas (**Harris** for the Slovak Academy of Sciences and ESRC; **Balch** and Gillespie for the ESRC; **Tonge** for the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences).
- Participate in learned societies e.g. **Tonge** was elected to the Academy of Social Sciences (2006) and is a member of PSA specialist groups (Elections, Public Opinion and Parties; Britishness; and Irish Politics). Sives was a convenor of the PSA Caribbean Politics Group, (2007-2011) and continues as its treasurer.