

<p>Institution: Durham University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: English Language and Literature (UoA 29)</p>
<p>A. Overview</p> <p>The submitting unit corresponds to the Department of English Studies, one of seven departments in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Durham University, and includes research derived from literary theory and literary history undertaken in the Centre for Medical Humanities (CMH). There has been close collaboration between English and CMH since the Centre's inception in 2000. At October 2013, English Studies comprises 35 staff (32.48 fte), all active in research and teaching, and 8 post-doctoral fellows. Two staff and one post-doctoral fellow in CMH are Research Associates in English Studies; and six staff in English are Affiliates of CMH. The Department fosters original and rigorous research by all staff and postgraduates across a historical range from Old Norse sagas to contemporary graphic narrative. Specific areas of strategic importance are set out in section B. Staff make notable contributions to the research and leadership of the Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies and the Centre for Poetry and Poetics.</p> <p>Research in English Studies is overseen by a Director and deputy Director of Research, who report to the Department Research Committee and the Faculty Research Group, which in turn reports to the University Research Committee. The Director and deputy of Postgraduate Research oversee recruitment, funding and supervisory arrangements for PhD students. They report to Faculty Postgraduate Committee and University Education Committee. PhD students are represented on several department committees. Administrative support for grant applications and management is provided by the University Research Office and the Department's budget officer.</p>
<p>B. Research strategy</p>
<p><u>Achievement of strategic aims stated in RAE 2008</u></p>
<p>In RA5 2008 we identified four objectives for this period: '(i) to foster and publish major work by individual researchers; (ii) to encourage large-scale collaborative projects; (iii) to increase external research funding; (iv) to encourage a strong and vital postgraduate presence'. In achieving these aims, English Studies has undergone significant development, particularly in interdisciplinary projects, disciplinary leadership and research funding. Indications of these achievements are:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Original and influential new work including studies of Chaucer's sources, narratology and cognitive science, MI5 surveillance of literary culture, an award-winning scholarly edition and critically-acclaimed fiction and poetry, published in over 50 books and over 250 peer-reviewed journal articles and essays.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ground-breaking collaborations across humanities and sciences have placed literary research at the heart of major intellectual and social challenges. The £1.9M Wellcome Trust-funded Centre for Medical Humanities, and the £1.7M Leverhulme Strategic Award in 'Tipping Points' provide leadership roles for senior staff and career development for young researchers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ External research income has risen nearly 400% compared with RAE 2008, including funding from all major sources. As a result of recent awards, the same amount (over £1.3M) is already guaranteed for the next REF cycle, attesting to the quality and sustainability of the Department's research culture and its collaborations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Leadership of long-term international projects producing multi-volume scholarly editions that provide authoritative reference works for the discipline: <i>The Complete Works of James Shirley</i>, OUP, 10 vols (gen. ed. Ravelhofer) and <i>Letters of William Godwin</i>, OUP, 6 vols (gen. ed. Clemit); plus editorships of T.S. Eliot's <i>Complete Prose</i> (2 volumes by Harding), and the <i>Complete Poetry of P.B. Shelley</i> and <i>The Prose of P.B. Shelley</i> (both O'Neill). These have won over £500k in external funding, including six Post-Doctoral Research Associates.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The introduction of a funded Postgraduate Research Assistantship scheme, additional support for training, conferences and visiting speakers, and revised monitoring procedures contribute to an especially successful postgraduate community whose completions have risen over 50% since RAE 2008.

Environment template (REF5)

Strategic developments since 2008

The Department has positioned itself as a leader of emerging fields such as literature and cognitive science, and augmented its existing strengths in medieval studies, poetics, modernism and contemporary writing. It has identified five trans-historical themes that encapsulate its distinctive modes of research, and which will continue to guide strategy into the next assessment cycle. These themes are: 1. literature, medicine and science; 2. narrative form and poetic form; 3. cross-cultural receptions and conflicts; 4. literary theory; and 5. textual editing.

Internal and external investment has been secured in the following areas:

- ❖ The Department has been at the forefront of inaugurating the discipline of Medical Humanities. **Saunders** and **Waugh** held leading roles in the Centre for Arts and Humanities in Health and Medicine (est. 2000). Investment of £1.9M by the Wellcome Trust in 2008 enabled the formation of the **Centre for Medical Humanities (CMH)** of which **Saunders** is Associate Director. This funded a research post in CMH, since converted to a Readership in English (**Mack**), with postdoctoral and doctoral fellowships.
- ❖ In 2011 the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, then directed by **Saunders**, received significant University investment and is now the **Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies (IMEMS)**. A new senior appointment, **Archibald**, works with CMH and IMEMS on the body and health in medieval culture, and enhances the Department's distinctive research specialism in medieval languages (English, French, Latin, Norse).
- ❖ In 2012 an interdisciplinary **Centre for Poetry and Poetics (CPP)**; director, **Regan** was created from the Basil Bunting Centre for Poetry in recognition of a long-term Departmental strength. The CPP has developed its creative writing portfolio through appointments for **Vyleta**, an internationally-acclaimed novelist, and **Batchelor**, an award-winning poet.
- ❖ Strategic expansion of areas of particular strength has been enabled by external grant successes and internal investment in fields of importance for the University's research strategy. New posts have been created in: literature and science (**Garratt, Herman**), twentieth-century literary culture (**Mackay, Smith**), and medieval studies (**Barracough**).

The broader research culture of English Studies has undergone a period of significant development since 2008, with the hosting of new large-scale, externally-funded research projects (see D), and the creation of new groups and centres, associated seminars, and postgraduate assistantships, that enhance all areas of research in the Department (see Ci and Cii). A measure of the Department's success in collaborations and funding, and an indication of the calibre of individuals, is the rise in the number of post-doctoral researchers in the period, from one in the last RAE cycle to 17 in this REF period. These developments have been complemented by investment in infrastructure: new library and exhibition spaces, a new postgraduate centre, and enhanced special collections (see D).

Strategic aims and plans 2014-2019

Over the next cycle, research in English at Durham will build on its recent achievements and established strengths in concert with sector-wide and disciplinary developments. The unit's strategic aims are: (i) to pursue world-leading research in its five trans-historical research themes; (ii) to extend its international profile, especially through collaborative research; (iii) to strengthen the environment for its community of early-career researchers, including postgraduates; and (iv) to extend the range of sources and awards in research grant income.

Key priorities and specific initiatives include:

- ❖ To lead the response to new challenges in medical humanities. English Studies will be a key partner developing a £1M grant for 'Hearing the Voice' into a second strategic award application to the Wellcome Trust in 2015.
- ❖ To extend our international profile in medieval studies and Renaissance literature, aiding IMEMS in securing external funding and in promoting use of Durham's archives. The recent award of £785k to **McKinnell** and **Ravelhofer** for 'Records of Early English Drama' (2013-18; see D) includes new collaborations with colleagues in Canada and the United States.
- ❖ To enhance the international profile of the Centre for Poetry and Poetics through creative writing and textual editing, with forthcoming editions of Eliot, Shelley and Shirley.

Environment template (REF5)

- ❖ To instigate new collaborations in areas of social importance. **Grausam, Mackay, and Smith** have joined **Harding** and **Thomas** to form an emerging research group focused on modern conflicts. **Herman** joins **Clark** in work on animals, environment and narrative.
- ❖ To publish monographs of disciplinary significance, including studies of the debate tradition in medieval literature (**Cartlidge**), narratology and animal studies (**Herman**), how experience of war affected the theory of the novel (**Mackay**), Shakespeare's influence on English poetry (**O'Neill**), and literature and 'the naturalist turn' in philosophy and science (**Waugh**).
- ❖ To enrich training, supervision and opportunities for the postgraduate community through the recent award of a second Block Grant Partnership. Collaborations in medical humanities, poetics, textual editing, Romanticism and the twentieth century are planned for 2014-19 (Cii).

These aims and plans are underpinned by specific institutional structures in relation to staffing, collaboration, internationalisation, and research funding. The University continues to support the Department's plan, begun in 2012-13, for phased growth of staff in areas of agreed strength, to be achieved through (i) increased UG and PG numbers and (ii) successes in winning external resources. Research collaborations will be supported by the University's wider strategy of internationalisation: the cross-faculty Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) and University seed-corn funds for research and impact will be used to generate new international partnerships.

C. People, including:**i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

Staffing strategy and staff development are integral to our research strategy in five respects: (i) recruitment; (ii) mentoring and progression; (iii) equality and diversity; (iv) research leave and funding; (v) research sharing.

(i) Recruitment. The unit's research strategy is supported by the planned incremental growth of staff numbers, while maintaining an appropriate balance between different career stages and opportunities for progression. Recruitment policy pays close attention to ways in which existing research and its environment can be enhanced. It attracts both senior staff to work in areas of outstanding strength, and mid- and early-career scholars to gain leadership experience and develop independent careers. **Herman** has been recruited to establish collaborations between narratology and cognitive and life sciences, and **Archibald** to work with IMEMS and CMH; while the Shirley, Shelley and Godwin editorial projects have all had post-doctoral posts alongside senior colleagues. Established mid-career staff have been attracted in order to extend existing groups: **Mack** is Reader in medical humanities (funded for the first 2.5 years by the Wellcome Trust strategic award); work on the novel and war by **Mackay**, and on the Cold War by **Grausam**, links the modernist and post-war groups. Several early-career lecturers have been appointed: **Barraclough**, in Old Norse travel; **Garratt**, in Victorian literature and science; **Gray**, in Renaissance literature, and **Smith**, in literature and the secret state, funded initially by a British Academy post-doctoral fellowship which was converted to a lectureship in 2013. In this case, a flexible approach allowed an extra appointment from an especially strong field. The Department has retained 'retired' staff: **Fuller** and **Reeves** continue to work on Shakespeare, Romantic and modern poetry and creative writing; **McKinnell** is PI on 'Records of Early English Drama'.

(ii) Mentoring and Progression. Staff are assigned a research mentor who provides advice and support according to individual circumstances, Department priorities and University regulations. Each year all colleagues complete a Personal Research Plan (PRP) in which they specify research goals appropriate to career stage, including funding applications and impact activity, and identify any training needs. Plans are both short-term and longer-term. The PRP is discussed at a personal Annual Staff Review and forwarded to the Director of Research who can assist with grant planning and prioritisation. The PRP allows research connections to be made with colleagues and with other departments. This system enables all staff to benefit from advice from a mentor and appropriate colleagues, and identifies issues for collective discussion. Training is provided through the University's Centre for Academic and Researcher Development, which offers courses such as one in postgraduate supervision, and through its Research Office, which offers tailored funding workshops in conjunction with the Faculty and successful applicants (see section D for internal support of grant applications). In this way, all staff have opportunities to learn from others, including those outside the Department. Responsibility for the monitoring and

development of research is shared between the Head of Department, Director of Research and research committee. Staff at all levels can act as research mentors where appropriate; for instance, relatively early-career lecturers may gain experience in mentoring postdoctoral researchers. A workload model operates in a transparent and proportionate way: research is accorded 50% of time; all administrative roles have an allocation; and in term-time all staff are guaranteed at least one day per week without teaching.

The University is one of 15 in the UK to have won a HR Excellence in Research award from the European Commission; it implements in full the European Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. Early-career researchers, post-doctoral scholars and junior staff begin on probation, which normally lasts three years. Research goals and clear objectives are agreed with the Head of Department. During probation they are supported by workload reductions – an average 85% teaching and examining load without holding significant administrative posts – and by mentors, staff reviews and the PRP. During this cycle, all staff scheduled to have finished probation have passed into confirmed permanent posts. The University's programme of Junior Research Fellowships co-funded with the European Union (e.g. **Murray** and **Burrows**) enables early-career researchers to initiate and complete independent projects that follow from doctoral work. In this REF cycle, the Department has had 17 post-doctoral research associates connected to funded projects or as 'stand-alone' posts. They are full members of the Department, supported by the mentoring, research funding, training and seminars available to all staff. Post-doctoral scholars are given office space and teaching opportunities; and attend the Board of Studies.

Research groups and centres provide informal support and opportunities for staff to gain experience of research leadership. There are leadership development opportunities for mid-career staff in the Department, the Faculty and in Research Institutes. The Department mentors staff through promotion, which is assessed against demanding criteria in line with its strategy (quality of publication; funding; collaborations; contribution to the Department and the discipline). Since 2008, staff have been awarded 12 promotions, including four professorial promotions.

(iii) Equality and Diversity. The University requires all departments to meet the standards of the Athena Swan charter, and it is a Stonewall diversity champion. Its Equality and Diversity Policy is overseen by an Advisory Group, and it has published wide-ranging 'respect at work and study' guidance. All hiring and promotion panels are gender-balanced and all appropriate staff are trained in equal opportunities. Two of the last three Heads of Department have been women; flexible working enables staff with family commitments to adjust their working hours; adjustments to Department facilities have accommodated a PhD student with a disability. The cultural diversity of the Department is promoted by advertising all post-doctoral and staff positions internationally; approximately one-third of full-time staff are non-UK nationals.

(iv) Research Leave and Funding. All staff may apply for regular research leave (without teaching, examining or administrative duties) of one term in every seven. Applications are made via the faculty, stating specific goals, and a report is submitted at the start of the following term. The Head of Department may prioritise leave in order to support completion of specific projects or to balance Departmental needs. Further research leave is available: during the period, four staff have gained additional leave terms in a competition administered by the IAS. Each won a replacement teaching subsidy of £8K and in each case a book or other large project was completed. Staff development is supported by a generous Departmental fund which is managed by its research committee, enabling conference participation and library visits, many of them overseas, as well as impact activity. Several projects have been supported by the Faculty's competitive fund for conference organisation and external collaborations, and by the University seedcorn funds which make available £250,000 p.a. for each of research and impact. Work in medical humanities is also funded by Durham's Wolfson Institute for Health and Well-being.

(v) Research sharing. The Department enhances career development through semi-formal research exchanges. Weekly staff and postgraduate seminars attract a variety of leading figures invited to complement current research and Departmental research themes (e.g. Hans Walter Gabler on editing Woolf; Gary Taylor on Renaissance drama). CMH runs monthly research meetings and frequent seminars that are attended by colleagues from English Studies. Informal 'Work in Progress' seminars encourage the discussion of current work in an environment that generates supportive feedback and understanding of research across the discipline. Similarly,

colleagues benefit from cross-disciplinary exchanges in research Centres and Institutes, including the Centre for Sex, Gender and Sexualities and the Centre for the Study of Classical Civilization, as well as IMEMS and CMH. The IAS sponsors internal and external collaborations, organised around annual themes; this prepares staff for grant applications and grant management. The purpose of all these activities is to develop new ideas and projects, to share knowledge, good practice, and understanding of methodologies, and so ultimately to enhance published research.

ii. Research students

Since 2008, English Studies has expanded the size of, and its provision for, the research student community. During the census period, there have been 49.4 successful PhD completions, compared to 31.5 in RAE 2008. Research students (PGRs) have been drawn from 22 countries. The Department provided 2 AHRC (BGP1) doctoral studentships annually. An additional 8 fully-funded Durham Doctoral Studentships (fees and maintenance grants) were won. The 85 current PGRs include students supported by the British Council commonwealth fund, and by scholarships from India, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and Slovenia. Four further studentships have been won by projects funded by the Leverhulme Trust and the Wellcome Trust. English featured prominently in the successful application (with Newcastle and Queen's, Belfast) to the AHRC's BGP2 scheme, with 19% of the indicative studentships requested. From 2014, this consortium will offer 157 studentships over a 5-year period and the University will fund 60 'matched' studentships, available only to Durham PGRs, in addition to its existing doctoral studentship scheme. Collaboration with strategic partners such as New Writing North (see REF 3a and CS4) will provide training for PGRs in arts management and the cultural sector.

PGRs are advised by the Director of Postgraduate Research and a deputy director. They are further integrated with staff and post-doctoral fellows through research seminars and specialist staff-student reading groups (e.g. in Theory and Irish Studies). PGRs work closely with a main supervisor, usually meeting fortnightly in term-time, and a second supervisor. Department procedures have been revised in order to give students further sources of guidance and to assist timely completion. A third staff member is appointed to review progress at 3 stages: a progression review after 8 months, a confirmation review after 20 months, and a completion review to prepare for submission and the *viva*. A further review occurs for any student on continuation. Reviews include written work and meetings. Completions have risen by over 50% between RAE 2008 and REF 2014. All PGRs receive training in research methods commensurate with their topic, including use of special collections (see D). The Centre for Academic and Researcher Development operates a suite of year-round courses in, e.g., languages, presentation skills, *viva* preparation and publishing. The Department has arranged for publishers and publishing consultants to meet with the PhD cohort. Career development is further supported by the availability of tutorial teaching (at levels two and three, this is on a competitive basis). Tutorial teachers undertake the Durham University Learning and Teaching Award, accredited by the HEA, which provides transferable skills and a recognised benchmark of university teaching practice.

Specific training within the Department has led to notable successes in seven areas:

(i) *Publishing*. The Department annually trains two editors for one of the most established online PGR journals, *PG English* (founded by **Clark** in 2000, MLA-listed). The guide for editors of *PG English* has been adopted by the Public Knowledge Project (Stanford) as the basis for new documentation for editors on Open Journal Systems. PGRs in English edited the IAS postgraduate journal *Kaleidoscope* from 2008 to 2010. The Department also finances and advises an undergraduate research journal, *English*, launched in 2011 and edited by a Durham student (with contributors from the UK, Europe and the US). Mentoring has also helped PGRs to publish in journals such as *Literature & History*, *Modernist Cultures* and *Textual Practice*; one student turned a research methods essay into an article in *Keats-Shelley Review*. There is a strong creative writing culture among PGRs, fostered by staff: one PGR recently published a collection with Salt; a student-edited poetry journal, *The Grove*, is financially supported by the Department.

(ii) *Research Assistantships and Career Trajectory*. PhD students are prepared for the *viva* and mentored in job applications. The Department prepares PhD students for work (academic or non-academic) by operating a Research Assistantship scheme (begun in 2009). Each year, 8-10 PGRs are appointed, after advertisement, to assist staff members on research projects in which they receive training, typically in archival research, transcription, editing or bibliographical work.

Environment template (REF5)

The scheme enhances the integrated environment for researchers at all levels. A wide range of PhDs and staff have benefitted from the scheme. Several beneficiaries have gone on to further academic careers: Miller worked with **James** on *The Wellsian* before appointment at Teesside; Einhaus worked with **O'Neill** on *The Cambridge History of English Poetry* before a lectureship at Northumbria; Krajnik worked with **Ravelhofer** on the Shirley edition and now lectures at Brno (Czech Republic). Others have taken up post-doctoral positions and lecturing posts at Durham, Glasgow, Hertfordshire, Liverpool Hope, Newcastle, the Open University, Sheffield and South Bank, as well as at Brigham Young University (US), Innsbruck (Austria), Pretoria (SA), Seoul National (Korea) and the University of the South Pacific (Fiji).

(iii) *Subject Contribution*. Departmental training encourages PGRs to be independent researchers, able to assess their own needs and to gain funding for professional development. Three PhD students have won AHRC skills-development funding for two distinct training projects, each of which benefits PGRs from other institutions. One of these, a project on 'Forms of Innovation' (that grew from a Durham conference co-funded by the Department), took workshops to 5 UK cities. Another PGR secured external funding from the research support organisation Vitae for an interdisciplinary training day with workshops run by British Library staff. A further PGR was Postgraduate representative for the British Association of Modernist Studies (2011-13) for which she co-organised a 'teaching modernism' symposium in Oxford and a conference in London.

(iv) *Non-academic partnerships*. As a result of Departmental training in writing for non-academic audiences, PGRs have posted regularly on the Department research blog, READ; and have won funding from the AHRC 'Partnership Working and Public Engagement' scheme (see REF 3a).

(v) *Conferences*. In addition to financial support for archival visits and conference participation and organisation – available from the Department, the Faculty and the University's Colleges – staff mentor PGRs in devising and running conferences. These events develop management and budget-holding skills. Since 2010 there has been an annual research assistantship available for a PGR student who organises a conference in Durham with a strong PG focus. A selection of proceedings appears in *PG English*. In addition to 16 PGR-organised conferences, PGRs also organised and hosted the first meeting of the UK Postgraduate Pynchon Network (2011). Two PGRs organised a medical humanities conference, 'Understanding Human Flourishing' (2013).

(vi) *Interdisciplinary research*. Both CMH and IMEMS provide focused environments for specific forms of interdisciplinary work. The Medieval and Early Modern Student Association hosts fortnightly seminars which are augmented by reading groups, workshops, colloquia, and a summer conference, e.g. 'Transition and Transformation in Medieval and Early Modern Cultures' (2012). PGRs on funded projects in CMH gain feedback and contacts in several disciplines and are fully integrated with English departmental supervisory and support mechanisms.

(vii) *Research Seminars and Reading Groups*. PGRs gain skills and experience in budget-holding and event organisation through committee management of a seminar series, 'Inventions of the Text' (est. 2008), which combines Durham staff and PGRs with prominent visitors, including in 2011-12, Laura Marcus and Rachel Bowlby. PGRs provide leadership in regional groups, such as the North East PGR Group in the Long 19th Century, which is organised from Durham.

D. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income. The Department's area of greatest expansion since 2008 has been in research income, which has led to publications, a considerable post-doctoral community, further research projects and continuing influence on core topics and new fields within the discipline. English Studies has increased its external research income nearly fourfold since the previous research assessment, bringing in over £1.3M in the current period at £39K per fte (compared with £355K in total at £12.4K per fte in the RAE 2008 period). Research in medical humanities has been especially successful, as have large editorial projects and individual fellowships. Awards have been secured from a range of sources including the Humboldt Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, the European Union, and US research libraries. Several awards have been for collaborative projects with international partners.

A strategic approach to external funding has been rewarded. All staff annually make and review plans for external funding: emphasis is on submitting only applications of the highest quality. Support is provided through internal and external-led workshops targeted at specific schemes and organised by the Department, Faculty and Research Office. A database of successful applications

across the faculty is available for consultation. A two-tier peer-review system operates for all applications which are read both in English Studies and elsewhere in the Faculty. The majority of staff have won external funding in this period. Seedcorn funds encourage development of ambitious ideas, and the IAS targets support at new interdisciplinary projects. Collaborations initially funded internally have doubled the success rates of external applications. For example, the CMH 'Hearing the Voice' award (£1M from Wellcome in 2012, across four disciplines) began in 2009 as an IAS project called 'Thinking with Feeling', led by **Waugh** and involving three other members of the Department.

The following successes since 2008 illustrate the unit's collaborative research and testify to the range of high-quality individual work. A mark of the unit's sustainability is that many of these grants will lead to publications, and further applications, in the next assessment period.

- (i) An AHRC award of over £800k (of which £350k to Durham) for the *Complete Works of James Shirley*, awarded in 2007 for the period 2008-14. **Ravelhofer** is Principal Investigator.
- (ii) £250k from the Wellcome Trust Strategic Award that created CMH. **Saunders** was Co-Investigator; **Mack** and **Woods** were appointed; a PhD studentship and a PDRF were created.
- (iii) The Wellcome Trust's largest ever award to a single project in the humanities, of £1M, for the CMH project, 'Hearing the Voice' (2012-15) with an invitation to apply for a second Strategic Award. **Saunders**, **Woods** and **Waugh** are Co-Investigators; 2 PDRFs are in English.
- (iv) £200k from the AHRC to **Harding** for two volumes of the *Complete Prose of T.S. Eliot*.
- (v) The University was awarded a Leverhulme Trust strategic research project grant of £1.7M for 'Tipping Points' (2010-15). **Waugh** is leader of an interdisciplinary strand investigating humanistic and cognitive science methodologies. A post-doctoral researcher is in post 2012-2015. As a result of this grant **Waugh** is now co-director of the Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience (IHRR).
- (vi) An international network, led by **Garratt** and supported by the AHRC (£45k, 2012-14), is investigating the application of humanities methodologies in cognitive science.
- (vii) Individual fellowships have been secured at all staff levels, among them: **Clemit**, Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship, 2007-10; **Cartlidge**, Humboldt Fellowship 2011 (£9k, *not shown on HESA data*); **Terry**, award to study at Huntington Library, 2012; **Mack**, Leverhulme Research Fellowship, 2012-13; **O'Connell**, AHRC Early-career Fellowship, 2012-13.
- (viii) A wide range of smaller awards have been secured as part of collaborative projects. Those based in Durham include 5 MHRA post-doc research assistantships for editorial work: three on Godwin's letters (**Clemit**) and two on Shelley's prose (**O'Neill**). **Nash** was Co-I for a Leverhulme research project on Ireland and consumer culture (2009-12) with a funded PhD studentship.
- (ix) Two Leverhulme early-career fellows began three-year projects in September. Three Junior Research Fellows, appointed from Australia, Italy and Singapore, and co-funded by the European Union Seventh Framework Programme and the University, have begun since September 2012.
- (x) A recent award of £785k to **McKinnell** and **Ravelhofer** for 'Records of Early English Drama – North East', for 2013-18, is further evidence of the sustainability of the unit.

Scholarly infrastructure. All researchers have access to a network of archives and special collections across Durham. This includes the Cathedral Library, the Special Collections department of the University Library, which holds material of international significance that is used by researchers from across the world, and the library of Ushaw College (a former Catholic seminary just outside Durham), which holds medieval manuscripts and printed collections, including libraries of 18th-19th century literature. Several staff in English use these collections:

- (i) Bishop Cosin's Library, Palace Green and Cathedral collections of medieval mss and early printed books (used by **Cartlidge**): together these form one of the most extensive medieval collections in the world. These collections are also used for postgraduate training.
- (ii) Cathedral Library and Ushaw College library are used by **Ravelhofer** for the Shirley edition and other research. These archives are essential to her new AHRC award (REED).
- (iii) The Old Norse collection (**Ashurst**) is one of the best such collections in the UK. Begun in the 1960s, it includes the acquisition during this cycle of an extensive private library.
- (iv) The collection of decadent, aestheticist and modernist periodicals is unparalleled in the UK outside copyright libraries (**James, Harding**). It was recently catalogued by a PhD student.
- (v) The Basil Bunting archive (acquired 1987) of papers and recordings of the Northumbrian poet; the William Plomer collection of letters between the publisher and leading 20th century writers; and the Poetry Society archive; all used by **Regan** and others in CPP, including postgraduates.

Environment template (REF5)

Organisational infrastructure. As noted in section B, English Studies has received substantial investment in areas of agreed strength. Its research plan and research themes are discussed and agreed across the department, at Research Committee, Management Committee and Board of Studies. The Department encourages a mutually-supportive research culture, as seen in its cross-disciplinary research seminars, and does not require staff to join distinct research groups. There is equal access to internal funding, research grant support and shared responsibility for research seminars. Where appropriate, staff have joined interdisciplinary Institutes and Centres (IMEMS, CMH and CPP). In addition, particular areas of strength have emerged, according to the research imperatives of staff, to form departmental groups in Modernist Studies and Romantic Dialogues and Legacies, which organise their own workshops and public lectures.

Operational infrastructure. The University's commitment to updating its estate and facilities has enhanced literary research. In addition to dedicated rooms in the Department and the main Library, PGRs use two large Faculty postgraduate centres, both completed in the REF period and housing 120 workspaces. Staff and post-doctoral researchers in CMH occupy offices at St. Hild & St. Bede College. The University Library has undergone a 42% expansion in size, completed at Easter 2012, which provided 500 extra study spaces and open access to more of its 1.6 million stock. The Special Collections library was refurbished in 2011-12. The current annual library budget for English is £65K (a 25% increase on 2008): all staff order in their research areas, including back-runs, out-of-print and one-off items. All significant journals, and many smaller ones, are available online and often in hardcopy. The Library holds over 300 online databases.

E. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Collaboration has been increasingly important to the Department's strategy over the REF period. These collaborations have placed literary research at the heart of trans-disciplinary projects. Staff are leading both innovative partnerships that reach well beyond academia and projects that are creating authoritative reference works within English. These ventures will contribute to the vitality and sustainability of the discipline during the next REF cycle.

By investing to create CMH in 2008, the University and the Wellcome Trust have formed internal and external interdisciplinary partnerships that cut across academic and non-academic boundaries. The Department's shared research with CMH, and research in the strategic theme of 'literature, science and medicine' within English Studies, is helping to expand the horizons of the discipline through collaborative work with philosophers, psychologists and medical professionals including the Royal College of General Practitioners and NHS psychosis groups, investigating embodied experience, voice-hearing and patient testimony. **Garratt, Saunders and Waugh** participate in additional AHRC-funded networks with King's London, Roehampton, Swansea and elsewhere, developing research in the humanities and cognitive science, memory, and clinicians' reading. Publications in REF2 by **Mack, Saunders, Sugg, Waugh and Woods** are direct outcomes of the collaboration between English Studies, CMH and external partners. These alliances enhance the discipline's capacity to shape responses to current socio-medical concerns.

Collaborations within English Studies are leading to major scholarly editions which produce authoritative texts that will be used by the discipline, and beyond, for decades to come. The Department has a collective expertise in editing, which is necessarily collaborative. **Ravelhofer** heads a team of over 30 scholars based in Canada, South Africa, the UK, and the US, including **Carver**, on the OUP *Complete Works of James Shirley*, in ten volumes and online. A new editorial network is emerging from the Shirley project: in 2012, **Ravelhofer** organised a workshop on early modern performance and modern textual scholarship, which brought together theatre historians, literary scholars, linguists, actors, librarians and musicologists from the UK and US. **Clemmit's** general editorship of the six-volume *Collected Letters of William Godwin* involves researchers and libraries in Newcastle, Oxford, New York and elsewhere. As part of the T.S. Eliot Editorial Project, alongside editors from Boston, Emory, London and Sheffield, **Harding** is editing two volumes of *Complete Prose*. **O'Neill** works with editors from Delaware, Maryland and elsewhere as part of the eight-volume *Complete Poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley*, which was awarded the Society for Textual Scholarship's Richard J. Finneran Award.

Collaborative research is encouraged through research centres, such as CMH, and Institutes, such as IHRR and the IAS (of which **O'Neill** was a director, 2005-12), which funds visiting fellows,

public events and initial project workshops. A recent IAS-funded workshop on 'Modernism and Non-translation' (**Harding, Nash**), for which Ann Banfield was an IAS Fellow, drew researchers from seven UK universities, France and the US, leading to publications in 2015. **Waugh's** work in cognitive science was supported by IAS workshops, with guests from across the UK and an IAS Fellow. The Romantic Dialogues and Legacies research group has staged four public lecture series with IAS support, each leading to a published volume. In addition, twenty edited volumes have been published by staff during the period, involving collaborations with national and international colleagues, and exploring current research on major themes within the discipline.

The Department's focus on collaborative work has seen staff contribute to formal national and international networks across a wide range of the discipline: **Ashurst** is part of Nordic Gender and the Middle Ages, with colleagues from six north European nations; **Carver** contributes to the Seventeenth-Century Fiction Network, funded by the British Academy; **Mack** is part of the UK Spinoza Network; **Ravelhofer** co-directs European Frontiers; **Thomas** works with the International Borges Foundation in Buenos Aires. These examples have led to work in REF2. Regional collaborations assisted the BGP2 award: **Harding** and **James** organised a Northern Modernism Seminar; **Terry** organised a Caribbean seminar for the North; **Clemit, O'Connell** and **Skinner** are active in the North East Forum in 18th Century and Romantic Studies.

Contribution to the discipline: Staff are well positioned to learn from others, and able to influence and respond to developments across the discipline. The following selection shows how the Department's intellectual leadership and institutional management helps to sustain an exciting and successful discipline. Such activities are undertaken at all staff levels; they are discussed in annual staff review and are a criterion in assessing promotion.

(i) Service to national organizations. **Waugh** is on the AHRC's 'Science and Culture' advisory panel and advises The Wellcome Trust. Four members of staff are executive committee or board members for national and international societies: **Archibald**, International Arthurian Society; **Clemit**, British Society for 18th Century Studies; **Garratt**, British Society for Literature and Science. **O'Neill** is Chair of the International Byron Society Advisory Board.

(ii) Editorial work helps to sustain journals that are central to the discipline and demonstrates the strength of particular fields. Staff edit or co-edit five journals, including one of the foremost theory journals, *Oxford Literary Review* (**Clark**) and a leading medieval journal, *Medium Ævum* (**Saunders**). New journals are indicative of the discipline's vitality: **Thomas** co-edits an open access online journal *Orbit: Writing Around Pynchon*, which was launched in 2012. Six staff have guest-edited journals in this period, in addition to three book series including Frontiers of Narrative (**Herman**). Many staff are on editorial boards, providing expert advice and strategic direction to major journals in the discipline, e.g. *Journal of Modern Literature* (**Mackay**), as well as bringing literary perspectives to other fields, e.g. *Dance Chronicle* (**Ravelhofer**).

(iii) Peer review demonstrates a commitment to collaboration which enhances others' work and adds to the continuing diversity and rigour of English studies. All staff conduct appraisals, whether for journals, publishers, or funding bodies. Journals for which staff regularly peer review include *Chaucer Review*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Journal of American Studies* and *Review of English Studies*. Most staff appraise submissions for leading academic presses. Six staff peer review, and panel review, for the AHRC, others for the Leverhulme Trust, Wellcome Trust, the MacArthur Foundation (US), European Science Foundation and funding agencies in Ireland and Finland.

(v) Seven UK institutions have been assisted through consultancies, including departmental reviews. Three staff have served on senior appointment panels overseas.

(vi) The Department has organised over 30 conferences and workshops during the period, including 'Evolution of Literature: Legacies of Darwin' (2008), the Society for Medieval Languages and Literature conference (2010) and International Pynchon Week (2013). These events have brought together thousands of national and international participants, in order to disseminate the latest research, enhance PGR training, and assist learned societies.

(vii) Members of staff have externally examined over 60 research degrees in the UK and abroad.

These contributions extend the research base of the discipline nationally and internationally. Their fulfilment enables the Department's strategy to be effective, extending the intellectual and institutional reach of our research while keeping it open to new developments in the discipline.