

Institution: University College London

Unit of Assessment: 29 English Language and Literature

a. Overview

The Department of English was established at the University's foundation in 1826 and was the first of its kind in England. It now consists of 25 full-time research active members of staff. This unit of assessment also includes the Centre for Editing Lives and Letters (CELL), which moved to UCL in September 2012 and consists of one part-time and two full-time research active members of staff. The English Department currently has three externally funded post-doctoral researchers, and CELL has two post-doctoral researchers. Six members of staff are classified as Early Career Researchers.

Of the 101 items submitted as outputs for the REF, 19 are authored books, 19 are edited/co-edited books, three are online editions, 28 are articles in journals, and 32 are chapters in books. These outputs, chosen from a very much larger overall pool of research published by members of the Department since 2008, cover all eras of literature in English from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present day. This chronological span is reflected in the work undertaken by the Department's 70 PhD students, whose topics in the reporting period have ranged from trees in Anglo-Saxon culture to alternative comics of the 21st century.

The Department includes the Survey of English Usage (SEU), an English language research unit that has its own Director and its own budget. Research Fellows working at the SEU are funded by grants from outside bodies. The Survey's expertise lies principally in English grammar and computational linguistics; it has developed several linguistic databases (corpora) of written and spoken English with associated groundbreaking exploration software, and is regarded as one of the world's leading centres for corpus linguistics.

Much of the unit's research is collaborative and interdisciplinary. CELL has on-going team projects, foregrounding Renaissance Studies in the digital age; the Early Modern Exchanges has fostered collaborations with scholars of numerous European languages and historians of medicine, science and law; the Bloomsbury Project was fundamentally interdisciplinary, and involved collaborating with archivists and historians of art, law, science, religion and education. The Colonial Film project was a collaboration between a member of the Department (Grieveson) and Professor Colin MacCabe (Birkbeck/University of Pittsburgh).

Members of staff organized/co-organized 18 conferences, and its PhD students six conferences. Over £1,500,000 in competitive research income was won in the reporting period.

b. Research strategy

The Department's research culture seeks to develop the historical and theoretical vitality of the discipline across different periods and genres of English writing, and different media (film, print, manuscripts). Our research ranges from major editorial projects, to the criticism of contemporary film and literature, to the discovery of fresh ways of reading established or unfamiliar texts in the light of new cultural or literary questions.

We are particularly proud of the chronological span we cover; our outputs for the reporting period deal with topics from the ninth century to the twenty-first, reflecting the multifaceted nature of the Department's research environment, and the successful implementation of our core strategy, defined in RAE 2008 as a 'carefully modulated mixture of collaborative initiatives and support for the work of individual researchers'.

A distinctive aspect of the Department's research culture is its fostering of projects that cross between periods and disciplines: the breadth and scope of Bowlby's *A Child of One's Own:* Parental Stories or Rennie's Treasure Neverland: Real and Imaginary Pirates or Ford's London: A History in Verse exemplify a research environment in which scholars are encouraged to forage well beyond specialist areas of interest, and to make all possible use of their colleagues' expertise.

The Research Committee's overall purpose is to create a research environment in which all members of staff have the opportunities and resources to fulfill their scholarly potential. Made up of a rotating body of senior members of staff, it meets three times a year to formulate the Department's overall research strategy; to discuss the development of individual projects in progress; and to appoint mentors to advise junior colleagues on the development of their research.

The committee is mindful of the traditions of the discipline, and alert to the ways in which it is changing, and how these changes may affect research projects, and their opportunities for attracting external funding. The committee's success in urging the importance of engaging in



interdisciplinary and collaborative research is illustrated by large-scale enterprises such as the Colonial Film Project and the Bloomsbury Project, funded by the AHRC and the Leverhulme Trust respectively. The Research Committee runs workshops on grant applications, funding opportunities, and pathways to impact, and liaises with UCL's Faculty of Arts research facilitators, who provide yet further feedback to applicants.

The Research Committee offers tailored advice on projects from inception to publication; it aims to facilitate the successful completion of all research initiatives launched by members of the Department, and to assist in the widest possible dissemination of the results of that research. It monitors the vitality of the Department's scholarly achievements in all their forms, responding to innovations in the discipline at large, seeking to improve the contributions that the unit makes to the development of our subject.

During the reporting period the Department established three major **Research Themes**: the City, Editions, and Life Stories, reflecting areas in which its research and publications are particularly strong as a means of cohering shared research interests, and a sense of collective enterprise. Resulting outputs include: *Restless Cities* in 2010, edited by Beaumont (founder of The City Centre (see below)) and Dart, and including essays by Bowlby, Boddy, and Sayeau, as well as Beaumont and Dart. In 2012 we organised a major conference and literary festival, *One Day in the City*; this was enormously successful as a forum for the Department's urban research interests, as well as creating opportunities for interacting with academics within and without UCL, and with writers, film-makers and artists. This success has led us to establish the festival as a biannual event.

The Research Committee organized a series of seminars on each of the themes to which all members of the Department contributed, sharing specific details of their work in progress, and general insights about methodology, developments in research technology, and information about the latest web resources. These Research Themes helped, further, to communicate our key areas of expertise to other scholars, including prospective PhD students, imparting a representative shape to our leading research interests. We intend to continue with this strategy of using Research Themes in order to meld projects and interests, but will also introduce more proactive elements. From 2013-2019 our chosen Research Themes will be used to focus research activity in biannual alternation: 2013-2015: Intercultural Exchanges; 2015-2017: The City; 2017-2019: Editions. The replacement of Life Stories with Intercultural Exchanges reflects the research interests of several newly appointed members of the Department. Intercultural Exchanges addresses reciprocal influences between literature written in Britain and literature written elsewhere, with a particular focus on Franco-British and Anglo-American literary relations. There will be at least two research seminars per term for each theme, and contributions will be invited from other disciplines and universities. We will run an annual workshop on the chosen theme, and each two-year cycle will culminate with a conference in June.

Significant Recent Research Initiatives: Since 2008 we have launched several research initiatives illustrating the unit's strategy of expansion, interdisciplinarity and collaboration:

The Centre for Early Modern Exchanges was co-founded in 2010 by Hackett and Dr Alexander Samson (UCL Spanish and Latin American Studies). Dedicated to the study of the cultural exchanges between England and Europe and the New World in the period 1450-1800, it has fostered collaborations with scholars of Spanish, Italian, French, German and Slavonic literature, and experts in the history of science, medicine, law and the visual arts.

The City Centre was established by Beaumont in 2010. It co-ordinates a range of research projects on aspects of the cultural and literary history of the metropolis from the Middle Ages to the present. The City Centre stages conferences, debates, seminars and symposiums in which artists, filmmakers, scholars, scientists, students and writers discuss the representation of the city.

The Survey of English Usage, led by Aarts, is building a web-based platform for English language teaching and learning, funded by the AHRC, and by UCL Business. This site is intended for teachers and students in primary and secondary schools and is due for completion in 2014. The SEU is currently negotiating with major commercial partners to roll out the platform across the UK.

The Bloomsbury Project, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, was an archive-based investigation undertaken by Professor Rosemary Ashton and a team of researchers into the development of Bloomsbury in the 19th century. Collaborative and interdisciplinary, it mapped the archives of a range of pioneering institutions and societies in this part of London at that time. The outputs included a website that went live in 2011 and Ashton's monograph *Victorian Bloomsbury*.



The Colonial Film Project led by Grieveson and Professor Colin MacCabe produced a major new website housing an online catalogue of films held by three major archives (the BFI National Archive, the Imperial War Museum, and the British Empire and Commonwealth Museum) which show life in British Colonies from 1895 to the separate moments of independence. The website catalogues over 6,000 films, and has over 400,000 words of commentary situating and exploring the history of British colonial film.

The Centre for Editing Lives and Letters (CELL) transferred from Queen Mary University of London to the UCL English Department in the summer of 2012. Founded and directed by Lisa Jardine, CELL develops archive-based research projects of relevance to the period 1500-1800. Its research agenda supports projects that pilot innovative methodologies and practices aimed at making archives matter. CELL also offers seminars, events, and a skills-based postgraduate training programme and has a thriving community of doctoral research students. Among the Centre's current projects are an online edition of Gabriel Harvey's annotated edition of Livy, and an online edition of the manuscripts of Thomas Bodley.

Future Strategic Aims for Research: The various initiatives mentioned above will dominate the research environment of the Department for at least the early part of the next assessment period. A priority for us will be continuing our success in applications to bodies such as the AHRC and the Leverhulme Trust for funding for both large-scale enterprises involving multiple researchers and individual projects that result in monographs, articles and editions. We aim to maintain the distinctive and stimulating nature of our research environment, while incorporating the fresh ideas and youthful energies of recently recruited members of staff.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Introduction: The Department fully recognizes 'the importance of recruiting, selecting and retaining researchers with the highest potential to achieve excellence in research', and seeks always to implement this and other central principles established in the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers through mentoring, probation, appraisal and training.

In the period under review the Department's research personnel has changed considerably: since 2008 seven senior colleagues have left, allowing us to make eight new appointments, all at the level of Lecturer. These new posts attracted extremely strong candidates, and the new appointments all arrived with impressive publication records. This seismic shift in the make-up of the staff has significantly altered the Department's age profile, for six of these new appointments were taking up their first permanent academic post.

Our staffing strategy continues to be driven by our collective desire to deliver internationally recognized research across the full range of English and American literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present day, and our appointments were made in accordance with this ideal.

Staff Development and Appraisal: The importance of researchers' personal and career development is central to our staffing strategy. The Department is committed to the ideal of lifelong learning, and has in place procedures and structures that enable staff both to develop, and to be confident that their development is being fairly monitored by regular appraisal.

UCL provides a diverse and comprehensive training programme for staff, ranging from courses on project management to sessions on innovative uses of IT resources. Every member of the Department is required to attend at least three of these sessions or courses in each academic year. Since 2012-13 all members of staff have been allocated an annual research allowance of £1,000 to facilitate conference attendance, or to cover expenses for research.

All staff are appraised at least every two years: professors by the Head of Department, and other staff by a professor within the Department. The Head of Department is appraised annually by the Dean of the Faculty. All those conducting appraisals have received UCL's appraisal training.

All new members of staff, probationers, and those on short-term contracts are assigned a mentor. Each member of staff meets with the mentor assigned formally once a term to discuss their research development, and informally as often as needed. At the end of each term the mentor submits a written progress report. In addition, all Junior and Early Career researchers take part in the Academic Development Programmes arranged by the Centre for the Advancement of Learning and Teaching. Probationary staff are spared significant administrative tasks until the end of their probation (usually three years). Probationary staff are also given a reduced teaching load.

Sabbaticals: All permanent members of staff are invited to apply for leave of one term after



nine terms of teaching. In the period under review these requests were all granted, and a total of 41 terms of sabbatical leave were taken by members of the Department. Research leave outcomes are monitored by end-of-leave progress reports and through the appraisal system.

Career progression: The Head of Department conducts an annual review of the career progression of each non-professorial permanent member of academic staff, including individual discussion of prospects for promotion. The Department's Promotions Committee, consisting of all professors in the Department, meets annually to discuss possible cases for promotion. Colleagues put forward for promotion are allotted a member of the Promotions Committee as advisor. UCL procedures allow for any member of staff who has not been put forward in this way to submit his or her case directly to the Faculty Promotions Committee. During the reporting period two members of the Department have been promoted to personal chairs, six to Readerships or Senior Lectureships, and Susan Irvine to the Quain Chair. Monitoring of the career progression of fixed-term staff is undertaken by their mentors.

Post-doctoral Researchers: Post-doctoral researchers have made significant and much-valued contributions to the Department's research environment over the past six years. During this period we have attracted four British Academy post-doctoral fellows, two holders of Leverhulme post-doctoral awards, and a Marie Curie Fellow. All post-doctoral researchers are treated as full members of the Department. The staff of CELL includes two post-doctoral researchers.

Equal Opportunities: The Department's policies and practices express our commitment to creating a hospitable working environment for all staff. We comply fully with UCL's equal opportunities policy, demanding that in the recruitment, selection, training, appraisal, development and promotion of staff, the only consideration must be that the individual meets the stipulated requirements. We ensure that no member of staff is disadvantaged in his or her career progression because of absence or disruption to research as a result of ill health, care and family commitments, maternity/paternity, disability, religious commitments, or part-time status. Our selection panels for all academic appointments are inclusive and representative in terms of seniority and gender. All members of the Department serving on appointments panels are required to have received training instructing them in their legal responsibilities and making them aware of good equal opportunities practice. All category A staff are on permanent contracts. Some 45% of category A staff are women; 35% of our professoriate is female as compared with the HESA national average of 20%. Both established Chairs are held by women.

Staff and the World Beyond Academia: The Department uses its system of Honorary appointments to stimulate exchanges between staff and experts from the worlds of media, film, art and curatorship. Recent Honorary Professors have included Robin Simon FSA, editor of *The British Art Journal*, Kevin Jackson, writer and broadcaster, and Karen Hearn, former Curator of 16th- and 17th-century British Art at Tate Britain. Research associates include literary agent Dr Jon Elek, book auctioneer Dr Philip Errington, and novelist Vikram Seth.

The Department also encourages and supports staff engagement with a wide range of professional and commercial organizations: the multifarious activities outlined in our Impact Template suggest the scope and depth of these exchanges.

ii. Research students

Introduction: The Department supports a vigorous postgraduate research culture. 528 applications to embark on MPhil/PhD research were received in the REF review period and 70 students admitted; 30 PhDs were awarded, and five more in the months after July 2013. PhD students now generally establish significant publishing profiles in the course of their research, and revised versions of theses have been published by presses including CUP, Faber, Edinburgh UP and Continuum. In the reporting period nine English Department PhDs have been successful in applications for permanent posts in university English Departments. One received a Birmingham Fellowship, one a Junior Research Fellowship at Trinity College, Oxford, and one the Darby Fellowship at Lincoln College, Oxford; five have been awarded Teaching Fellowships at UCL, and three awarded British Academy Post-doctoral Fellowships. The research publication of one post-doctoral Fellow was short-listed for the Lothian Prize (Laoutaris, 2010).

Recruitment and Equal Opportunities: Demand for places on our MPhil/PhD programme greatly outstrips supply. The competitiveness of the entry process means that all students admitted have extremely strong academic records and excellent proposals. 18 received studentships from the AHRC, one from the Leverhulme Trust; nine received UCL Graduate School Scholarships (of



whom seven were overseas), and one a UCL Faculty Scholarship. Applicants and admitted candidates (normally around 15 a year) come from a wide range of countries and backgrounds: of the 528 applications, 219 were from overseas students. 331 applications were from women, and 197 from men. 37.8% of applicants received an offer. Women applicants had a 37.1% chance of receiving an offer, and overseas students a 25.1% chance. Of the 70 students who enrolled, 77% were female, and 34% were from overseas.

Research Training Programme: All MPhil/PhD students are allocated a principal and a secondary supervisor. The student meets with the principal supervisor approximately ten times a year. The secondary supervisor can be called on for additional advice, and participates in the First Year end-of-year review, and the upgrading, in the second year, of the student from MPhil to PhD status. The secondary supervisor will also read the entire thesis just before submission. All supervisors have participated in training sessions on the art of successful PhD supervision.

A wide variety of skills training is available for the Department's PhD students, including a fortnightly research methods mandatory programme for first-year students. These seminars cover topics such as using databases, using existing scholarship and criticism, approaches to editing, and how to organize an academic conference. PhD students in the Department also attend a selection of the numerous training programmes and seminars provided by the UCL Faculty of Arts and Humanities, by the UCL Graduate School, and by the Institute of English Studies at Senate House. Many of these are subject-specific (paleography, archival research, working with manuscripts), while others offer more general training in IT or presentation skills or career preparation. The supervisor is able to monitor students' attendance of these training courses through the electronic graduate logbook, which all PhD students must complete on a regular basis. This logbook also enables students to take stock of their progress through self-assessment entries to which the supervisor then responds. Students also use the log to record their attendances at conferences or applications for grants or research trips undertaken.

The skills training offered to PhD students by the Department includes an introduction to teaching at university level. Second-year students are normally invited to become 'teaching assistants' for the year. They receive preliminary training from the Departmental Tutor, and are each allocated five or six first-year undergraduate tutorial students, to whom they give five individual half-hour tutorials a term. All third-year students are invited to apply for the Fourth Year Fellowship: the Fourth Year Fellow gives lectures and seminars, often in collaboration with her or his supervisor, as well as tutorials.

Monitoring and Support: The progress of MPhil/PhD students is closely monitored throughout. At the end of the first year all students must submit a dossier containing an excerpt from work in progress of around 7,000 words; an outline of research already undertaken, with an accompanying bibliography of primary and secondary works consulted; a forward plan for research and writing over the summer; and a research methods exercise. At a meeting with primary and secondary supervisors this material is assessed, and advice given on what is required for the student's upgrade from MPhil to PhD status.

For the upgrade the following year another piece of around 7,000 words must be submitted, along with a chapter plan of the entire thesis and a statement of the research and writing tasks which remain to be accomplished. The upgrade dossier must also contain an introduction giving the context of the piece of work; a literature review; a research question and hypothesis; a section on methodology; and a bibliography. This material is assessed by the secondary supervisor and another member of the Department, and discussed with the student at a meeting at which the primary supervisor may, if the student wishes, be present.

A further progress review is held with primary and secondary supervisors at the end of the second year, and an end of course review with the Higher Degree Subcommittee at the end of the third year. For the end of course review the student must submit a 300-word abstract; a chapter plan with brief synopsis of the material covered in each chapter; an extract from the thesis of 8,000-10,000 words; and a report outlining the remaining work and the proposed timetable for completion. This rigorous review structure means progress is carefully monitored at all stages, and the student has a clear understanding from the outset of exactly what is expected and when.

Primary supervisors provide pastoral as well as academic support throughout the duration of a PhD student's course. Further, all incoming students are allotted a mentor, who will normally be a second- or third-year PhD student. This mentoring system is a means of inducting new arrivals into the PhD student body, and mentors have often proved invaluable sources of advice



and support. The Staff Graduate Student Consultative Committee meets once a term; all PhD students are invited to attend these meetings, at which any matters pertaining to PhD student life can be raised. The Graduate Tutor is available for consultation by PhD students on any topic, academic or personal. Language support for PhD students whose first language is not English is available from UCL's Centre for Languages and International Education (CLIE). CLIE also offers courses for PhD students whose research requires knowledge of a particular foreign language.

Graduate Research Culture: The Department's fortnightly Graduate Seminars present the most striking evidence of the vibrancy of its Graduate Research Culture. These events are always packed and lively occasions. They are attended by staff, PhD students, and some MA students. All PhD students are given the opportunity to present a paper. Recent visiting speakers have included Hermione Lee and Robert Douglas-Fairhurst. The City Centre, the Centre for Early Modern Exchanges, and CELL all operate their own graduate seminar programmes. The English Graduate Society runs a student-led theory group, and each summer hosts a well-attended conference; many of the papers from this conference are published in the Graduate Society's online journal, Moveable Type. In June 2013 a graduate student organized a very successful conference, Sherlock Holmes: Past and Present, at the Institute of English Studies. Another current PhD student co-organized a series of nine seminars hosted and funded by the Faculty Institute for Graduate Studies (FIGS) that explored television series from The Sopranos to Breaking Bad (Complex TV: Television Drama in the Twenty-first Century (March-June 2013)). The online magazine The Literateur was founded by a PhD student in the Department in 2009; it has published articles by many of the Department's graduate students, and interviews with writers and critics such as Sir Christopher Ricks, Paul Muldoon, Will Self, Zadie Smith and Sir Frank Kermode.

During the period covered by the REF the Department hosted three sets of Northcliffe lectures: they were delivered by Jenny Uglow in 2008, by Caryl Phillips in 2010, and by Michael Wood in 2012. These proved extremely popular with the Department's PhD students, as did lectures by our writers-in-residence Geoff Dyer, Pankaj Mishra, Tom McCarthy and Frances Wilson, and lectures in the Keith Walker Memorial Lecture Series delivered by David Scott Kastan and Alan Hollinghurst. All third-year PhD students are invited to apply to give the annual Celia Phillips Lecture, an occasion that is always well attended. The Department makes good use of its contacts in the worlds of academic publishing and literary journalism to arrange informal but immensely useful sessions for its PhD students with editors from publishing firms such as Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press, and from the *Times Literary Supplement* – to which many of our PhD students contribute book reviews – and the *London Review of Books*.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Research Income: During the reporting period the Department was successful in attracting external funding from a range of sources:

The Survey of English Usage made six successful funding applications, including for two fEC AHRC grants worth £357,417 and £88,403 respectively. The total research income raised by the Survey in the reporting period was £583,454.

Grieveson was co-principal investigator of the Colonial Film Project which was awarded an AHRC Major Resource Enhancement Grant of £500,000 (2007-10).

The Bloomsbury Project was awarded a grant of £226,712 (2007-2011).

Butterfield was awarded a three-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship (£145,114, 2008-11); Weis a three-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship (£151,009, 2010-13); Bowlby a two-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship (£92,713, 2011-13); Boddy a one-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship (£39,151, 2009-10); Beaumont a one-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship (£32,606, 2012-13); Swaab an AHRC Research Leave Grant (£26,377, 2010).

CELL received the following grants: Open Knowledge Foundation, €7,464; Bibliographical Society, £1,000. The 2012 Francis Bacon Award in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology prize of \$20,000 was awarded to Jardine, who donated the money to CELL to fund the inaugural CELL/CHIRP lecture.

Scholarly Infrastructure: The Department is fortunate in inheriting a scholarly infrastructure built up on our Bloomsbury site over nearly two centuries. Our central London location means staff and PhD students have easy access to the British Library and Senate House Library, along with the capital's scholarly institutions and archives, as well as to the graduate and research seminar programmes run by other London colleges and the Institute of English Studies.



UCL's Library Services offer specialist research collections of international standing, facilities such as quiet, IT-enabled study space, and a superb collection of e-resources, for which the library had a total budget of £800,000 in the reporting period. Research support services include interlibrary loans, information skills training, reference management, alerting services, bibliometric data, citation metrics and open access funding. The shared library space for English and German was refurbished in the summer of 2010 at a cost of £750,000. Since 2008 an average of £42,250 per annum was spent on books and periodicals relating to our discipline.

The UCL Library holds some significant archives and collections that have proved of value to research projects in the reporting period. Atkinson has explored the library's collection of nineteenth-century exam papers and library committee minutes as part of her research for a forthcoming monograph on the dissemination of French fiction in Victorian England. Gabriel Harvey's original copy of Castiglione's *Cortegiano* (a unique item from the extensive Castiglione corpus held in UCL Special Collections at Kew) formed the basis of Stamatakis's research on Harvey's annotative methods and on wider early modern reading habits. A PhD student working on the literary agent J.B. Pinker has based elements of her research on the library's holdings of Pinker's unpublished correspondence with Arnold Bennett. The Department has a particularly strong interest in the Library's extensive Orwell archives: Bowlby and Weis are trustees of this collection, and Sayeau is a trustee of the Orwell Prize. From autumn 2013 the Department will host the annual George Orwell Memorial Lecture.

The Department drew extensively on both UCL Art Collections and UCL Library Special Collections for two important exhibitions mounted at the UCL Art Museum: *Word and Image: Early Modern Treasures of UCL* was co-curated by Hackett to accompany the Early Modern Exchanges conference, and ran from September-December 2011; it included works by Albrecht Dürer, Lucas Cranach and Anthony van Dyck, and a range of etchings, engravings and maps, as well as numerous early printed books from Special Collections. As part of the One Day in the City initiative, Nick Shepley (Teaching Fellow) co-curated an exhibition *One Day in the City* which ran from June-December 2012 and showcased works by Wenceslaus Hollar, William Hogarth, James Abbott McNeill Whistler, as well as Franz Hogenberg's 1572 plan of London. Also on display were the Special Collections' first edition of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, the first U.S. edition of *Anna Livia Plurabelle*, and the 1931 Faber & Faber pamphlet *Haveth Childers Everywhere*, along with a range of first editions of novels by George Orwell.

Organisational Infrastructure: As outlined above, the Research Committee oversees the organisational infrastructure supporting research within the Department. Members of staff and PhD students also, however, participate in various Faculty graduate and research organizations, in particular the Faculty Institute for Graduate Studies (FIGS), which was founded in 2010 and has greatly enhanced the research environment of the Faculty through its programmes of research seminars and its funding of small research projects: it makes available to both staff and PhD students grants of £1,500 for the organization of interdisciplinary mini-conferences, and £500 for interdisciplinary workshops. In addition, CHIRP (Centre for Humanities Interdisciplinary Research Projects), founded in September 2012, is already proving a useful resource, providing advice to members of staff developing interdisciplinary research projects. CELL's director, Jardine, presides over a weekly 90-minute forum at which graduate students and staff gather to discuss topics related to the theory and practice of interdisciplinary research, and hear visiting speakers from pandisciplinary fields. UCL's Grand Challenges scheme has assisted in the funding of initiatives such as One Day in the City, the Centre for Early Modern Exchanges, and CHIRP.

Operational Infrastructure: All staff have their own rooms with networked computers which give access to the e-resources of UCL Library and Senate House. This access is also available remotely. The Department provides free printing and photocopying. It receives from the Faculty an allocation of around £4,000 per annum for updating of equipment. In 2008 the Department's Foster Court premises were refurbished at a cost of around £750,000. The Survey of English Usage has its own server and databases. We benefit greatly from UCL's broader research computing infrastructure, which includes Eduroam, a wireless service available for all staff and PhD students, and from the College's excellent IT support system. This support is especially important for web-based research projects such as those undertaken by CELL, and for the Colonial Film and Bloomsbury Project teams. Staff make use of IRIS and UCL Discovery to record their publications and research activity. The Faculty has a designated Digital Communications Officer for Arts and Humanities who assisted in the unit's contribution to the UCL Festival of the Arts (7-17).



May, 2013).

PhD students have their own common room in the Department, and can also make use of the Graduate Common Room in the UCL Graduate School. They have access to numerous cluster rooms around college, and four computers in the Department's Student Common Room. The teaching rooms in which Graduate Research Seminars are held are equipped with computers and audiovisual facilities, which are supported by the Audiovisual Centre.

Infrastructure strategy: The Research Committee oversees the research needs of members of staff, and the Graduate Tutor the research needs of PhD students. The Research Committee also liaises with Faculty research bodies and ensures research data is regularly collected. The responsibility for maintaining the infrastructures and facilities described above is shared with the Faculty, and with the College as a whole.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Introduction: The English Department is proud of the contribution it makes to the wider research community on both a national and international level. Members of the Department engage in collaboration with academics from universities in Britain and across the globe.

Collaboration: Collaboration is at the heart of many of the Department's research initiatives and projects, most notably the following: the Survey of English Usage; the Bloomsbury Project (which involved collaboration by Ashton with scholars and archivists from numerous Bloomsbury institutions including the British Museum, the British Library, and Dr Williams's Library); the Colonial Film Project (undertaken by Grieveson and Professor Colin MacCabe (Birkbeck/University of Pittsburgh); One Day in the City (which involved an interdisciplinary partnership with the Bartlett School of Architecture, the Slade, UCL's Urban Laboratory and the Royal Institute of British Architects); Early Modern Exchanges; the City Centre; the Centre for Editing Lives and Letters, whose project 'Gabriel Harvey's Livy Online' is a collaboration with the Universities of Utrecht and Leiden in the Netherlands, and Johns Hopkins and Princeton Universities in the USA. These projects all depend on collaboration at national and international level.

Collaboration is also fundamental to more specific projects undertaken by members of the Department. North is currently collaborating with Professors Willhelm Heizmann and Astrid van Nahl from the Institute of Nordic Philology at the Ludwig Maxmilian's University, Munich, on contributions to the Germanische Altertumskunde Online, and Horne with Professor Adrian Poole and Dr. Tamara Follini of Cambridge University on the editorship of the 30-volume CUP edition of the complete fiction of Henry James. Allan is one of nine members of the Keywords Project which is jointly funded by the University of Pittsburgh and Jesus College Cambridge. Grieveson co-edits with Haidee Wasson of Concordia University the BFI's series Cultural Histories of Cinema. Woudhuysen collaborated with Michael Suarez S.J. of Oxford University and Virginia University on the editing of the two-volume *Oxford Companion to the Book* (2010). Beaumont collaborated with Ben Campkin of Arup Architectural Practice on the conference 'Insect City' held at the Grant Museum in 2011, and he co-edits, with Lawrence Phillips of Regents College, London, the Continuum/Bloomsbury series Studies in the City.

The Department's multifaceted engagement with print, television and radio media enriches the Department's research environment both for its members and for its PhD students. Its research culture and strategy is in part shaped by its tradition of involvement in print journalism and broadcasting, a tradition continued in the reporting period by Ford, Jardine and Mullan.

The interdisciplinarity of our research culture can be illustrated by three examples: Bowlby's involvement in psychoanalysis, Weis's research into opera, and Beaumont's into urban studies.

The Department participated in the successful collaborative bid with Kings College London and the School of Advanced Studies for an AHRC block grant for doctoral training; this will become operative in October 2014. The Department also enjoys a collaborative partnership with the Victoria and Albert Museum that involves the study at graduate level of literary and material resources at the Museum. All PGR students participate in seminars run by the Institute of English Studies at Senate House.

Contribution to the Discipline: The Unit has made an outstanding contribution to the discipline throughout the reporting period.

Bowlby reviews grant applications for the British Academy, and is a judge for Philip Leverhulme Prizes. Weis is a founding member of the AFR higher degree research board of The



Fonds National de la Recherche in Luxembourg which adjudicates funding in the Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences and is affiliated in partnership with the European Research Council. Mullan and Irvine have been external referees for the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences Post-Doctoral Fellowships. In the period covered by the REF British Academy grant applications have been assessed by Woudhuysen, Butterfield and Ashton, and Ashton was a member of the Research Awards Advisory Committee of the Leverhulme Trust until September 2010.

Since 2012 Allan has been a member of the 'Network of Scholars' advisory panel for the AHRC-funded project 'Mapping Metaphor with the *Historical Thesaurus*'. Aarts was an external member of the Periodic Review Panel for the School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics, University of Sheffield.

Irvine was a member of the Advisory Board for the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists (2006-9) and elected Vice-President of this Society in 2012. She is also a member of the Council of the Early English Text Society. Bowlby is a Fellow of the British Academy. Aarts is Vice-President for the Profession of the International Society for the Linguistics of English. Allan has been a member of the Council of the Philological Society since 2010. Dart is Chair of the Hazlitt Society.

Irvine was a member of the University of London Central Research Fund Expert Advisory Panel A from 2008-11, and has been a member of the Advisory Council of the Institute of English Studies, University of London since 2008. Bowlby has been a member of the Research and Higher Education Policy Committee of the British Academy since 2009.

Members of the Department have organized or co-organized the following conferences: Beginnings and Endings: The Medieval Preface and Epilogue (UCL, 20 June, 2011, Irvine); The Anglo-Saxons: Who? Where? When? Why? (IES, 21 March, 2012, Irvine and North); International Conference on the Linguistics of Contemporary English (IES, 14-17 July, 2009, Aarts); Early Modern Exchanges Conference (UCL, 15-17 September, 2011, Hackett); Placing Henry James (University of Notre Dame London, June 29-July 1, 2012, Horne); Mick Imlah: His Life and Work (IES,10 December, 2010, Ford); Colonial Film (University of London, 8-9 July, 2010; the University of Pittsburgh, 25-26 September, 2010; The English and Foreign Languages University in Hyderabad, India, 21-22 October, 2011; Tate Modern,17-19 November, 2011, Grieveson); Victorian Comedy (UCL, 27 April, 2013, Darcy); Bloomsbury Day (UCL, 12 March, 2010, Ashton); Hazlitt Day Conference (UCL, 9 June 2012, Dart); G.K. Chesterton and the City (UCL, 22 September, 2011, Beaumont, Ingleby); One Day in the City (UCL, June 15, 2012, Shepley); The Permissive Archive (UCL, 9 November 2012, CELL); Insect City (Grant Museum, October 25, 2011, Beaumont).

Members of the Department have given over 100 invited and keynote lectures in the reporting period. The international nature of our contributions can be gauged by the fact that keynote lectures were given in Freiburg (Germany), Tromsø (Norway), Belgrade (Serbia), Łódź (Poland), Logroño (Spain) and Jaén (Spain) by Aarts; in Warsaw and Poznań (Poland), Almagro (Spain) and Eichstätt, Munich and Bamberg (Germany) by Allan; by Grieveson in Montreal and Stockholm; by North in Huntsville; by Beaumont in Shanghai and Chicago; by Irvine in Rome; by Bowlby at Cornell and Yale; by Boddy in Dublin and Tutzing (Germany). Prominent among keynote lectures given in the UK were those by Dart at Leeds, by Swaab at Grasmere, and by Davis at Stirling. In December 2008 Bowlby gave the Gauss Seminars in Criticism at Princeton University. Ford was the Morris Gray Lecturer at Harvard in 2011, joining a roster of Morris Gray poets that includes T.S. Eliot, W.H. Auden, Robert Frost, Elizabeth Bishop and Seamus Heaney. From 2007-10 Grieveson ran a seminar series on colonial cinema at the BFI and the Imperial War Museum. Speakers included Stuart Hall, Laura Mulvey, Stephen Frears, Paul Gilroy and David Trotter.

Since 2008 we have examined 86 PhDs, including three in France, one in Holland and one in Norway.

We assess research proposals for a wide variety of academic publishers and journals, from *Medium Aevum* to *Textual Practice* (of which Bowlby is a board-member), from *The Chaucer Review* to *Historical Materialism*. Aarts is a consultant for OUP's English Language Dictionaries and was editor, until July 2012, of *English Language and Linguistics*; he is now Reviews Editor. He also reviews research proposals for the ESRC. Dart is one of the editors of the *Hazlitt Review*. Irvine is on the editorial advisory board for *Anglia*. Grieveson is on the editorial board of the film studies journals *Cinema Journal* and *Screen*, and of the British Film Institute Classics series.