Institution: University of Liverpool

Unit of Assessment: 36 - Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, Library and Information Management

a. Overview

Staff in the new Department of Communication and Media (Head: Richardson, from August 2013, previously Hallam) were formerly part of the School of Politics and Communication Studies, and returned to the Politics/IR panel in RAE 2008 as part of that School's submission. Seven research active staff (including two appointed in September 2013) have research strengths in two primary thematic areas: *Screen Studies* and *Media, Politics and Society.* With colleagues elsewhere in the School of the Arts we are now developing a third, overlapping strand in the area of *Digital Media and Cultures,* building on existing research interests and reorienting them to the digital world. The *Screen Studies* grouping has two core members (Tzioumakis, Hallam) and two adjunct members (Roberts, Richardson). The *Media, Politics and Society* grouping has four members (Balabanova, Goddard, Richardson, Hill), with Ross as a former member, and Gavin (from the Politics Department) as an honorary member. Also returned here is Professor Paul Watry from the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, whose research expertise in digital preservation and archiving complements our research strengths as outlined above.

The Department is one of five in the School of the Arts, which is one of four Schools in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The School is responsible for the allocation of all resources including staffing budgets. Within this framework research is supported and managed at School level by the School Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee, chaired by the School Research Lead; its members include the Deputy Lead, Head of School, Heads of Departments and each Department's own Research Lead.

The Committee's role includes oversight of the development of policy and practice across the School in procedures underpinning research (e.g. research leave and resource allocation), promoting good practice, supporting existing University research clusters/themes (e.g. Changing Cultures) and identifying new opportunities for collaboration and synergy in research and knowledge exchange within and beyond the School, whilst managing matters of research ethics, and internal peer review of grant applications.

b. Research strategy

Our strategy from 2009 has been to build research capacity, sustainability and vitality based on the research expertise of existing staff in our two core areas, whilst also being open to the emergence of new strands, specifically, at this time, digital media and culture. Early career researchers (ECRs) Hill and Roberts [0.5 FTE] are developing research interests which enhance and complement those of established colleagues., We aim to produce high-quality outputs, secure funding, develop strong external links with research partners and stakeholders beyond the University, promote the Unit's international reputation and develop it as a basis of postgraduate research.

Screen Studies: The strategy of this cluster is to build on recent achievements, taking forward initiatives related to successes in publications, knowledge exchange, grant applications and the organisation of events. Members of this cluster also support each other through shared PhD supervisions (Wilkes, Wharton, Trowbridge) and a regular research seminar series. The Group has a number of research partners and other stakeholders beyond the unit, including non-academic institutions as well as colleagues in other British and international Universities.

The pursuit of external funding has served this cluster well: one major research award in the period is further discussed in section d. Smaller grants have also led to valuable outcomes. Hallam's AHRC/BT research network award enabled cross-disciplinary exchanges in digital humanities and led to an edited collection, *Locating the Moving Image: New Approaches to Space and Place*, among other outputs. The cluster's wider range of publications (encyclopaedia entries, online reference entries, book, film and DVD reviews, screening notes/brochures, DVD inserts, tweets, short films, and international exhibition curation) were planned and executed as part of the Group's knowledge exchange ambitions. Work of this kind will continue, as a public benefit. Other knowledge exchange activity includes collaborative work with local cultural organisations (e.g. the Liverpool museums) or national and international organisations (the BBC, the US Institute of Medicine). The cluster is now ready to develop new plans with these external stakeholders, not only to maximise the range and value of research outputs, but also to secure opportunities for

students, promote knowledge exchange and sustain ongoing relations with the cultural community.

Tzioumakis, having gained an international reputation for innovative work on particular films, on genres, and on the film industry, and for efficiency in a previous series' editorship, has now secured the co-editorship of an important book series, to be commissioned by Routledge, which will re-assess the history of the Hollywood major studios. The cluster supports this effort because it will further consolidate his profile, and ours. To co-write an innovative book on the history of screen acting for Palgrave, Tzioumakis has been granted research leave during 2014-2015.

Hallam's work in the current REF period centred on the successful management of the AHRC award for *Mapping the City in Film*. Her success in sustaining a cohesive and productive research team has led to knowledge exchange activities, an impact case study, conference presentations, an edited collection, a monograph, and a range of articles and book chapters. Hallam's collaboration on this project with Roberts (whose own monograph, *Film, Mobility and Urban Space*, was one of the project's outputs), and Roberts' subsequent employment on the permanent staff, has provided us with an important opportunity for developing School-level research expertise in **Digital Media and Cultures**, including the film aspects introduced in the earlier research. Roberts' appointment was a very recent School initiative (September 2013) to develop capacity in this area. The success of this initiative will be measured in increased levels of external research funding for the School and an international profile for Liverpool in this area. A period of time relatively free of teaching and administrative commitments was built into the job specification in order to facilitate Roberts' research. This investment is also designed to stimulate the development of our third strand of activity, digital, media and cultures, initially through a funding application, currently close to submission, to the AHRC's Research Theme, 'Digital Transformations in the Arts and Humanities'. Richardson, Hill and Hallam will support this new focus, under Roberts' leadership, regarded as a theme which cross-cuts our existing clusters and helps to connect them, as well as connecting us with colleagues in the wider School. Richardson's membership of the Screen Studies cluster is also grounded in her work on the monograph *Television Dramatic Dialogue*, though more recently she has also contributed to the Media, Politics and Society cluster.

Media, Politics and Society: The more long-standing members of this cluster have been involved in collaborations on funded projects in earlier research assessment periods (Richardson, Goddard and Gavin; Goddard and Gavin), while in the current period, Richardson's AHRC collaborater, John Corner, is a Liverpool Emeritus professor and another honorary member of this cluster. Members of the cluster also support one another through shared PhD supervisions (Nyawanza, Shen) and a regular Media and Politics research seminar series.

The cluster is now reviewing prospects for future collaborations, with the aim of targeting specific, appropriate ESRC funding calls. A particular opportunity exists in relation to the new Urgency Grants Mechanism, since it is through media coverage that social and political problems come to be known publicly as emergencies. The core of this collaboration will involve Richardson's breadth in terms of public issues conducive to 'emergency' framings (welfare scrounging, nuclear power, the national economy, poverty, British politics) and greater experience of research grant management, with Balabanova's Media and Human Rights expertise. Goddard's and Hill's expertise on current affairs and media ethics respectively will add further credibility to the bid. This funding source rewards 'rapid response' and we are putting in place internal mechanisms to ensure our readiness.

Research undertaken within the cluster will be designed to complement other kinds of collaborations. We will continue to support Balabanova's work with the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in particular, for the sake of its potential political/social impact. Members of the cluster have worked successfully with colleagues in other departments and institutions (e.g. Balabanova with a colleague in Politics, Goddard with colleagues at University of Manchester) whilst also pursuing the work that has led to the single-authored publications included in this REF return.

Both clusters include PGR students and research associates in their activities, with the strategic aims of enhancing the general research culture and maximising the employability of our community's junior members by supporting their initiatives. As a result, doctoral students and associates are co-authors and even lead authors on a number of publications, alongside members of permanent staff (Richardson, Gavin, Tzioumakis, Hallam). Such joint authorship is set to continue, as Hallam and Wilkes embark on plans to jointly rewrite Wilkes' 2011 dissertation for

academic publication now that Wilkes has graduated and left academia. There are also formal mechanisms supporting junior members of the unit. This inclusiveness, underpinned by institutional support, is further discussed in section c.

c. People, including:
i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The Department benefits from established University-wide policies to support the recruitment and development of staff at all career stages. The core element of the University's approach is the annual Professional Development Review (PDR) process: managers interview members of staff to review achievements and plan ahead. Regularly updated individual Portfolios of Activity inform these discussions, where research plans are central, addressing, e.g. rationales for research leave applications and development of strategies to achieve significant high-quality outcomes. The University is a signatory to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and has an ongoing commitment to its principles, recently recognised by the award of the European Commission's 'HR excellence in Research' badge in 2011, and has adopted VITAE's Researcher Development Framework. We are committed to the effective implementation of equality and diversity policies to support the development of all our staff, which includes a high proportion of women. Our success here is reflected in the fact that the Department has always been led by a female Head. From June 2014, one-third of the staff will be ECRs, providing the Department with a valuable spread of experience. The extent of our internal collegiality and collaboration has been documented in the previous section as an aspect of our overall research strategy.

Available support arrangements include the School's research leave scheme, open to all staff, currently providing an opportunity to apply for such leave every six semesters; a systematic research mentoring process, and a broader system of cross-departmental research support, including research reading groups and research grant bid-writing workshops. The value of the research leave scheme has recently been demonstrated in different ways by Goddard, Tzioumakis, Richardson, Ross and Balabanova. Goddard prepared his *Current Affairs Broadcasting* symposium (2013), the success of which facilitated his subsequent Leverhulme grant bid. Tzioumakis and Richardson used the opportunity to complete monographs (Tzioumakis 2010, Richardson, Corner and Parry 2013) and develop further bids. Ross continued her fieldwork with political party managers and strategists (Ross 2011), Balabanova secured a monograph contract with Palgrave for a book on media and human rights whilst establishing contacts at the UNHRC. Impact on communications strategy through joint workshops is an anticipated outcome here.

The research mentoring scheme is organised around strategic meetings between the Director of Research (Ross until 2013, now Hallam) and colleagues, and the pairing of senior with junior colleagues (currently Goddard is mentor to Hill and Tzioumakis is mentor to Roberts. Ross mentored Balabanova who will mentor a junior colleague to be appointed next year). In the strategic meetings, all aspects of individual research plans are reviewed; within pairings, senior colleagues advise on scholarly development, including guidance on where and what to publish, what new opportunities to pursue, and support in bid-writing. ECRs are given lower teaching and administrative loads during their first year of employment.

The inclusiveness of our research strategy is underpinned by systematic support for colleagues appointed on fixed-term contracts. During the review period, the Department recruited four fixed-term research associates to work on projects funded by Research Councils. Roberts and Koeck worked with Hallam on the *City and Film* project (2006-08); Roberts and Shand worked with Hallam on the *Mapping the City in Film* project (2008-10); these were all assimilated into the Screen Studies research cluster and mentored by Hallam. Parry (formerly a doctoral student in the Department) worked with Richardson on the *Media, Genres and Political Cultures* project (2009-2011) and was mentored by her. Mentoring follows from the status of Research Associates as ECRs; they are encouraged to undertake appropriate training courses (Shand attended Oral History workshops, Roberts trained in Geographical Information Systems); all have annual PDRs. These arrangements have led to notable successes. Three former Research Associates, Koeck, Roberts and Parry, have now progressed to permanent academic posts (Koeck - Professor in the School of Architecture, Parry - Lecturer at Leeds University, Roberts - 0.5 Lecturer in the Department), while Shand is a Research Associate on a new project at Glasgow University. This inclusiveness is extended to temporary members of staff brought in to cover particular teaching needs (e.g. Boyle, Barlow, McNelis). They are treated as members of our research community, in attending seminars, giving papers and organising symposia and workshops.

ii. Research students

During the REF period, four individual students supervised wholly by Communication and Media staff were awarded PhDs (**Media, Politics and Society**: Atkinson, Nyawanza, **Screen Studies**: Parry, Wilkes). Eight students are currently registered at different stages of progress, including one from Ghana, one from China, and one from the Faroe Islands. New research students are assimilated within one of our two research clusters; Wharton, Trowbridge - **Screen Studies** (horror films franchising; political economy of the film industry); Shen, de Sacco, Donkor, Barker, Farooqi, Laksa - **Media, Politics and Society** (women and new media, violence against women in the media, women politicians and the media, political cartoons, the consumption of global media products and climate change). They attend research seminars, give papers themselves when their research is sufficiently advanced and organise and speak at their own PGR conference every summer on a theme relevant to their research; in 2012 all PGR students contributed to the theme of 'Media genres and political culture'. High-profile speakers from outside Liverpool are periodically invited as visiting professors to extend and enhance the research culture, involving both open lectures/seminars and closed masterclasses. Visitors have included Robert C. Allen [North Carolina], Hilary Radnor [Otago], Janet Wasko [Oregon], Sean Cubitt [Goldsmiths], Robert Burgoyne [St Andrews], Ginette Vincendeau [Kings]. Student-Staff Liaison Committees operating at Department, School and Faculty level encourage PGRs to contribute to the development of a rich research culture.

PGR students are supported throughout their doctoral programmes under a University-wide system of training and monitoring, overseen by Directors of Postgraduate Research at Departmental, School and Faculty levels and managed by the University's PGR Student Team. Two supervisors have joint responsibility for contributing to the student's development and for signing off on their progress at each stage. Students are required to meet with their principal supervisor at least twelve times a year; outcomes and plans are recorded in an on-line PGR Toolbox. Their progress is the subject of an end of year Annual Progress Report, preparation for which involves a presentation and submission of written work; students also have to present a bi-annual interim report. Both events involve members of academic staff who are not part of the supervision team. The involvement of a number of academic staff in supervision not only ensures the quality of the student's work but also sustains a culture of fairness and transparency in keeping with the principles of equality and diversity as well as fostering inclusiveness.

Students are required to complete a number of training modules in the PGR Development Programme, amounting to at least six weeks' of formal training over the PhD life-cycle. Some of these are generic: an introductory workshop providing exercises in teamwork, self-presentation, creative thinking and peer review, the annual poster day supported by a training workshop, one-day events on such topics as 'managing your supervisor', or workshops in teaching practice. Students in Communication and Media attend a 12-week, 30-credit module on Research Methods in their first year. All students undertake training in Career Skills; they may complete a portfolio in which they record their own experience of key aspects of exploring the world of work; undertake voluntary work, including teaching; attend Enterprise Schools, or gain training credits by attending external events. Students regularly present at the important, discipline-focused annual conferences, e.g. MeCCSA, ECREA and at various PGR network events, and they can apply to the School's PGR Travel Fund for help with costs of such research expenses.

Our doctoral students are encouraged to use their time at Liverpool to develop their independence as scholars, we therefore support their relevant research and knowledge exchange initiatives. Symposia on independent cinema and the cultural industries were organised by graduate students in 2011 and 2013. As a doctoral student, Parry co-organised the Media and Politics seminar series with Balabanova, Trowbridge worked with Ross on the development of the *Radical Women, Radical City* history trail as part of a permanent exhibition and film in the new Museum of Liverpool. Parry, now a Lecturer at Leeds University, holds a British Academy research grant in her own right, as well as offering a portfolio of quality publications.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

External Research Income During the period, Research Council spend was £341k, along with £888k from EU government bodies. This represents a proportion of the gross value of the grants and awards on which staff have been principal investigators and collaborators in the period from 2008, for example *Mapping the City in Film* £377k (PI Hallam), *Media, Genre and Political Culture* £153k (PI Richardson), European Commission's EiGE *Women in the Media Industries* £245k (PI

Ross). Watry contributes particularly strongly e.g. including £839k from EU projects (Sustaining Heritage Access through Multivalent ArchiviNg – SHAMAN, PrestoPRIME: Digital Preservation and Access of Audiovisual Contents and BERNSTEIN) and £79k from a JISC Digging into Data Challenge award.

This success depends on systems of formal and informal support at all levels of the institution. At departmental level, the two research clusters provide a context for informal peer review and the sharing of intelligence on funding sources. University approval for applications requires a preliminary internal review process. All draft bids are reviewed in-house by senior staff in the Department, and School Professional Services staff work with applicants on the costing of research bids. Subsequently, a School Peer Review group comprising staff members with experience of successful applications and reviewing for funding bodies provide more formal feedback and approval. Four Communication and Media staff have been members of this group in the REF period (Hallam, Richardson, Ross, Goddard) on the basis of such experience. Appointment in the AHRC Peer Review College of Hallam, Richardson, Ross, gives considerable value to their advice, from which their colleagues benefit.

Internal Funding: At University level, financial and organisational support for new initiatives is structured around the key research themes identified in the context of the University's Strategic Plan. Communication and Media staff in the **Screen Studies** cluster are directly involved in the Changing Cultures theme through the *Culture and Creativity Research Network*. Ross's successful bid to the latter enabled the development of a research-based film *Radical City, Radical Women* now on permanent exhibition in the Museum of Liverpool. Balabanova, from within the **Media, Politics and Society** cluster, received funding allied to the Security and Conflict theme to develop her project with the UNHRC. The project - *Understanding Impact in Human Rights Campaigns* - aims to build a relationship between the University of Liverpool and the UNHRC, one of the key actors in the global human rights movement. It is a pilot project evaluating perceptions of impact around a specific UNHRC campaign - World Refugee Day 2012: Dilemmas, June 2013. Thus, it addresses a need identified by the UNHRC for expert independent analysis of their communication practices.

We will now prioritise work in the Digital Media and Cultures area, because this productively cross-cuts the work of our two clusters and builds collaboration within the School. Internal funding allied to the University's Changing Cultures theme is the most appropriate way forward here, though we will pursue a dual strategy seeking external funding in parallel with internal funding, initially through the creation of a research network (Roberts).

The research of individual staff members, including work supporting the preparation of funding applications, is supported by targeted funding at School, Faculty and University levels. Each research-active member of staff is entitled to £450 p.a. from School funds towards research expenses, which may include conference attendance. The School also maintains a discretionary fund to which staff can make application for additional support. The School directly funds two regular research seminar series in the Department, the Media and Politics seminar and the Liverpool Film Seminar.

Infrastructure and Facilities

Administrative support for externally-funded research from the draft stage to project completion is provided through a well-articulated system headed by the University's Research Support Office; members of its Research Finance section work with a dedicated Finance Officer in the School Professional Services team. Researchers can follow the progress of applications, view budget reports and create their own reports using an on-line tool. Funding opportunities are communicated effectively through Faculty Bulletins; School staff also support research event planning and organisation.

The University has made a substantial commitment to the development of its research infrastructure; a £17m investment in its *Libraries and Information Services* completed in November 2008 has been followed with further investment including the creation of a new BS5750 compliant *Special Collections and Archives* area on the ground floor, with dedicated teaching space and display facilities. *Library and Information Services* provide exceptionally good support for research in the humanities; access to on-line and remote resources is particularly well developed. The University is one of the few Russell Group members to subscribe to all the national NESLi2 'big deal' site licences for electronic journals and has the second largest collection of electronic books in the Russell Group. Liverpool is one of only two UK libraries to participate, with North American

and Australian Research Libraries, in a consortium to provide rapid supply of inter-library loan journal articles. The Media and Communication collections (including copies of material on DVD) are kept up to date as key research tools for new generations of researchers; staff are able to rely on expert subject librarians and their recommendations for purchase are acted on swiftly. Each new member of staff receives an allocation of £500 to be spent on library resources.

Following the expansion and refurbishment of the Sydney Jones Library in 2008, the University invested some £500k in 2012 to create a dedicated access-controlled study room for PGR students and staff. The reorganisation and refurbishment of space consequent on the creation of the new School and Faculty structure has created a new and improved workspace for PGR students. Full-time PhD students are guaranteed desk-space and a dedicated computer with access to free printing facilities in two dedicated areas on the campus. The University's Computing Services strategy provides a high level of support for humanities research, including support for technologically demanding projects like *Mapping the City in Film*. Each staff member is allocated a desktop computer maintained by on-site technicians, and access to TV, DVD playback and laptops are available where required. All of the principal relevant software packages (word processing, statistical, graphics, sound) are available for download or home use under site licenses, and Computing Services staff are able to advise on appropriate software for new users.

In 2011-12, following suggestions from Hallam, the University responded to a 'grass roots' initiative that identified an area for targeted strategic development and investment. Liverpool members of a AHRC/BT funded Digital Humanities network (Hallam, Communication and Media; Cohen, Music; Koeck, Architecture; Watry, Psychological Sciences in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences) came together to create a *Digital Humanities Working Group* involving members of staff from across the University engaged in projects using digital technologies. With help from the University's *Business Gateway*, this group has gained formal recognition from the University and is able to advise on the development of systems to support effective practice, collaborations and visibility in digital humanities research. Watry's research, which demonstrates the important potential of applied research, conceived of and delivered with end-users and beneficiaries fully involved in the research design process, is included as a case study.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Staff are actively involved in the development of resources which contribute to the discipline's research base, for example through its creation of online datasets of film information (Hallam and Roberts, *City in Film* catalogue, BFI *Screenonline* Liverpool page). A number of handbooks and readers have featured or will feature our contributions, including editorship (Ross: *The Handbook of Gender, Sex and Media*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2011; Richardson, contribution to *International Encyclopaedia of Political Communication*, Wiley-Blackwell, forthcoming). We contribute actively to the wider discipline, individually and in collaboration with colleagues from other institutions, both nationally and internationally through the organisation of conferences and symposia, involvement in periodicals and monograph series as editors and reviewers, serving as officers of subject associations, as members of the AHRC Peer Review College and deploying our expertise as examiners, evaluators and reviewers for external institutions. Examples of book series include: *American Indies* (2007-) and *Hollywood Centenary* (2012-) Edinburgh University Press (Tzioumakis, 2007-); of journal board memberships: *Studies in Documentary Film* (Goddard); *Environmental Communication* (Gavin); *Critical Studies in Television* (Hallam); *Text and Talk* (Richardson), *Journal of Urban Cultural Studies* (Roberts). It is important to note the spread of specialisms represented by this range of Board memberships, from text and discourse analysis through to film, television, documentary and cultural studies. Gavin changed the configuration of the national professional organisation MeCCSA by establishing a new research network on *Media and Climate Change* in 2012. Roberts has been invited to contribute to an interdisciplinary Summer School in Vienna in July 2014 sponsored by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for History and Society in cooperation with the Technical University, Institute of Software Technology and Interactive Systems, examining urban space through ephemeral films.

External collaborations have strengthened in the current REF period. Ross's global media monitoring project created a network of international collaborators resulting in a successful bid to undertake research for the European Institute of Gender Equality (EIGE) into the involvement of women in decision-making posts in the media in 28 European countries. Balabanova is developing media monitoring work on media and human rights with the UNHRC which is at an early stage. The AHRC/BT network collaboration, (Hallam and Gregory, Lancaster) has involved an

international team of museum curators, artists/practitioners, computer scientists, architects, geographers, cultural theorists and British Telecom staff in examining the use of GIS and mobile Global Positioning Systems (GPS) technologies in heritage environments. This research is at the forefront of developments in deploying GIS resources in the context of humanities research, and is one aspect of our planned development of a Digital Media and Culture theme in future research across the School. The public profile of this research, which also drew on findings from the project *Mapping the City in Film*, led to the appointment of Roberts as a consultant on new 'city in film' projects in Vienna and Bologna. The July 2014 summer school in Vienna mentioned earlier is another aspect of this collaboration, as is a planned Visiting Scholar initiative by members of the Vienna team to Liverpool in 2015, currently under discussion. Hallam's reputation for research on popular images of nursing led to an invitation to curate an exhibition for the Institute of Medicine, Washington, DC on historical representations of race in nursing, forthcoming in 2014.

The quality of research in the Department has been acknowledged in invitations to speak in the United States, Greece, Belgium (Tzioumakis), New Zealand (Ross), Hungary, Turkey, Germany x 2, USA (Hallam), Romania (Balabanova), Finland, Ireland, Italy and the USA (Richardson), as well as across the UK (all staff). Ross held a visiting professorship at Massey University (New Zealand). Richardson has been invited by the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, Universite de Bretagne Occidentale, France, to spend one month as a visiting Professor there in 2014, to help develop the Department's research activity in the area of media discourse analysis, through Master Class, lecture and seminar events as well as collaborative research with senior colleagues in the Department. This collaboration will extend beyond the event itself and underpin additional research grant bids, book proposals and further exchange relationships.

Individual staff members have contributed to national and international discipline-building beyond AHRC Peer Review College membership. Hallam sat on the AHRC Knowledge Exchange Hubs award panel, and reviewed applications to the Vienna Technology Fund (WWTF), ESRC and the Wellcome Trust. Ross reviewed applications to the European Commission. Staff contributed to promotion reviews and professorial appointments at Simon Frazer University, City University New York, and Cardiff (Richardson), Monash (Ross), Michigan and Emory (Tzioumakis). Ross took part in the Israel Ministry of Higher Education review of Communication Departments in Israeli universities 2009; Tzioumakis in the Greek Ministry of Education review of PhD projects (2010). Collectively, staff have externally examined 15 PhD theses, participated in launching and editing two new journals (Ross – *Communication, Culture & Critique*; Tzioumakis – *Journal of Greek Cinema*), participated as members of editorial boards on a further 12 journals, overseen the development of 3 book series (Tzioumakis, Ross) and peer reviewed research for over 40 journals. This includes reviews for *Media, Culture and Society,* one of the pre-eminent journals in our field and with the greatest international reach (Gavin, Goddard, Richardson).

The Department is an institutional member of the Media, Culture and Communication Association, and the European Communication Research Association, operating as professional associations for staff at the national and European levels respectively, providing support for members in the form of newsletters, journal subscriptions, updates on funding and job opportunities, PhD studentships, and new courses. Staff members may also belong to the International Communication Association and/or the International Association for Mass Communication Research, with other affiliations depending on disciplinary backgrounds and substantive interests. In addition to launching the new ICA journal, Ross had an executive commitment to MeCCSA as Treasurer from 2009 to 2013; and is a member of REF2014 sub-panel 36. Richardson is a founder member of the International Broadcast Talk group (1992-present) with a reputation for research on forms of mediated interaction to which she has contributed for over 3 decades and which has led to the Visiting Professorship in Brest. Gavin, Richardson and Balabanova have been members of the PSA (Political Studies Association), Roberts of the European Network of Cinema and Media Studies and the International Association for the Study of Popular Music, Goddard of the International Association of Media History, Balabanova of the International Studies Association.