

Institution: University of Exeter
Unit of Assessment: Theology and Religious Studies
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>The Department of Theology and Religion, part of the University's College of Humanities, comprises twelve full-time and one part-time (0.2 FTE) permanent research-active staff. There are also nine honorary professors and fellows, who contribute in various ways to the unit's research. Additionally, research fellows and research assistants have been employed on specific research projects during the assessment period. The Department is supported by both one full-time, dedicated administrator, and administrative teams in the College of Humanities and the University's central offices. The Department has expanded its permanent staff since RAE 2008 in the context of University-wide investment and growth (most recently £1.5 million for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences [HASS] research strategy) and specifically growth in the College of Humanities, formed in 2010. The College provides a context for interdisciplinary collaboration as well as administrative support. During the census period the University has invested £380 million in campus facilities, and seen its research income grow from £42 million in 2008-09 to £81 million in 2012-13.</p> <p>The Department's research encompasses biblical studies, Jewish studies, early Christian history, patristics, modern theology, practical and ecumenical theology, ethics, philosophy of religion, and the interface between science and religion. The coherence of the Department's research culture lies primarily in a broad and interdisciplinary focus upon: Christianity and Judaism plus the traditions and sources that have shaped them; their reception, challenges, and encounters with Islam, in the ancient and modern world; and theological and ethical engagement with contemporary public issues. Recent Departmental appointments have broadened our coverage of both Judaism and inter-faith dialogue such that continued collaboration with Exeter's Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies can further strengthen a focus on Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, and their interactions.</p> <p>Much of the Department's research engages with issues of public and ethical importance and entails collaboration not only across the sub-disciplines of theology but also with other disciplines such as geography, law, anthropology, archaeology, classics, Islamic studies, sociology, and environmental and biological sciences. Two centres and one network help to foster this research activity and public engagement: the Centre for Biblical Studies, the Exeter Centre for Ecumenical and Practical Theology (EXCEPT, formerly the Centre for the Learning Church), and the Network for Religion in Public Life (NRPL).</p> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>The central element in our research strategy is to sustain a collaborative and supportive research environment in which: all colleagues can produce excellent research; teaching and research are closely integrated; and opportunities for research funding and internally funded study leave are used to the full. The success of this strategy is demonstrated in the following.</p> <p>i. A collaborative and supportive research culture: We work to cultivate and sustain a collegial research culture that cuts across sub-disciplinary boundaries. In the preparation of individual and joint grant applications, the development of fresh ideas, the informal peer-review of each other's work, we all enjoy and benefit from a context which serves to foster research activity and creativity. All staff and postgraduates attend a fortnightly departmental research seminar at which international visitors as well as internal speakers present. We regularly organise symposia and conferences, including international interdisciplinary ones. There are regular study days and text-reading groups in the Centre for Biblical Studies. A further postgraduate research seminar meets fortnightly. A regular lecture series is organised by the NRPL. Our submission of all research staff's publications, except one 2013 arrival making a transition into a new disciplinary context, along with continuous top-ranking in NSS, indicates that this strategy works to the benefit of both research and teaching – we regard the two as mutually enriching.</p> <p>ii. Developments and foci since RAE 2008: RA5a, submitted for RAE2008, identified five thematic foci that were 'growth points in our research': (1) theology, ethics and public issues; (2) the uses and misuses of the Bible; (3) embodied religion; (4) religion and literature in the eastern Mediterranean; (5) the Learning Church. That document also mentioned the launch of a new Network (NRPL) in 2007, and two Centres –</p>

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the Centre for Biblical Studies and the Centre for the Learning Church (now EXCEPT) – that were to be inaugurated in 2008. Since 2008, these themes have continued to characterise much of our research, and the Network and Centres have provided particular focus for specific areas of activity. Our research strengths have continued to develop, and fall into three broad areas:

1. Biblical Studies (including the Bible's reception and impact)
2. History and Reception of Jewish and Christian Traditions (particularly in late antiquity)
3. Theology, Ethics and Public Issues

There are, however, many connections weaving these areas together. For example, funded research projects on the Bible and environmental ethics (led by Horrell) and on the Transition Town movement (led by Gorringer) have brought together experts from different perspectives and disciplines to tackle urgent issues relating to the environment.

1. There has been a wide range of research projects (see **d.i** below) in **Biblical Studies** and related areas during the assessment period. These range from philological and historical studies to work on the contemporary interpretation, reception and impact of biblical texts. This includes distinctive interdisciplinary research on identity (Horrell), territoriality and bodies (living and dead; Stavrakopoulou); the nature and role of religious belief and practice (esp magic; Bhayro); and study of the reception of biblical texts among non-literate contemporary communities (Lawrence), in Jewish post-holocaust readings (Tollerton), and in contemporary environmental ethics (Horrell). It also includes philological work on Jewish, Christian and Islamic artefacts from the early Christian and Islamic periods (Bhayro; see also 2. below). The Centre for Biblical Studies (directed by Horrell) provides a focus for research collaboration through regularly hosting seminars, day-workshops, visiting international scholars and fostering connections with universities and institutions abroad (e.g., Berlin, Heidelberg, Jerusalem, Lüneburg, Mainz, Montreal, Thessaloniki).

2. A growing area of research concentration focuses on the **History and Reception of Jewish and Christian Traditions**. It has particular strengths in (a) historical and theological work on the Church Fathers and their significance for present-day theological hermeneutics (Ludlow, Hill). International patristics conferences are now held here, in addition to significant publications emanating from this area, and external collaboration, e.g., with Bonn and Colorado; (b) ancient and modern Syrian studies, with particular attention to their consequences for inter-faith dialogue (research that has attracted considerable grant funding; Loosley; Bhayro); and (c) Jewish studies, particularly regarding post-holocaust cultural theory and criticism – the focus for a strategic new appointment (Tollerton). The HASS research strategy has further promoted interdisciplinary collaboration at Exeter (focused on late antiquity) and there is also a wide range of external research collaboration (e.g., in work by Bhayro in the USA, Israel, Paris, and Berlin, and Loosley in Georgia and Syria).

3. The Department's work in **Theology, Ethics and Public Issues** has been substantially developed in the last eight years via major AHRC-funded projects on environmental ethics (Gorringer, Horrell), BA-funded work on religion in public life in Britain and Iran (Reed), research on issues such as intersex (Cornwall), sectarianism (Garrigan), human rights and international law (Reed), and the strategic development of a research Centre and Network. EXCEPT, directed by Garrigan, supplies the Christian churches with research on how to work within and across the boundaries of difference in today's world, hosting projects on combating sectarianism, revitalizing worship in relation to issues of social justice and responding to climate change. The NPRL, directed by Reed, promotes multi-disciplinary co-operation between academics and religious communities to address major issues of ethical and religious significance, such as interfaith dialogue, the morality of international law and reforms to the criminal justice system.

iii. Support for interdisciplinary research: Our research culture not only encourages collaboration across the sub-disciplines of theology, philosophy, and biblical studies, but also interdisciplinary collaboration. The University supports such collaboration between Colleges and other institutions, through such programmes as 'Bridging the Gaps' (which offers funds and organises events to initiate such interaction). Horrell is theme leader for the 'identities and beliefs' strand of the HASS Research Strategy, which facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration and has led to the appointment of a new advanced research fellow in Theology and Religion (Cornwall). Stavrakopoulou has been leading the Liberal Arts initiative in the College of Humanities, and Loosley adds to the College's strategic focus on Art History and Visual Culture. Recent interdisciplinary research projects led by Theology & Religion include an AHRC funded project on the Transition Towns Movement, working with human geographers (Gorringer), and a Templeton

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funded project on the origin of life, working with bioscientists (Southgate). Our strategy is to encourage funded research projects of diverse kinds and scope, in order to enable staff to develop their research, individually and collaboratively (see further **d** below).

iv. External partnerships and collaboration: We also work to develop links with other academics and with bodies external to the University who fund and/or have a stake in the fruits of our research (see further **d** below). For example, Bhayro is working with S. Shaked (Jerusalem) and J.N. Ford on the Schøyen collection of magic bowls and with D. Levene on the Berlin magic bowls, and at the CNRS in Paris on an ERC-funded project on the history of Herbal Medicine; Lawrence has worked at the Sensoria centre, Concordia University, Montreal; Ludlow is a member of the international research project on the rhetoric of evil (with Oxford, Glasgow, and Bonn); Southgate is collaborating with N. Lehman (Portland State, USA) on origin-of-life research.

Non-HE partners who support and fund our research due to its relevance to their core concerns include the South-West Ministry Training Course (SWMTC), who have funded a research project with major impact in the region and beyond, and the St Luke's College Foundation (a charity with a remit to promote RE and Theology), who have funded a range of projects in the Department. We have also developed a strong working relationship with Bible Society, who are currently sponsoring a PhD project in the Department, a project examining the use of narrative in RE ethics in schools, and a workshop on engagement with biblical texts among sensory impaired communities.

v Plans and aspirations for 2014-19. Key strategic aims are as follows:

- To continue to develop our interdisciplinary research focused on contemporary issues of public, ethical and religious significance, particularly through our Centres and Network, and the HASS strategy, and to maximise the impact of that research within and beyond the academy.
- To develop further our interdisciplinary research on religious interaction in late antiquity, deepening collaboration with the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, and with Classics and Ancient History, assisted again by the HASS strategy.
- To continue to increase our research income, so that staff can pursue individual and collaborative research of the highest quality.
- To extend our international partnerships, building on our existing links (e.g., through Erasmus, collaborative research projects and symposia) and developing new ones.
- To continue to increase our number of funded PhD studentships, through the AHRC BGP2 scheme and the University's scholarships, and by incorporating studentships into research projects, and securing more external funders.

c. People:

The permanent staff team has grown since RAE 2008, whilst retaining most of the existing members. A new senior lecturer (Garrigan) was appointed in 2010. Southgate, previously employed on temporary contracts, was appointed to a permanent 0.2 contract from 2011. Hill was appointed to replace Mark Wynn in 2013. New appointments (2013) are Loosley (at Associate Professor), an expert in Syrian Christianity and its encounters with Islam in late antiquity, and Tollerton, a strategic appointment to extend our coverage in Jewish studies. These two appointments in particular are intended to strengthen our research on religious encounters among Jews, Christians and Muslims (in collaboration with the University's Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies). Cornwall has been appointed under the HASS strategy, to develop interdisciplinary and interreligious research on gender identity and ethics.

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

For all staff appointments the broad areas of potential expertise are determined by the priorities of the Department's research and teaching activity. Appointments are based primarily on an individual's academic excellence and potential to contribute both individually and collaboratively to our research activity. **Equality of opportunity**, with academic excellence the key criterion for selection, is demonstrated by our range of appointments over the last decade, which encompasses scholars of both genders, various ages, and – insofar as these are made public – a diversity of religious and non-religious commitments. Our current gender balance is 57% female/ 43% male. The balance for career stage is: full professors (33% female); associate professors (100% female); senior lecturers (62% female); lecturers (33% female).

Career development and progression: Once appointed, each member of staff (whether

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permanent or fixed-term) is appointed an Academic Lead (AL), who helps induct them into the routines and challenges of academic life at Exeter. The AL's role is to encourage, advise, and appraise their performance through the University's Performance and Development Review (PDR) scheme. ALs meet with their staff members individually three times a year, twice on a more informal basis, and once to complete the PDR form and discuss actions for the coming year. This is a key opportunity to plan research priorities and career development. All staff, full and part-time, permanent and temporary, have opportunities for professional training and development through the programmes offered by the University. All Exeter departments are committed to implementing the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers in line with the University's Concordat Implementation Plan (2009).

Early career staff have a series of milestones and expectations set out in a Professional Development Programme (PDP), with formal appraisal at 3-year and 5-year points. They also take the University's 90 credit M-level Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice. Assuming successful attainment of the agreed performance indicators, promotion to Senior Lecturer follows after 5 years, if not before. Clear criteria are also set out by the University for promotion to Associate Professor and full Professor, and the AL is the first point of contact for discussion and advice on aspirations for promotion. **Evidence** of opportunities for career progression is clear. Several colleagues have been promoted (in some cases rapidly) since the last RAE: Bhayro, Ludlow, Lawrence and Southgate to Senior Lecturer; Garrigan to Associate Professor; and Stavropoulou to a personal chair.

ii. Research students

Recruitment: Numbers of research students in the Department have **increased significantly** since the last RAE, having grown steadily during that assessment period as well. There are currently 29.25 FTE (Oct 2013), up from 22 in 2007-08, 15.5 in 2006-07, and 5.38 in 2001. Our students are both full- and part-time, international and UK/EU, fully resident and distance (these latter spending blocks of time in Exeter or visiting regularly). Our MA programmes (in Biblical Studies; Ethics, Religion and Society; and Theology) serve as preparation for PhD, and a number of students have progressed via this route. With College match-funding of all AHRC awards, we have up to two AHRC studentships to award annually (under BG 1), one of which is assigned to strategic research areas (e.g., 'identities and beliefs', 'environment and sustainability', where we have had recent awards). There are also international scholarships awarded by the College: we have had five such full-time awards in the assessment period. In addition, PhD studentships have been funded by research projects (AHRC) and by external partners (Bible Society). We have a PhD partnership with Hartford Seminary, USA: students have a supervisor in both institutions and spend at least 3 months in Exeter during their studies.

Supervision and progression: Research students are assigned two supervisors plus a mentor, and take a number of taught modules during their first year of study, as appropriate to develop research skills. All are expected to attend the fortnightly Department research seminar (videoed and made available to distance students), and the annual postgraduate study day. The Centre for Biblical Studies holds regular research seminars for postgraduates. Students also organise their own postgraduate research group, which meets fortnightly. All students are expected to present a paper to the research seminar or postgraduate study day during their period of study, as well as at the College of Humanities' annual postgraduate conference.

Progress is assessed through a rigorous annual monitoring process, in which students and supervisors submit reports on which basis recommendations are made. Upgrade to PhD status in year 2 requires the submission of c. 20,000 words and a mini-viva with two members of staff.

Opportunities: Research students are encouraged to attend conferences in their specialist areas, often accompanying members of staff, and to present papers. Our students have presented papers at the Society for the Study of Theology, the British New Testament Conference, the European Association for Biblical Studies, the Oxford International Conference for Patristic Studies and the British Patristics Conference. Internally, there is an annual College of Humanities postgraduate conference (co-organised by a Theology student in 2013) as well as Departmental seminars and postgraduate study day. The College provides an allowance of £600 (over the course of the degree) to facilitate conference participation (and also provides unlimited Inter-library loan vouchers free to research students). Opportunities to benefit from periods of study abroad are also encouraged: e.g., one student won a Library of Congress Scholarship to the USA, others have

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spent time in Tübingen (Erasmus) and Jerusalem (Hebrew University).

Students working under the auspices of particular research projects also have opportunities to benefit from integration into a specific area of research activity. For example, two students (both AHRC-funded) wrote doctorates within the Bible and Environmental Ethics project, benefitting from interaction with visiting speakers and fellows, and opportunities to present and to publish papers. Some students have also co-authored papers with their supervisors. Anna Davis won third place in the US-based Goodwin Prize for Excellence in Theological Writing in 2010.

The University runs a researcher development programme, which offers the opportunity for research students to develop a range of skills and prepare for their future careers. Students may also join the University's training scheme for those learning to teach in HE, whether or not they are actually teaching. We provide some opportunities for postgraduates to gain teaching experience, always with close mentoring by an academic colleague, generally assisting a member of staff with seminars. A Graduate Teaching Assistantship scheme provides a training scheme for selected postgraduates to develop teaching skills through close partnership with an academic.

A number of our recent PhDs have published their theses as monographs (e.g., Nixon 2013; Williams 2012, Macwilliam 2011, Cornwall 2010) and secured academic positions (e.g., Andrejc 2013, Woolf Institute, Cambridge; Williams 2011, Tusculum College, USA; Morgan 2010, Chester).

Satisfaction: The most recent PRES data indicated **97% overall satisfaction** among our PGR students (compared with 82% average in Russell Group Universities and 81% in the whole sector).

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

i. Research income

The **rise in research income** reported in RA5 for the last assessment period has continued strongly in the current period (£590,202, a threefold increase compared with £183,248 in the period to RAE 2008). Every member of research active staff in post prior to 2013 has been successful in gaining research income to support projects and activity of various kinds. Most income (£363,322) has come from research councils (AHRC, British Academy), though also from international funding bodies (Templeton Foundation), charitable bodies and non-HE partners and stakeholders (Bible Society, Nuffield Foundation, SWMTC, St Luke's College Foundation). Awards totalling £1,102,519 have been won in 2008-13, including a major award from the ERC, further indicating an upward trajectory. The range and scope of activities includes the following:

Major research projects:

- Architecture and Asceticism: Cultural Interaction between Syria and Georgia in Late Antiquity (**€954,523, European Research Council**), 2013-17 (Loosley).
- The Role of Values in Responding to Major Social Change: Christian churches and the Transition Town Movement (**£226,582, AHRC**), 2010-2012 (Gorringer/DeLashmutt/Barr [Geography], with Pollard and Beckham employed researchers).
- Information and the Origin of Life (**£196,562, Science and Transcendence Advanced Research Series, Templeton Foundation**), two phases, 2008-2011 (Southgate, with Robinson as Hon Fellow sharing leadership, and Lui as employed researcher);
- Ministry Training as Formation (**£93,000, St Luke's Foundation**), 2007-2010, (Higton/Southgate, with DeLashmutt as employed researcher);
- Texts of Land, Sea and Hope (**£67,656, SWMTC**), 2006-2009, (Higton/Southgate/Horrell, with Lawrence as employed researcher);
- Uses of the Bible in Environmental Ethics (**£196,333 + c. £45,000 PhD studentship, AHRC**), 2006-2009, (Horrell/Stavropoulou, with Hunt and Southgate as researchers);
- Vegetarianism as Spiritual Choice in Historical and Contemporary Theology (**£151,000, AHRC**) 2006-2009, (Muers/Wynn, with Grumett employed as postdoctoral researcher);

Research leave fellowships:

- Stavropoulou (**£45,560, AHRC Early Career Fellowship**, 2011).
- Wynn (**£26,289, AHRC Research Leave Scheme**, 2007-2008);

Smaller research projects: There have been 11 smaller research projects to a total value of **£117,000** funded by a range of organisations, including the British Academy (7) and various

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charitable trusts (including Bible Society, St Luke's Foundation).

Visiting fellowships: Princeton Theological Seminary, USA (Feb-Aug 2009, Ludlow); Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship Resumption, Germany (July-Aug 2010, Horrell); Catholic University of Leuven (July-Aug 2012, Horrell).

Funded symposia/workshops (in addition to conferences, workshops, and seminars organised under the auspices of other research projects): After the First Urban Christians (2008, funded by Baylor University, USA; Horrell/Still [Baylor], with a volume published); Reading the Church Fathers (2009, Boulder, CO, USA, funded by the University of Colorado at Boulder; Ludlow/Douglass [University of Colorado at Boulder], with a volume published); The Bible in non-literate Contexts (2012, funded by Bible Society, Lawrence); Theology, Philosophy and Architectural Aesthetics (2012, funded by the Benedictine Order, Gorrige/Wynn).

ii. Support for research

Support for research at all levels of the institution is very strong. Research-active staff can expect at least one day per week during term-time to be free of teaching commitments, and to teach on average 3-4 single-semester modules per academic year. They are also invited to apply for study leave. Rather than operating as an entitlement, this is currently awarded on the basis of strategic planning by the Department as a whole, and the excellence of particular research projects. A staff member with good research plans can anticipate **six months of University-funded study leave every 2-3 years**, in addition to any research leave funded by external schemes – which staff are also encouraged to pursue. There is also the University-wide expectation that staff will engage in research-led teaching (Stavrakopoulou won the University's Student Guild award in this category in 2012 and Lawrence was shortlisted in 2013). This has not only enabled innovative and engaging teaching but also – more pertinent here – provided strategic opportunities to work through research ideas, and to discuss them critically with students. All staff receive a **research allowance** from the College (£1,000 p.a.) for conference attendance and research visits. Unlimited ILLs are available.

Applications for research funding: all staff are encouraged and assisted to develop research projects and funding proposals. Support is provided via the Director of Research by the College and the University's Research and Knowledge Transfer unit: (1) sharing information on funding opportunities; (2) advising on appropriate schemes and ideas, bearing career stage and academic focus in mind; (3) drawing up costings and other technical aspects for proposals; (4) peer-reviewing all draft applications internally to provide feedback and advice for improvement.

The College Research Finance team assist in all aspects of spending and monitoring grant income, and the College administration deal with all aspects of staff recruitment (e.g., to research assistantships). The College and University also provide full IT and technical support.

Resources for research: the University has recently invested £9.5 million in developing its library facilities and study spaces. In addition to the Main Library, where most books and journals are held, the Research Commons opened in 2010, housing text collections and specialist resources. There are 45,934 books in the Theology collection, plus a wide range of journals (electronically available). In addition, the Exeter Cathedral Library, recently thoroughly refurbished to improve its quality as a research resource, houses around 25,000 books, many of particular interest to historians of the English Church. The SWMTC library, fully accessible to Department staff, also houses some 12,000 books at the University, with particular strengths in practical theology.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

All staff are engaged fully and energetically in shaping their discipline and communicating research findings, nationally and internationally. The following are illustrative only, and not exhaustive:

i. Invited lectures, keynote and plenary addresses: Cornwall presented the Georgia Harkness Lecture at Berkeley, CA (2012); Gorrige delivered a major public lecture at Trinity Wall Street, New York (2009), and the Hensley Henson lectures at Oxford (2010); Horrell delivered the Manson Memorial Lecture in Manchester and the Drumwright lecture at Baylor University USA (2009); Ludlow was a plenary speaker at the Society for the Study of Theology annual conference in 2011 and delivered the 2013 Corish lecture at Maynooth. Reed delivered a plenary lecture at the UK Society for the Study of Christian Ethics (2013) and the International Association of Practical Theology (Chicago, 2009), and Lawrence gave a plenary paper at the British New Testament Conference (2013). Other such activity includes: Garrigan (Hamburg 2010); Gorrige (London 2011); Horrell (Thessaloniki, 2011, Iowa, USA, 2013); Stavrakopoulou (Sheffield, 2011); Southgate

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(Auckland, 2009; Copenhagen, 2009; New York, 2010).

ii. Invited conference/seminar papers: Bhayro has presented at thirteen international conferences in places including the British Museum, the Sorbonne (Paris), Madrid, and Tel Aviv. Other invited papers include: Cornwall (New York, 2013); Gorringe (Sheffield, 2008; Cambridge SSCE 2010; Frankfurt 2010); Hill (Oxford, 2009); Horrell (Sheffield, 2008; SNTS, 2009; SBL 2010, 2011; Mainz, 2010; Philippi, 2011); Lawrence (Sheffield, 2008; BNTC 2009; Durham 2009; SBL, 2011); Loosley (Damascus, 2010); Ludlow (Ghent/Leuven, 2010; Leuven 2010); Reed (Hamburg, Institute for Theology and Peace 2013; KCL/ Westminster Abbey 2013; Manchester 2011; Blackfriars Oxford 2011; Jamaica 2010; Blackfriars, Oxford 2009); Southgate (AAR, 2009, 2010; International Society for Science and Religion, 2009; Helsingor, Denmark, 2011); Stavrakopoulou (SBL, 2010, 2011; NAAR 2012); Tollerton (Imperial War Museum, 2009; SOTS, 2013). Staff have also been regularly invited to address research seminars at other universities.

iii. Organisation of conferences/symposia (see also under d.i, not repeated here): Ludlow was convenor of the 4th British Patristics Conference (Exeter, 2012), as well as co-convenor of seminars on modern readings of the church fathers (Annual Meeting of the *North American Patristics Society*, 2008 and 2009). Southgate has organised symposia on semiotics and theology (Berkeley, CA, Nov 2008; Cambridge, UK, April 2011) a workshop for early career researchers (Berkeley, CA, 2010), and an AAR panel for 2009. Bhayro co-organised a conference on Demons and Illness (2013), with participants from eleven countries. Horrell was on the steering committee of the SBL Pauline Epistles section (2006-12), co-chair of the SNTS NT Ethics seminar (2010-12), and is on the steering committee of the SBL Ecological Hermeneutics group (2011-).

iv. Roles in professional bodies and academic societies: we have filled a number of major roles in academic societies, including: Secretary of the British NT Society 2007-11 (Lawrence) and Secretary of the Society for Old Testament Study 2010-12 (Stavrakopoulou); also academic board member, International Conference of Near Eastern Archaeomusicology (Bhayro); committee member, Society for the Study of Theology 2007-2009 (Ludlow) and 2013-present (Cornwall); member of the scientific committee of the International Colloquium on Gregory of Nyssa (Ludlow); committee member for the Science and Religion Forum (Southgate).

vi. Editorial positions: In addition to items submitted for assessment, members of staff have been involved in major editorial projects, e.g., co-editing *Festschriften* (Bhayro, Horrell), project outputs (Hill, Horrell, Southgate, Stavrakopoulou), and lecture series (Reed). Other initiatives include founding editorships: *Theology in Context* series (OUP, Gorringe) and *Biblical Refigurations* series (OUP, Stavrakopoulou); editor of *Reviews in Science and Religion* (Southgate); associate editor, *Conversations in Religion and Theology* (Ludlow). Editorial board positions: *Magical and Religious Literature of Late Antiquity*, *Cambridge Genizah Studies*, and *Near-Eastern Musicology Online* (Bhayro); *Modern Believing* (Cornwall); *Journal for the Study of the New Testament, Theology, and Colloquium* (Horrell, plus *Journal of Biblical Literature* and *New Testament Studies*, from 2014-17); *Texts and Studies in Eastern Christianity* (Loosley); *Irish Theological Quarterly* (Ludlow); *Studies in Christian Ethics* (Reed); *Biblical Interpretation*, and *Library of Hebrew Bible/OT Studies* (Stavrakopoulou); *Zygon* (Southgate).

vii. PhD external examining: Every member of academic staff in post prior to 2013 has served as external examiner for PhD theses during the assessment period. We have examined 42 UK PhDs and 5 internationally.

viii. Assessors for journals, books, and grants:

(a) Reviewing journal submissions for: *Classical Quarterly*, *Ecclesiology*, *Gender and Society*, *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, *Irish Theological Quarterly*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, *Journal of the European Society of Women in Theological Research*, *Journal of Religion*, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, *Journal of Theological Studies*, *Literature and Theology*, *Material Religion*, *Medical History*, *Modern Believing*, *Modern Theology*, *Pacifica*, *Pastoral Psychology*, *Senses and Society*, *Theology and Sexuality*, *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*.

(b) Reviewing MSS and book proposals for: Blackwell; Continuum/T&T Clark; CUP; Harvard; OUP; Routledge; University of Wales Press.

(c) Reviewing grant applications for: AHRC; British Academy; ERC; Faraday Institute; Leverhulme Trust; Templeton Foundation; Wellcome Trust; and for research councils in Belgium; Canada; Czech Republic; Germany; Israel; Netherlands; Norway; Qatar; and KU Leuven.