

<p>Institution: UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM</p> <hr/> <p>Unit of Assessment: C21 Politics and International Studies</p> <hr/> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>The School of Government and Society (G&S) at the University of Birmingham is committed to the delivery of world class research in a number of sub-fields of political science and international studies. It is one of four Schools within the College of Social Sciences (see http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/govsoc). Established in 2008, the School comprises four departments: Politics and International Studies (POLSIS); International Development (IDD); Local Government Studies (INLOGOV); and Russian and East European Studies (CREES). A series of broad research themes focused on <i>governance and the state</i>; <i>comparative political systems and public policy</i>; <i>social and political theory</i>; and <i>international politics and security studies</i> underpin the research activities of the School.</p> <p><i>Governance and the state</i> – Key research groups: <i>British politics and the state</i>; <i>public administration</i>; <i>international political economy</i>; (Affiliated staff: Burnham, Skelcher, Thain, Dunn, Bertelli, Preston, Cooper, Bovaird, Raine, Kerr, Smith, Steans, Leggett, Durose, Macartney, Bates, Foster, Jenkins, Bottom, Jeffares, Connolly, Vezirgiannidou)</p> <p><i>Comparative political systems and public policy</i> – Key research groups: <i>European studies</i>; <i>German politics</i>; <i>comparative politics and democratization</i>; <i>environmental politics</i> (Pace, Gilson, Haughton, Wolczuk, Macartney, Bailey, Hertner, Heiduk, Jones, Vezirgiannidou, Vieira, White, Kaneff, Yemelianova, Topgyal, Averre, Cooper)</p> <p><i>Social and political theory</i> – Key research groups: <i>Political and social theory</i>; <i>gender and feminist theory</i>; <i>International relations theory</i> (Cabrera, Finlay, Wheeler, Moore, Quinn, North, Shorten, Buckler [until 2013], Budgeon, Abbinnett, Cruickshank, Knops, Foster, Steans, Lock-Pullan, Smith)</p> <p><i>International politics and security studies</i> – Key research groups: <i>Security studies</i>; <i>diplomacy</i>; <i>state-building, security and development</i> (Wolff, Webber, Wheeler, Cooper, Dunn, Jackson, Moore, Averre, Siniver, Quinn, Vieira, Watt, Marquette, Beswick, Fisher, Nunan, Rew, Lemay-Hebert)</p> <hr/> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>In the submission to UOA 39 <i>Politics and International Studies</i> in RAE 2008, a series of key priorities were outlined to guide future research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to diversify the research group structure and to identify a series of cross-cutting thematic research clusters which reflect the diversity and dynamic nature of our research strengths; • to play a greater role in the shaping of debate within the discipline by bidding for editorships of prominent journals and by establishing new international journals in our principal areas of research strength; • to ensure the greater international dissemination of our research by committing internal resources to allow all staff routinely to present their work in international fora; to raise international profile by targeting leading publishers; and to increase external funding to build enduring research teams <p>These aims were relatively modest, necessarily related only to POLSIS, and predated the creation of the School. The School was formed following extensive consultation with academic colleagues in recognition both of the research benefits that would accrue from bringing departments together and the significant value that Birmingham could add to the political science and international studies field by institutionalizing pre-existing links across the social sciences. As a result, we were able collectively to further advance the aims outlined in 2008 and generate a wider and more ambitious research strategy that has had, and continues to have, major success.</p> <p>Achievements in the period 2008-2013 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in external research income from £2.1 million to £6.2 million – this represents a per capita increase of 75% (from £75k per capita of submitted staff in RAE 2008 to £130k

per capita for REF 2014)

- an increase in PhD graduations from 36 to 131.7 – this represents a per capita increase of 125% (from 1.2 PhD awards per submitted staff in RAE 2008 to 2.7 for REF 2014)
- the development of a vibrant interdisciplinary research culture promoting collaborative teaching and research projects, the generation of research income from a wide range of funders and effective knowledge transfer activities including the creation of new institutes and centres
- the creation of an extended research community incorporating a large and diverse doctoral researcher population providing evidence of a commitment to nurturing new entrants - our PhD programmes, with ESRC DTC status, have increased our cohort to 138 students (at August 2013)
- the development of a staffing strategy based on the principles of excellence in recruitment, retention and promotion - the School is now home to one of the largest concentrations of political scientists within the UK
- an enhanced commitment to the discipline through an extension of professional engagement including an increase journal editorships, major conferences, professional association activity and an intensive programme of seminars and workshops

In terms of the specific priorities outlined in 2008:

Diversification has been achieved following the creation of the School which enabled the development of genuine cross-cutting thematic research of international significance. For example under the theme of *Governance and the state*, an interdisciplinary group has emerged which brings together staff and students from the POLSIS *British Politics and the state* research cluster (Burnham, Thain, Kerr, Foster, Dunn, Bates, Preston, Smith, Leggett, Jenkins, Macartney) and the INLOGOV *Public administration* cluster (Durose, Bertelli, Skelcher, Raine, Bovaird). The group has forged collaborative projects over a wide area involving Doctoral Researchers (DRs) and academics across the university, who take Britain as a key area of focus including staff from the Birmingham *Centre for Modern and Contemporary History*. Over ten DRs are currently involved in the group's activities and members of the group co-edit the journal, *British Politics*.

In respect of shaping debate by bidding for editorships of journals, during the assessment period staff from the School have been editors/co-editors of nine journals (*British Politics* - Kerr; *West European Politics* – Menon [until 2012]; *Comparative European Politics* - Bailey; *European Journal of Political Theory* – Shorten, North [and Buckler until 2013]; *Ethnopolitics* - Wolff; *Civil Wars* – Newman [until 2013], Wolff and Siniver; *Local Government Studies* - Durose; *Critical Policy Studies* – Jeffares, Skelcher; *Journal of Intervention and State-Building* - Lemay-Hebert). Four of these journals have been added to the School's existing portfolio during the period 2008-2013 reflecting strength in our principal research areas and providing a forum to lead intellectual debate across political science and international studies.

The final aim from 2008 – to raise international profile – has been achieved in respect of increasing external research income (75% increase per capita of submitted staff over the last period of assessment), facilitating the presentation of work in international fora (from 2008-2013 over £300k has supported conference presentations across the globe), and maximising the impact of research both locally (through innovations such as the Public Service Academy – a joint initiative of Birmingham City Council and University of Birmingham that is facilitating research and knowledge exchange and providing a model for developments in Chicago) and globally through engagement with government departments (Treasury, FCO, DFID), international organisations (EU Commission, OSCE, UN, World Bank, NATO, OECD) and NGOs (Minority Rights Group International, World Future Council). International connectivity of staff has been enhanced by major conference organisation and the development of significant international networks – supported by School and College funding – enabling the School to build a substantial and sustainable programme of research which has attracted funding from domestic and international sources (including ESRC, AHRC, British Academy, DfID, OECD, Ford, UNDP, World Bank).

Research activity in G&S is managed by the School Research Committee (SRC) with support from the College of Social Sciences Research Committee and the University Research and Knowledge

Environment template (REF5)

Transfer Committee. The SRC is responsible for developing policies to facilitate research excellence and promote an active and sustainable collective research culture. In addition each department has a dedicated Research Committee which plays the main role in day to day research management and provides the key research leadership function within departments, with particular responsibility for:

- the development, dissemination, monitoring and revision of the departmental research strategy
- the regular review of the activities of the research groups in terms of their contribution to the overall School and College strategy
- the regular review of procedures for the support of early career researchers
- the consideration of proposals for new research groups and areas of research activity
- the competitive allocation of internal funds to research groups, thematic research clusters and individual staff members
- the identification and dissemination of opportunities for research funding
- the coordination of applications for external funding
- the promotion of collaboration within and between research groups and across the School and College

In short, research organisation exists at departmental, School and College levels to facilitate and sustain a vibrant research community of scholars incorporating staff at all levels from early career researchers to senior professors.

New and developing initiatives and priority developmental areas for the unit

A key driver in the creation of the School in 2008 was the perceived need to institutionalise the contribution of political science to interdisciplinary research. Interdisciplinary collaboration within the social sciences at Birmingham has been extremely successful and is underpinned by seed-corn funding and special events organized by the College's Advanced Social Science Collaborative (ASSC) scheme, and widely through the University's Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS) programme for multi-disciplinary research initiatives. ASSC has funded a wide range of activities in the School including conference support, visiting fellows and cross-school initiatives (for example, Siniver on Middle East conflict resolution; Gilson on NGOs; Vieira on Brazilian foreign policy; Jackson on the development of a Security and War Studies group).

Our strategy for the next 5 years is to build upon the progress we have made in this REF period by developing new research initiatives and academic centres with the aim of shaping intellectual debate in our four main research areas whilst continuing to inform local, regional, national and international policy worlds. This strategy aims to further institutionalize our contribution to interdisciplinary research and deepen the existing solid base of relationships, so that knowledge exchange between our researchers and the stakeholder community is more strongly embedded and is less dependent on individual connectivity through the establishment of sustainable research-led networks.

There are four new initiatives and areas for development:

The *Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security* (ICCS) was founded in February 2012 to maximise the university's multidisciplinary strengths in the fields of conflict and security and to promote new possibilities for collaboration and excellence in research. The fundamental principle that guides researchers within the ICCS is the commitment to addressing the dynamics of both conflict and cooperation in a globally interconnected world. The Institute has four research clusters - 'Cooperation and Trust-Building', 'Mediation and Conflict Management', 'Science and Global Security', and 'Intervention and State Building' which bring together academics from across the School (Wolff, Webber, Wheeler, Dunn, Moore, Siniver, Quinn, Vieira, Watt, Marquette, Jackson, Beswick, Lemay-Hebert, Averde, Cooper, Haughton, Wolczuk). To further its mission, the *Institute* combines a series of existing strengths within Birmingham and beyond in the fields of International Relations, Development, Law, Ethics, Security Studies, Strategic Studies, and War Studies - a distinctive feature of its work concerns how applied thinking in the areas of conflict transformation and mediation might open up new possibilities for mitigating and ending violent conflicts. At the same time, the *Institute* is developing innovative research streams in the new frontier challenges of

Environment template (REF5)

advanced robotics (e.g. drones), cyber, and the weaponisation of space. In March 2013, Wheeler (PI), Wolff and Dunn were awarded an ESRC/UK MOD's Defence Science and Technology Laboratory grant of £289k, to investigate 'The Political Effects of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles on Conflict and Cooperation Within and Between States.' The study focusing on Pakistan, Yemen and Afghanistan will contribute to building an evidentiary base for informed policy making on the use of US/UK drones in overseas theatres of operation. Building on this work the University is investing significant resource in a Policy Commission on Remote Warfare in 2014 (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/impact/policy-commissions/why-commissions.aspx>).

Research on the theme of *Governance and the state* has led to national and international collaborative initiatives focused on theoretical and empirical analysis of depoliticisation and arm's-length governmental strategies (Burnham, Skelcher, Kerr, Foster, Jenkins, Macartney, Bates) – see special issue of *Policy and Politics* 2013-14 involving 6 group members - and internationalising research on the transformation of the state in collaboration with European and US scholars (Durose/Skelcher ESRC seminar series with Justice (Delaware); Durose's International Visiting Research Fellowships at University of Illinois at Chicago and Autonomous University of Barcelona in 2011 and formal collaboration with Bertelli in a joint appointment with the University of Southern California). In May 2012 Skelcher and Bertelli began an £800k ESRC funded three year longitudinal analysis (with Matthew Flinders at the University of Sheffield) of the Coalition government's reform of Whitehall, which includes a focus on reduction in quangos, spinning-off departmental operational teams as social enterprises and the changing nature of civil service culture. The research involves a partnership with the Cabinet Office, relevant interdepartmental boards, and external bodies such as the Institute for Government. The purpose of the research is to analyse the changing nature of the British state in national and comparative context complementing Thain's on-going analysis of the UK Treasury. These initiatives provide a springboard for the creation of a new *Centre for the Study of British Political Economy* (Burnham, Thain, Kerr, Foster, Jenkins, Bates and Macartney).

In the area of *state-building and development* a wide range of activities are planned to build upon Birmingham's position as an international leader in the field of International Development. For example, Marquette's new research on corruption and collective action, and the political economy of aid, has recently been commissioned by AusAid as part of the Developmental Leadership Program. In 2013, Marquette was approached by AusAid to take over as Director of Research on this \$9.5 million programme with research funded until 2017 feeding directly into AusAID's future programming and constituting a key priority area for the School.

Political theory group members will continue to expand international collaborations and enhance Birmingham's position as a leader in the area of international political theory. Strategic plans build upon extensive international collaboration, in particular with the University of Delhi through the UKIERI grant (see Collaboration section). Group members will be involved in the hosting of the exchange students through Spring 2015, and group members will make multiple trips to Delhi to provide continuous hands-on assistance in the development of the Nyaya global justice programme. As Deputy Director of Birmingham's *Centre for the Study of Global Ethics*, Cabrera will develop linkages with global justice centres worldwide, one result of which will be frequent visits from overseas political theorists to deliver seminars to the School and work with School doctoral researchers.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Staffing policy is governed by the application of three principles: excellence in recruitment, retention and promotion. During the assessment period, the University has rewarded research excellence through the internal promotion of colleagues to chairs (Jackson, Sullivan, Lee, Dunn and Pace), Readerships (Cabrera, Haughton, Marquette, Wolczuk) and Senior Lecturerships (Siniver, Finlay, Kerr, Moore, Newman, Marquette, Smith, Broome, Leggett, Averde, Quinn). The appointment of new permanent members of staff (including Burnham, Thain, Wolff, Wheeler, Webber, Bertelli, Vezirgiannidou, Vieira, Foster, Heiduk, Hertner, Durose, Floyd, Yakinthou, Macartney, Jones, Fregonese, Topgyal and Jenkins) since the last assessment reflects the

Environment template (REF5)

strategic priorities established by the School and has ensured that it has a balanced and sustainable demographic profile (excluding casual and teaching only staff, 24% of staff are under age 35; 58% under 45; and 92% are under 55 at October 2013; 33% of permanent staff are female).

The result is a School that has a mix of experienced senior Professors, a sizeable number of Readers and Senior Lecturers and a good proportion of Lecturers and early-career researchers. The investment in early career scholars is of particular importance as the School seeks to nurture and create pathways for the next generation to lectureships and research posts. The appointment of Floyd, Yakinthou, Jones (returned to Languages UOA) and Fregonese (returned to Geography UOA) to Birmingham Fellow posts in 2010 and 2012 is clear evidence of this commitment to post-doctoral staff. Fellows are appointed to permanent academic posts, centrally funded by the University, and have five years with protected time for high-quality research. This allows these outstanding, high potential, early career researchers to establish themselves as rounded academics who will go on to make a full contribution to research, teaching and academic citizenship. Fellows receive a start-up package to support the development of their research, an academic mentor, and development support in both research and teaching.

The University was awarded the HR Excellence in Research accreditation in September 2011 and continues to work towards full implementation of its Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers action plan by December 2013. Organisational level policies and activities include annual research performance reviews in parallel with the new academic Performance and Development Review scheme, integrated leadership development programmes for researchers and academics (from experienced contract research staff to senior academic leaders) and recurrent central funding to maintain development provision for researchers. A variety of University HR related policies have been streamlined and updated including academic promotions, fixed term contracts, equality and diversity initiatives and redeployment strategies. The University has a longstanding commitment to the promotion of equality and undertakes a wide range of activities to promote better outcomes and meet the needs of different groups of students and staff – there is an expectation that all staff complete the University's Diversity in the Workplace online training course (see the University Report, *Promoting Equality Celebrating Diversity*, 2013 - <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/collaboration/equality/documents/publication-of-information-report-2013.pdf>).

The School operates a generous study leave scheme (eligibility for 1 term's leave after completing 9 terms including probationary staff) and all staff are encouraged to take advantage of study leave provision which has proved very effective in the current round. The University expects all research carried out at the University or in its name to be conducted to the highest standards of integrity. Research within the School is governed by the University's Code of Practice for Research which provides a framework for the governance of all research covering all staff and registered students (including undergraduates and PGT). It requires all those undertaking and/or contributing to research to adhere to the highest standards of performance and ethical conduct, and embed good practice in all aspects of their work. All staff and DRs must operate honestly and openly in respect of their own actions and in response to the actions of others involved in research (for further detail on ethics and research see, <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/university/legal/research.pdf>). Burnham, Smith, Nunan and Pace are members of the University's Ethical Review Committee and Wolczuk is co-chair of the Humanities and Social Sciences Ethics Committee.

ii. Research students

The University of Birmingham's strategy for the *Birmingham Researcher* foregrounds the unique contribution that PhD researchers make to the institution's research activities and intellectual community. It has been taken forward by the University's Graduate School and represents a major commitment by the institution to the creation of an enhanced training and development environment for Doctoral Researchers (DRs) that ensures they are embedded in (not merely students in) our research environment and activities. The use of the term 'doctoral researcher' rather than 'PhD student' symbolises this cultural change. Doctoral researchers are central to the

School research community. The activities of our DRs reflect the research impact of Birmingham across the discipline. Strength in respect of doctoral training was recognized by the award of ESRC Doctoral Training Centre status (with 14 studentships) in 2010. Developing collaboration with DTCs at Nottingham and Warwick will enhance DR provision given the complementary strengths of their politics/international studies departments. Our DRs are actively involved in the School's research groups and clusters, organizing academic workshops and conferences, and weekly Graduate Colloquia presenting their work-in-progress and participating in School and College academic seminars and other research events. In recent years, our DRs have published articles during their doctoral studies in high impact national and international journals, won prestigious external academic awards for their publications and conference papers, and authored policy reports for both governmental and non-governmental agencies. For example, DRs in POLSIS have presented research, with the support from the department and School, at international conferences including International Studies Association meetings and the Oceanic Conferences on International Studies in Australia. POLSIS DRs have held visiting scholarships at the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation (Washington D.C) and the Department of Business and Politics at the Copenhagen Business School. DRs from the School have also been active in working with the Institute of Advanced Studies to organise interdisciplinary workshops that include academics, practitioners and policy-makers (e.g. <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/workshops/2013/beyond-rights-wrongs-abortion.aspx>) and others have disseminated their research findings in the public sphere through 'Birmingham Briefs' (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/thebirminghambrief/items/21apr-aid-review.aspx>) and external blogs (e.g. <http://speri.dept.shef.ac.uk/2013/02/13/blaming-bankers-accepting-austerity/>). Two of the co-editors of *International Studies Today*, BISA's flagship magazine on international affairs, are POLSIS DRs. The *Journal for Critical Globalisation Studies*, an open source peer-reviewed journal, was co-edited by a School doctoral researcher from 2010-12, and two POLSIS DRs are currently members of the "COST Action IS0902: Systemic Risks, Financial Crises and Credit" research network, funded by the EU, which has led to invitations to present at workshops in Paris, Frankfurt and Erfurt.

During the assessment period, 132 PhD degrees have been awarded and Birmingham graduates have gone on to replenish the discipline both at home and overseas. In addition to Foster and Jenkins who both hold permanent lectureships in the School, a large number of our PhD graduates now hold an academic position in the UK or overseas. Notable examples include Barbullushi (Vice-Rector for Research and Methodology at the European University in Tirana); Hassan (Assistant Professor in US National Security at Warwick); Goodwin (Mellon Post Doctoral Fellow in Public Policy at Cambridge); Persardie (University of West Indies); Yujuico (LSE); Pflaeger (Lecturer in IPE at Sussex); Namawu Al-hassan Alolo (Senior Policy Analyst, African Development Bank); Sulaiman Yusef Balarabe Kura (Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Nigeria); Ncube (Postdoctoral Fellow at University of KwaZulu-Natal); Futter (Lecturer in Politics, University of Leicester); Tonkiss (Post-doctoral researcher, Birmingham); Patel (UCL); Clegg (Lecturer in IPE, University of York); Fawcett (University of Sydney); Williams (University of Nottingham); Samman (Lecturer in IPE, City University).

Graduate research is supported by a well-developed technical infrastructure and financial support from the School, College and University to attend domestic and international conferences enabling candidates to disseminate their work in appropriate arenas (such as ISA, IPSA and ECPR conferences). DRs have a dedicated suite within the Muirhead Tower with individual office space, networked computing facilities and social space. All DRs at Birmingham are members of the University Graduate School which organizes the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Research Methods & Skills (PGCARMS) providing enhanced training in research and transferable skills to social science doctoral researchers (Burnham and Preston contribute to the programme). In addition, the School offers an Advanced Doctoral Training Programme specifically to develop advanced Political Science/IS expertise organized by Burnham and Quinn. A wide range of research student activities are held throughout the School. For example, DRs are closely involved in the Graduate Centre for Europe (GCfE) which holds an Annual Colloquium and the Institute for German Studies (housed within the School) organizes an annual summer school for researchers. In 2012 IGS secured funds from the DAAD for a Summer School in German Studies which brought

Environment template (REF5)

together 45 UK-based DRs to Birmingham alongside 10 doctoral and postdoctoral members of the German Clusters of Excellence “Languages of Emotion” (Free University Berlin) and “Normative Orders” (Goethe University Frankfurt). The IGS also leads a DR training consortium, supported by an award of Euro 40,000 in 2011-12, with the universities of Nottingham, Oxford, Edinburgh, London, Manchester and Leeds.

There are considerable opportunities for DRs to develop impact skills. The University has particularly strong resources for training DRs in using the media, including the Ideas Lab which works in partnership with independent production companies. Roberts funds have enabled us to extend our knowledge transfer skills training provision, and is now mainstreamed into School postgraduate research budgets. We emphasise DR-led events, including the 3 day University-wide ‘Research into Policy’ DR summer school, the annual University Research Poster Conference associated with Vitae, and regular DR contributions to the ESRC Festival of Social Science often linked to transferable skills training, such as the production of short videos on current research at Birmingham (for example, <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/crees/hudson-victoria-phd.aspx>).

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The increase in grant capture over the REF period has enabled many research groups to extend their already significant scholarly impact whilst deepening their relationship and engagement with the wider academic community. For example in terms of the research theme *Comparative Political Systems*, notable grant capture has included Averre in the area of Russia’s foreign and security policy (his policy-related research is linked with an ongoing UK Government-funded project now in its 22nd year, including as PI for £400k in the current REF cycle); Wolczuk on relations between the EU and the post-Soviet states in Eastern Europe (two ESRC projects totalling £380k); and Haughton’s ESRC funded research on the interaction between domestic and European levels of politics. Income generation in this area has facilitated extensive scholarly impact and academic engagement including briefing David Miliband MP (then Foreign Secretary) prior to his visit to Moscow in 2009; organising a major FCO/Birmingham University event, ‘UK and Russia: is partnership possible on Russia’s agenda for a knowledge-based economy’ in March 2011; in January 2012 co-organising an FCO seminar on the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia (Cooper); and co-organising conferences held at the FCO on conflict resolution in the post-Soviet space in 2011 (Averre, Wolff). In turn, these activities have led directly to innovative research themes and new publications (see for example, Wolczuk et al (eds) 2013 with six chapters by the *Comparative Politics* research group – highlighted by Richard Sakwa (Kent) as ‘a classic path-breaking study’).

From 2006-2010 Jackson was the Director of the ‘Global Facilitation Network for Security Sector Reform’ (GFN-SSR), a £3.5m international research network providing research support for security issues for the UK Government, including the FCO, Ministry of Defence and DFID through the Global Conflict Prevention Pool. This spawned a number of successor projects funded by the ESRC, the EU and DFID (£400k in total) with ongoing ground breaking research in Iraq, Nepal, Sierra Leone and Northern Uganda, the early results of which inform Jackson’s current REF submission.

In addition to large research grants, a number of prestigious personal fellowships/awards have been made to members of the School in this assessment period including: British Academy (Finlay, Gilson, Beswick); Leverhulme (Siniver, Smith); ESRC (Menon - gained and held during assessment period, Fisher, Jackson, Floyd); ESRC/AHRC Professorial Fellow (Wheeler); EC FP7 (Broome – Green Project gained and held during assessment period); Marshall Plan Foundation (Haughton); Mellon Foundation (Vezirgiannidou); Hallsworth Fellowship (Macartney) and Marie Curie (Lemay-Hebert, Jackson, Marquette). Many of these grants have enabled the School to develop new areas of research strength – for example Nicki Smith’s Leverhulme (F/00 09/BJ) funded research on male and transgender sex work in the UK and the Netherlands has significantly broadened the existing concerns of the British Politics, IPE, and gender and feminist theory research groups (forthcoming publications include, Smith, *Queer Sexual Economies* – Palgrave IPE series, 2014).

The income totals listed in REF4b/c do not fully capture the extent of the funded research carried out in G&S at Birmingham. The School has also generated over £2.5m in research-based policy advice over the period 2008-2013. Of particular significance here is the work of the Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC). The GSDRC (directed by Marquette) provides research support to national and international agencies, and achieves high impact by delivering targeted reports in direct response to specific needs. Reports are commissioned for a variety of purposes ranging from high-level political events to project and programme implementation - examples include: informing the Australian and UK government's reactions to the Arab Spring; informing the UK government on engagement in Libya; briefing the UK government for major multilateral negotiations; and supporting international agencies in policy development and evaluation. In terms of academic impact, since 2008 the three principal research fellows in the centre have published 14 journal articles, 4 book chapters, and numerous working papers, conference papers and other publications (GSDRC responds to over 100 research requests each year). Currently, GSDRC attracts over £475k per annum for its policy advice and during this REF cycle has provided research based international workshops and expert group meetings for the World Bank, UNICEF, the UN Development Fund for Women, and a wide range of national agencies (from Norway, India, Belgium, Sweden and South Africa) and UK think-tanks, companies and universities (IDS, Third Sector Research Centre, Humanitarian Outcomes, ODI).

Infrastructure and facilities

In 2009 the School moved into the newly refurbished Muirhead Tower on the Edgbaston campus. The £45 million refurbishment provides state-of-the-art academic offices, postgraduate office suites, lecture theatres, technical support, social and cafeteria space and houses the Cadbury Research Library (containing manuscripts and archives including papers of Chamberlain, Eden and political organizations and rare book collections). The location of the School within Muirhead is a physical manifestation of the inter-disciplinary research environment created at Birmingham and is evidence of the University's commitment to sustaining and extending that environment. Each member of staff and DR is allocated individual computing provision and Library Services supports the information resources and needs of staff and DRs. The University Library is one of the largest academic libraries in the country and boasts an outstanding research collection, incorporating 2.7 million items, over 50,000 scholarly journals (electronic and print), and access to 275,000 e-books. The social science collections are located primarily in the Main Library with subject specific site libraries for law, education and other subjects. Library Services provides study places, computer clusters and a dedicated research room for DRs and academic staff. Academic Support Teams provide subject specialist information literacy training and support for students and staff across the University. All new researchers are sent an invitation to meet their library Subject Advisor at the beginning of their contract and Schools arrange larger group training sessions for new researchers. Subject Advisors assist researchers with systematic reviews through one to one bespoke training on relevant databases, and in organising results using reference management software (see: <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/libraryservices/library/subject/index.aspx>).

Library Services have developed a formal training programme for researchers aiming to deliver improved information skills to make best use of information resources, and also on topics such as 'Raising Your Research Profile'. These sessions include guidance on publication (including open access), bibliometrics and using social media effectively (see - intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/claddivision/skills/courselists/raisingyourresearchprofile.aspx). The Digital Assets team supports Open Access to publications, research theses and data through the institutional repository ("green" access) and by advising on publisher options and managing the central budget for "gold" open access - <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/openaccess/>. In addition, the Copyright Officer advises on the use of images in work for publication: <https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/copyright/>.

In addition to the services of the Main Library, the University is home to nine specialist libraries of relevance to the School (including law, education, European politics, German politics, Russian politics and Arabic and Oriental collections). In 2014 work will begin on a £37 million project to build a new 13,000 sq metre main library as a 'flagship development' on campus further increasing

Environment template (REF5)

the accessibility of materials to staff and the wider community.

In terms of dedicated research services, the College of Social Sciences provides a Research Support Office (CRSO) with 6 full-time staff (with over twenty years' collective experience) to facilitate external funding applications and manage successful awards. The CRSO is a one-stop shop for researchers and helps with identifying funders, selecting peer reviewers, processing proposals (and CVs) and liaising with finance and contract officers. Post-bid support is provided within the School through dedicated administrators. The Advanced Social Sciences Collaborative (ASCC) acts as the College's internal think-tank and research incubator – 'a forum through which to engage colleagues in identifying and debating emerging social science challenges and in setting the agenda within the College' (College of Social Sciences Research Strategy (UoB) 2009). In addition, the University's Institute for Advanced Studies (created in 2012) provides a base for research fellows and IAS visiting fellows. From 2008-2012 the University was also home to the *Higher Education Academy – Subject Network for Sociology, Anthropology and Politics* which provided a base for collaborative research particularly for early career social scientists. In short, there is clear evidence of a commitment to infrastructure and facilities at Birmingham supporting a vital and sustainable research environment.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Interdisciplinary research and collaboration

Government and Society research groups have been involved in a series of collaborative academic initiatives, pursuing multi-disciplinary research projects, and deepening relationships with key intermediaries (relevant media and peak organisations) and academic colleagues around the world. For example, in 2010 the *Security Studies* group collaborated with the ESRC (RES-052-27-001), the Royal Institute of International Affairs and the BBC's *The World Tonight*. Through this collaboration, Chatham House hosted an academic conference on the London bombings (<http://www.chathamhouse.org/events/view/156475>) which brought together key researchers, academics and policy-makers to debate Western counter-terrorism policies (keynote speaker Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones, the then UK Minister of State Security and panelists included the Head of the British Security Services, MI5 (Jonathan Evans), BBC Security Correspondents and Professor's Richardson (VC at St Andrew's), Crenshaw (Stanford), Sageman (Foreign Policy Research Institute, FPRI) and English (Queen's)). The aim, to develop original scholarship and policy initiatives, ran through the publication of the Special Issue of *International Affairs* that accompanied the conference (the lead article co-authored by Moore has been listed as one of the most read pieces of the journal).

Academic events hosted by the *Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security* (ICCS) have begun to establish Birmingham as a world leader and centre for collaboration in security studies. Wheeler gave the prestigious Martin Wight annual Memorial Lecture, at Chatham House, in November 2012, on 'Diplomatic Transformations in International Anarchy.' (<http://www.chathamhouse.org/events/view/186055>) and the ICCS has hosted conferences and workshops on 'Trust Building and Conflict Transformation' and 'Civil Wars, Intervention and state-building' and 'International Security in Theory and Practice'. In April 2013 the ICCS was selected to provide leadership to Birmingham's Institute for Advanced Studies' major theme of *Saving Humans: Risk, Intervention, Survival*. Birmingham is exceptionally well placed to take this forward with internationally renowned experts led by Jackson, Widdows (*College of Arts and Law*) and Wheeler working across disciplines. The cross-cutting goals of *Saving Humans* will enable the ICCS and the IAS to bring together a diverse and truly multidisciplinary community of researchers (including DRs and visiting Fellows) under a policy relevant and intellectually exciting programme contributing to the academic community in the widest sense (see, <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/saving-humans/index.aspx>).

The *Political Theory* Group acts as a UK hub for the new international association *Academics Stand Against Poverty* (ASAP), which seeks to both extend academic research on poverty and enhance positive academic impact on poverty alleviation efforts worldwide. Cabrera serves on the 9-member ASAP board, based at Yale, and edits *World Poverty Forum*. Group members hosted the UK launch for ASAP in May 2011. It was keynoted by Pogge (Yale) and attended by more than

Environment template (REF5)

70 established academics from around the UK. In 2011-12 Cabrera helped organize ASAP conferences involving hundreds of participants at universities worldwide, including Oslo (September 2011), Delhi (October 2011), Notre Dame's London Centre (October 2011), and Yale (April 2012). In 2012 the group (with Pogge and Ashok Acharya, (Delhi)) received an award of £50k from the British Council's UK/India Education and Research Initiative to establish a global justice programme at Delhi University which provides for PhD student mobility exchange among the three institutions: 6 from Delhi and three each from Birmingham and Yale. The three partners are set to organize a major research conference, 'Global Justice and the Global South', for Delhi in 2014 and a postgraduate conference at Birmingham in Spring 2015.

Contribution to the profession and research base

Since the formation of the School of *Government and Society* at Birmingham, synergies have been created, processes and resources have been placed on a sustainable footing and the research base has been extended. The result of this restructuring is a research culture characterised by support for innovative and intellectually challenging projects in the context of a well resourced and interdisciplinary environment. The favourable and positive research environment at Birmingham has enabled members of the School to continue to make an exceptional contribution to the discipline. For example, during this REF cycle, in addition to the nine academic journals located within the School (*British Politics, West European Politics, Comparative European Politics, European Journal of Political Theory, Ethnopolitics, Civil Wars, Local Government Studies, Critical Policy Studies, Journal of Intervention and State-Building*), colleagues have been represented on the editorial boards of: *Journal of Public Policy* (Bertelli); *Journal of Politics* (Bertelli); *British Journal of Political Science* (Bertelli); *Europe-Asia Studies* (Yemelianova); *Public Administration Review* (Skelcher); *Eurasian Geography and Economics* (Cooper, Connolly); *International Journal of Public Administration* (Marquette); *European Security* (Averre, Webber); *Review of Central and East European Law* (Wolczuk); *Routledge Series on Russian and East European Studies* (Connolly); *Policy and Politics* (Durose); *East European Politics* (Haughton); *Journal of Common Market Studies* (Haughton); *Review of International Studies* (Steans); *Civil Wars (Jackson); Small Wars & Insurgencies* (Jackson); *Journal of Global Ethics* (Marquette); *Mediterranean Politics* (Pace); *Nationalities Papers* (Wolff); *Sociology* (Budgeon); *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism* (Wolff); *EuroVista* (Raine); *International Feminist Journal of Politics* (Steans); co-editor *Cambridge Series in International Relations* (Wheeler); *Bulgarska Ethnologia* (Kaneff); *International Relations* (Wheeler).

In terms of professional association activities during this REF period: *Burnham* is founder and co-convenor (with Wetherly at Leeds Met) of the PSA Specialist Group on State Theory and appointed to the ESRC Postgraduate Board 2009-2010; *Quinn*, formerly a member of the BISA Executive, is convenor of the American Foreign Policy group; *Bottom* co-convenes the PSA Specialist Group on Local Politics; *Webber* is an elected BISA Trustee and was appointed to the ESRC Board of Examiners 2008-2009; *Bovaird* is a member of the ESRC Third Sector Research Centre; *Haughton* is a member of the ESRC Peer Review College; *Gilson* is on the Advisory Board for the Finnish Institute of International Affairs; *Durose* was until 2011 co-convenor of the PSA Specialist Group Interpretive Political Science; *Marquette* was until 2010 co-director of the ECPR Third World Politics Standing Group; *Nunan* is on the Council of the Development Studies Association; *Pace* is founder and convenor of the BISA Working Group on International Mediterranean Studies, and the ESRC Research Group on EU and Democracy Promotion in the Middle East; *Smith* was co-convenor of the Centre for Sex Work Research and Policy, and co-director (with Lee) of the BISA Working Group on Small States; *Vieira* is a founding member of the IR Theory group at ISA; *Wolff* is founder and co-chair of ECPR Standing Group on Security Issues, and co-Chair of PSA Specialist Group on Ethnopolitics.

Publications by many members of the School have received awards including: *Bertelli* – Herbert Kaufman award for the best paper in public administration, American Political Science Association 2012; *Cabrera* – the Yale H. Ferguson Prize by the International Studies Association 2011 awarded each year for the book 'that most advances the vibrancy of international studies as a pluralist discipline'; *Dunn* – the BJPIR Best Article Award 2009; *Skelcher* - the Kooiman Award for best paper in *Public Management Review* 2008; and *Pflaeger* – ISA Robert and Jessie Cox Award

for the best graduate paper in international relations, 2011. In terms of exceptional contribution to the discipline, *Julian Cooper* was awarded an OBE in the 2012 New Year's Honours list for services to Soviet and Russian economic studies. *Skelcher* and *Wolff* are Academicians of the Academy of Social Sciences. Sixteen senior members of the School have delivered keynote addresses during the REF period and staff at all levels of seniority have acted as referees for major research funders both in the UK and overseas.

The School has hosted a number of prestigious national and international conferences at Birmingham including: *BISA 2013 Postgraduate Conference* (Wheeler gave the keynote); *CREES 50th Anniversary Conference 2013* (CREES staff with Ron Amman); *Development Studies Association Annual Conference 2013* (IDD staff); *BISA International Political Economy Group annual conference 2012* (Broome, Burnham, Thain, Lee, Cabrera and 4 DRs); *Symposium on Gendered Impacts of UK Austerity Measures 2012* (Steans, Foster, Jenkins - <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-social-sciences/government-society/polsis/research/all-in-it-together.pdf>); *27th International Society for the Scientific Study of Subjectivity's Annual Q Conference, 2011* (Jeffares); *2011 Public Administration Committee Annual Conference* (INLOGOV staff); *International Symposium on Power, Freedom and Democracy 2010* (Bates, Jenkins); *'Russia: A Part of Europe or Apart from Europe?' 2009* (Averre with guest speakers Baranovsky, Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of World Economy, and Wood, former UK Ambassador to Russia); *'Bringing the Policy Back In' international conference 2009* (Menon with keynote from vice president of the EC); *'Aiding the Poorest: 10 years on from Birmingham G8', International conference, 2008* (IDD staff). Notable conference organisation outside of Birmingham (in addition to regular PSA, BISA, ISA and ECPR conference organisation) includes *'Evolution of the Modern Treasury' conference 2009* organised by Thain with key Treasury/Bank officials and academics at All Souls, Oxford, <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100407010852/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/7709.htm>); *'One Year on from the Arab Spring: Deconstructing Past Myths and the Role of the EU' conference 2012* organised by Pace, European Policy Centre, Brussels; *'The origins of Argentina-Brazil nuclear cooperation' conference 2012* organised by ICCS in partnership with the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) in Brazil; *'Brazil Conference on Accounting, Accountability and Service Delivery 2013'* organised by IDD staff at the University of Sao Paulo.

School staff have also been recipients of numerous ESRC Seminar Series awards further emphasising our sustained commitment to the discipline. *Wolff* was PI for the series 'The European Union as a Global Conflict Manager', 2008-2010; *Durose* and *Skelcher* (with Justice, University of Delaware) organised the series 'Beyond the state? Third party government in comparative perspective', 2010-12; *Beswick* was co-organiser 2011 (with academics from City, OU, Chatham House and Stellenbosch) of the series 'African Agency in International Politics'. *Quinn* is currently Co-I for the series 'The Future of American Power', which aims to establish a lasting network of scholars of US foreign policy at all career stages, especially fostering ties between senior American scholars and early career scholars from the UK (participants include Posen (MIT), Ikenberry (Princeton), Wohlforth (Dartmouth), Negroponte (former Director of National Intelligence and Deputy Secretary of State) and Wescott (Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy). *Webber* is currently PI for the series 'NATO after Afghanistan' (with academics from Sandhurst and Kings College, London) 2012-14. In July 2013, *Dunn* became PI on the series, 'Reconnecting the Academic Community to British Defence and Security Policy: The 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review' (a 27 month project with Chatham House, Kings College and Bristol).

In addition, School staff have made a major contribution to the profession in terms of refereeing for top journals, book series and research funders (including ESRC, British Academy, Leverhulme, British Council, DFID, SSRC Canada, Swiss, Austrian, German, Norwegian research councils) and examination of doctorates (over 230 examined over the REF cycle – 102 by School staff as external examiners). In short, the School of Government and Society at the University of Birmingham has a vibrant, distinctive and sustainable research culture and is well placed to continue to make an outstanding contribution to the discipline as it develops over the next decade.