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<b>Institution:</b> Swansea University
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 21 – Politics and International Studies
<b>a. Overview</b>

This submission is made from the Department of Political and Cultural Studies (PCS) which has two research groups. These are **Political Analysis and Governance (PAG)**, which covers political theory, comparative, national and sub-national politics, policy studies and political behaviour (8 staff - Axtmann, Bevir, Bideleux, Bradbury, Merrin, Wall, Wiesehomeier, Wu); and **International Studies, Conflict and Security (ISCAS)**, covering political theory and philosophy, area studies, international policy studies, international relations, security and war studies (10 staff - Bewley Taylor, Brocklehurst, Clarke, Collins, Cooper, Evans, Jarvis, McVeigh, Peters, Sheehan). The UoA has an externally funded research centre, the **Global Drug Policy Observatory** (directed by Bewley Taylor with two researchers), established in 2012. The UoA is located in the College of Arts and Humanities, supported by the **Research Institute of Arts and Humanities (RIAH)** and the cross-institutional **Research Institute of Applied Social Sciences (RIASS)**.

<b>b. Research strategy</b>
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**The UoA's research strategy** is rooted in the 2002 review conducted with Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman and outlined in RAE2008. This established the Department's determination to become a leading international centre for research in politics and international studies. The strategic ethos is to integrate political theory and practice, and innovate by applying cultural, social and political theory to the analysis of political life, macro-political change and security studies. Following RAE 2008 the UoA pursued these objectives by creating the two research groups noted above, which also worked to align research culture with RCUK priorities. PAG engaged with ESRC priorities on quantitative research and the study of government and social diversity. ISCAS addressed the AHRC priority on language-based area studies and the ESRC priority on security, conflict and justice. As a whole, the UoA addressed the RCUK prioritisation of inter-disciplinary research to understand global uncertainties. UoA strategy also emphasises placing outputs in leading journals and with major publishers, appointing high-quality staff linked to the delivery of objectives, enhancing postgraduate research student training, and acquiring external research funding.

### Achievements since RAE 2008

**The UoA is confident that it has met its primary objectives.** Building on established practice, it has developed a research environment which is well integrated into national and international research networks in major fields of the discipline, and committed to inter-disciplinary research. The UoA is outward looking, ambitious, well-resourced and inclusive. The research groups have made major contributions to debates in four areas of research. PAG has contributed to **1) the interpretive and normative study of government and governance**, and **2) the quantitative and qualitative study of political behaviour**. ISCAS has contributed to **3) social science approaches to international policy and area studies**, and **4) the philosophical and critical study of war, security and conflict**. Expertise in these four areas of research is complemented by the Global Drug Policy Observatory (GDPO), funded by the Open Society Foundations 2012-14, as a major inter-disciplinary resource for research into a key challenge facing global policy makers.

Allied to this, our **publication strategy** has achieved 121 journal articles and 13 monograph books. Outlets have included leading journals not only in political science and international relations but also in planning & development and substance abuse, reflecting the UoA's inter-disciplinary character; and books have been placed with leading publishers. **Staffing policy** has increased FTEs from 13 to 17.2, including the appointment as distinguished research professor of Mark Bevir, Professor of Politics, University of California Berkeley. **Postgraduate research students' training** has been enhanced by our roles in both the politics and international relations, and language-based area studies pathways of the Wales ESRC Doctoral Training Centre. The UoA has achieved a substantial improvement in **external research funding**, spending £535k (more than double the RAE2008 figure), and so far earning £229k for the next census period. The UoA's commitment to **collaboration** is exemplified by roles in research projects funded by the ESRC and AHRC, and our **contribution to the discipline** is exemplified by the hosting and convening of the 58th annual conference of the UK Political Studies Association in 2008.

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### Strategy for the next 5 years

Our overriding objective is to enhance our global reputation by addressing major issues in the four areas of research outlined above. To achieve this we aim to complete the following:

- **Publications from projects developed in the census period.** The UoA has provided long-term support for sixteen projects that will make major contributions to research debates. These include projects on global constitutionalism and democracy; devolution and politics in the UK; the ethics of war in space; jus post bellum theory; and drug trafficking, youth culture and conflict in West Africa.
- **An increase in the volume of world leading research outputs.** Currently we project 50-60 submissions to ISI-reported journals and 16 completed research monographs.
- **A strengthening of international collaborations to initiate new research.** The UoA will focus on developing long-term research mobility arrangements. These will include staff exchange research fellowships with colleagues at Texas A & M and Rice universities as part of a Swansea University strategic partnership; and the organization of a series of six workshops with the University of the Philippines, Diliman, on human rights policies in South East Asia, 2013-16, funded by a British Academy international partnership and mobility grant.
- **Enhanced collaboration and contribution to the profession.** The UoA will enhance its large array of activities by playing a leading role in over 30 research collaborations and other activities intended to define agendas for future research. These include statecraft (inc Bevir, with John, UCL), the quantitative study of presidential texts (with Benoit, LSE and Doyle & Arnold, Oxford), and women, gender and international relations (editorship of new Palgrave book series).

**The UoA is also pioneering new and developing initiatives. PAG researchers** have initiated the inter-disciplinary RIASS research network on Welsh Public Attitudes and will develop quantitative research on the under-used post-1997 ESRC data on Wales. **ISCAS researchers** have established an inter-disciplinary RIAH civil wars network and will develop research in the under-developed field of comparative civil wars. **Researchers across the UOA** will participate in research programmes led by Bevir at the Centre for British Studies at Berkeley on British identity and the EU, and British Government. They will also collaborate with Bevir, who is a UN advisor on governance and development, in research on new UN strategies and their implementation.

**The UoA will enhance its research by prioritising funded research. PAG's research** will include PI leadership of a €77k project on women's representation in Portugal and Spain, funded by the Foundation of Science and Technology (Portugal), 2013-14. Co-I's include Schwindt-Bayer (Rice). The UOA will seek funding under the EU Horizon 2020 programme for research on innovation, as well as RCUK support for research on devolution and public policy, comparative political behaviour, digital technology and voting, and Welsh public attitudes. **ISCAS research** will include British Academy funded research on human rights policies in South East Asia, 2013-16 (see above). Researchers will also seek Horizon 2020 funding for research on inclusive, innovative and secure societies, as well as RCUK funding for research on comparative drug policy, civil wars, UN international development, and military literacy. **The UOA will prioritise the development of the GDPO** as a leading UK centre promoting evidence-based drug policy at national and international levels. Its activities include policy reports, an interactive website, seminars and policy dialogues. **Grant capture activities overall** will aim to secure RCUK, charitable trust and European funding for new research projects (min c£500k to £1m) and follow-on funding for the GDPO (c£600k to 2020). Consequently, we have a target of at least £1.5-£2m total grant income.

**The UOA will also prioritise support for its research through further high quality appointments in our four areas of research.** We will make two ECR appointments in 2013-14, and plan to make at least one senior appointment and two further ECR appointments thereafter:

- **An expanded PGR school.** The UoA will increase its postgraduate research community, and sustain ESRC and University studentship funding. We will deliver +3 training programme within both our pathways in the Wales ESRC DTC and will be part of the renewal application in 2016.

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- **An enhanced research infrastructure.** Over the next five years the UoA will receive enhanced space and facilities in the light of the £250m investment by the European Investment Bank, Welsh Government and other funders in the development of the Swansea University estate.

**The UoA Director of Research**, the Research Committee, the PAG and ISCAS research groups and the GDPO will drive and monitor progress in realizing all of these objectives, overseen by the University Research Committee and supported by RIAH and RIASS. Our ambition is fully supported by the University's Senior Management Team, and well aligned with the University's strategic ambition to be a research-intensive Top 30 UK University by 2017.

**c. People, including:****I. Staffing strategy and staff development**

**Staffing strategy** has enhanced the size, scope and quality of research group capacity in three principal ways. First, with University support, the UoA recruited Bevir as a distinguished research professor. His interests both in government and governance and UN and international development, underpin collaborative relationships with PAG and ISCAS staff. Second, the UoA has recruited staff at lecturer level, including Wiesehomeier and Wall, from post-doctoral fellowships in Lisbon and Brussels respectively, on the quantitative research of political behaviour, and Jarvis from Oxford Brookes on security studies. Third, the University has re-located social scientists to strengthen the UoA, including researchers with expertise on digital technology and political participation contributing to PAG, and researchers on international policy and area studies to ISCAS. Taking into account some staff departures the UoA has grown to 17.2 FTEs.

**The staffing profile** includes senior colleagues, who provide research leadership, and mid-career staff, who are identified for leadership positions, as well as providing opportunities for early career researchers to establish themselves in the profession. The UoA has six professors, two readers, seven associate professors/senior lecturers and three lecturers, of whom seven staff have received promotion since 2008. The University's strategic equality plan has governed new appointments and the support of members of staff in relation to personal circumstances. The quality of our research environment has also been enhanced by the appointment of Andrew Davies, Minister in the Welsh Government, 1999-2010, as honorary professor in 2012; and the Rt Hon Peter Hain MP as Visiting Fellow in 2013.

**Staff support has focused on all researchers' career development.** The Director of Research works with staff to develop their individual research portfolios. The Head of Department also reflects on research performance with staff in their Performance Enabling Review, which measures performance against key performance indicators, including publications, grant applications/funding and PGR supervision. This is part of a programme for which Swansea University won both a Times Higher Leadership and Management Award and a UHR Excellence Award in 2012. The UoA has also used the University Researcher Development Framework to shape generic training provision. Further support is received from RIAH's monitoring of research quality and grant applications to ensure they meet University quality and ethics benchmarks.

**The UoA has provided equality of research opportunity for all researchers.** Researchers have a research day each week, extended research time during student vacations and opportunities to compete for sabbatical leave. Twenty five teaching blocks of leave have been won by the UoA within the census period. The TRAC return in 2011-12 recorded that staff on average spent around 60% of their time on research, of which 10% was spent on postgraduate supervision. The Department's Thursday lunchtime seminar is used by all staff to present pre-circulated papers to staff and PGR students for feedback prior to submission. Overall, UoA staffing policy is consistent with the 2008 Concordat to support researchers' careers developments, which was rewarded with an EU Human Resources excellence in research award for Swansea University in 2013.

**The UoA has provided additional support to early career researchers (ECRs).** The probation agreement sets targets, ensures reductions in teaching and administrative loads and provides a basis for reviewing progress. The UoA has allocated a mentor to all ECRs, resulting in ECRs receiving advice on research development and feedback on publications and grant bids. During the census period four ECRs completed probation, each producing a research monograph based on their PhD, as well as other publications, and securing external research funding. Two were

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promoted to senior lecturer. Senior staff have also mentored contract ECRs to go on to positions elsewhere including a lectureship at Leeds and a fellowship at the Clinton Institute, UCD.

**The UoA has supported staff in achieving prestigious research fellowships.** These have included a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship 2011-12; visiting professorships at the University of Sydney (2011-2013), University of Queensland, Deakin University, and Freiburg University (2011); and two visiting fellowships at the University of Oslo, funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2010) and Research Council of Norway (2011). Other researchers have held visiting UK-based fellowships at Goldsmiths College, London and Cardiff University; and international fellowships at the European University Institute, Florence, Dublin City University, University of Notre Dame, University of Singapore, VU University, Amsterdam, the Kofi Annan Centre, Ghana, and Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines.

### c. II. Research students

**Postgraduate research student strategy** has focused on expanding and maintaining the quality of its graduate school. The Department recruits on average 5-6 new PhD students per year and has a PGR school of around 25 students. Our capacity to undertake Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) accredited supervision and training was maintained when we became a partner (training) in the politics and international studies pathway and a co-host (studentships and training) in the language based area studies pathway of the Wales ESRC Doctoral Training Centre. The UOA also has been successful in the annual internal competition for Swansea University PhD studentships. It has also recruited PhD students under the University's Nawal Al Sharif scholarship scheme, funded by interest from a £300,000 endowment made in 2006.

**Overall, the UoA has been successful** in securing one open competition ESRC studentship and two competitive ESRC DTC studentships (start Oct 2013), five University competition studentships and two Nawal Al Sharif studentships. In addition two students have received university fees-only bursaries. All PhD students require a relevant masters' degree and, given the high number of applicants, the Department has recruited high quality students from Cambridge, Cardiff and Sheffield as well as from Swansea. This is reflected in 24.5 successful completions for PhD, a 9% rise on RAE2008. Subjects covered by studentships draw on the department's expertise in its four key research areas. These include UK devolution and public policy; policies on HIV Aids in Thailand; state-building in Palestine; ASEAN and security in South East Asia; and cyber security.

**The Department assigns all postgraduate students a primary and secondary supervisor** to help them define their research project, mentor them and monitor progress. They meet regularly each month, and records are kept of research development. In the first three months supervisors agree a training programme with students drawn from a University programme of generic and transferable skills, research skills and methods training modules, provided to correspond with the Vitae Research Development Framework. All research students are furnished with a work space, computer and printing facility and locker in the PCS- designated PGR rooms. Students have RIAH computer and Common Room access as well as facilities in the University Library.

**The department convenes a PhD student presentation series**, which both PGR students and staff attend. This is organised to ensure all probationer students present their research topic and plans, and all third year students give a pre-submission presentation of their thesis. Many second year students also present work in progress. Since 2011, PGR students have also attended training events in the pathways of the Wales ESRC DTC. To ensure the timely completion of PhDs, the University Postgraduate Academic Board requires an annual progress report for each student, which includes reports from supervisors, statements by the students concerned and interviews by the director and/or deputy directors of the RIAH Graduate Centre.

**The UOA is also able to offer PGR students the benefits of being part of broader PGR communities across RIAH and RIASS.** PGR students attend annual postgraduate conferences and workshops organised by the RIAH Graduate Centre, and other RIAH research centres and groups. The RIAH Graduate Centre also provides up to £600 p.a. to support PGR students' field research and attendance at conferences to give presentations. Students have been supported in internship placements, for example the ESRC student on HIV Aids in Thailand was supported in a placement with ACCA, the Accountancy association. In addition, ESRC funded students are

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supported by RIASS co-ordination of DTC provision at Swansea, ensuring financial support for advanced methods training and eligibility for training bursaries. RIASS also provides access to the community of other ESRC-funded students across the Welsh universities who form the DTC.

**PGR students are key to the PCS research environment.** Many have presented at conferences and some have made major early contributions, exemplified by winning the PAC Conference prize for the best paper by a postgraduate in 2009, and publishing articles in journals such as *Public Administration* and *French Politics*. Since 2008, PhD graduates have gone on to successful careers including posts as a Lecturer at Nottingham Trent; a post-doctoral research fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; a senior diplomatic position in the Faroe Islands Foreign Ministry; and an advisor to the Government of Oman.

### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Research infrastructure strategy has sought to enhance grant capture in four main ways.

**First, the University makes an annual £0.6m investment in the Research Institute for the Arts and Humanities (RIAH) and Research Institute of Applied Social Sciences (RIASS),** established in 2009 and 2011 respectively. Staff from the UoA have undertaken prominent roles in the development of both institutes, including deputy director of RIASS, director of the RIAH Graduate Centre and directors of research centres. Both institutes provide grant development officers and other support to alert researchers to funding calls and to assist in the preparation, costings, internal peer review, and on-line submission of research bids. This work is supported by the University-level Department of Research and Innovation, which has provided pre-submission and post-grant support and specialist advice on European Union FP6 and FP7 proposals. Generic skills staff training has been provided by the University Academic and Professional Enhancement Centre Swansea (APECS), including courses on grant capture and managing research projects.

**Second, RIAH has provided support for multi-disciplinary research centres** to hold conferences, workshops and seminar series, and invite visiting speakers. PAG has close associations with three. The **Centre for the Study of Culture and Politics** has focused on theory and philosophy, with events including a conference on freedom and democracy jointly organised with universities in Germany and Koper, Slovenia in December 2008. Visiting speakers have included Mike Kenny (Sheffield), Bonnie Honig (Northwestern Illinois) and Helmut Kuzmics (Graz). The **Centre for the Study of the Americas** has facilitated seminars and guest lectures. Speakers have included Jack Godwin (California State University, Sacramento) who was a PCS-based Fulbright senior scholar, in 2010. The **Richard Burton Centre for the Study of Wales** seminar series in 2009-10 on the National Assembly for Wales Ten Years On included papers by Richard Wyn Jones and Roger Scully (both Cardiff), and a plenary lecture by First Minister Carwyn Jones. ISCAS has received support from the **James Callaghan Centre for Conflict, Power and Empire**, including workshops and conferences on global uncertainties; rising powers and space security; anti-terrorism, citizenship and security; and civil wars, as well as lectures by Richard Carwardine (Oxford) and Paul Preston (LSE). Other visiting speakers have included George Abbey (Rice, Texas), Mark Beeson (Western Australia), Chris Bryant (Salford) and the Rt Hon David Miliband.

**Third, RIAH and RIASS have provided targeted support for project development.** Since 2009 RIAH has had a research initiative fund that has provided seed corn funding of up to £5k to help bring ideas to fruition by facilitating visits, collaborative team workshops, and preliminary research. Successful funded projects include two examples in the ISCAS group that received funding in 2009-10: on the ASEAN Inter-governmental commission on human rights; and on military literacy and young people. The former led to a successful grant bid in 2013 to the British Academy for £29k to fund research on the ASEAN Human Rights IGC; the latter supported work which has borne fruit in an impact case study. RIASS provides support for applied research centres and advised on the application that secured the £238k funding for the Global Drug Policy Observatory in 2012.

**Fourth, the UoA has received RIAH facilities support** in the form of dedicated IT and computing staff, facility investment, including new Graduate computer and common rooms, and the refurbishment and technical upgrading of departmental PGR rooms. Library resources have been enhanced with on-line collections and all staff have received updated computer hardware and software. Library support also assisted in the conduct of the project to digitise the Raymond

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Williams collection, held at the University and funded by the Barry Amiel Foundation. RIAH has contributed funding for field-work, conference attendance, and language training (in Arabic, Mandarin and Thai) for staff and student researchers in international area studies. This has helped researchers in the UoA to conduct survey research in Europe and Latin America, and qualitative field research in over twenty countries across Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America.

**As a result, there has been a dramatic improvement in generating external research income.**

The UoA spent a total external research income of £535k over the census period, more than double the RAE2008 figure. Three grants reflected significant collaborations with other universities: a co-principal investigator role with researchers in Bristol on the £860k ESRC grant award for 'Tianjin Under Nine Flags: Colonialism in Comparative Perspective'; a principal investigator role with researchers at Cardiff and Glamorgan on a project on ICT use and minority communities in Wales in the AHRC Connected Communities programme; and a UK investigator role in the 15 country project on MPs and political representation led by the €2.65m PARTIREP programme, funded by the Belgium Science Policy. Other individual project grants came from the AHRC, ESRC, German Research Council, Leverhulme Foundation, Nuffield Foundation, Arthur McDougal Trust, Getty Trust, Open Society Foundations, and the Commonwealth Foundation. Funding was also secured from the British Academy, Wellcome Trust and British Council to support conferences and workshops; and from the ESRC Methods Training Bursary Fund, the UK Association of South-East Asian Studies, the International Studies Association and the Political Studies Association to support attendance at courses and conferences.

The UoA has earned £229k for the next census period, including support for the GDPO, and at the time of REF2014 eight grant bids were awaiting result with more in planning. There is therefore considerable momentum for success in future grant capture.

**e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base**

**The UoA has been strongly committed to collaborative inter-disciplinary research.** This has been supported by several drivers. First, the Swansea University Research Forum's (SURF) weekly meetings have encouraged partnerships across disciplines, and a £750k Bridging the Gaps (BTG) EPSRC research grant (2010-13), awarded to Swansea University to facilitate inter-disciplinary research, has funded three of the UoA's projects. Secondly, inter-disciplinarity is one of the criteria for granting University PhD studentships, and these have involved collaboration with law and engineering. Thirdly, projects have been stimulated by the ESRC-funded Welsh Institute for Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods (est. 2009). This led to UoA collaboration with researchers in geography at Glamorgan on the aforementioned AHRC project on ICT usage and minority communities. Overall, staff have developed ten inter-disciplinary projects.

**Collaboration has also included eight projects with non-academic research users** including international and national policy makers, educational organisations, political parties and NGOs. They have enriched the research environment by building research users' concerns into research design, encouraging funding of research and institutionalising research capacity. This is best exemplified by the research on drug policy, which was stimulated by engagement with international NGOs, led to funding by the Open Society Foundations of specific projects and ultimately elicited the Open Society Foundations' financial support for a global drug policy observatory. The GDPO has established a network of relationships with organisations such as the International Centre for Science in Drug Policy, the International Drug Policy Consortium and the Amsterdam-based NGO, the Transnational Institute, which have shaped GDPO research agendas and activities.

**Collaborative disciplinary research** has also included a further seventeen national or international collaborations resulting in publications and/or grant capture. These include PAG Group collaborations with Kenneth Benoit (LSE) and David Doyle (Oxford) on the politics of Latin America; Andre Kouwel (Amsterdam), Thomas Vitiello (Istanbul) and Laura Sudulich (Brussels), on electoral competition in Europe; and Kris Deschouwer and Sam Depauw (Brussels) and Wolfgang Muller and Marcelo Jenny (Vienna) on the PARTIREP project on Representation in Modern Democracies. In the ISCAS group, the ESRC project on 'Tianjin Under Nine Flags: Colonialism in Comparative Perspective' involved collaboration with Maurizio Marinelli and Robert Bickers (Bristol). The ESRC project on 'Anti-Terrorism, Citizenship and Security in the UK' involved collaboration with Michael Lister, Oxford Brookes University.

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The Department made a significant contribution to the discipline by organising and academically convening the **58th UK Political Studies Association Annual Conference, Swansea University, 1-3 April 2008**. The conference attracted over 500 delegates and featured a conference address, two plenary events and 144 panels. The programme introduced the specialist group guest speakers' competition, and included the annual 2008 PSA Graduate Conference. The UoA has since organised a further 30 conferences and 42 panels in international and national conferences, including those for PSA, BISA, ECPR, IPSA, APSA and ISA.

**Other significant contributions include editorial roles.** These include book series editor for the Oxford History of Political Thought, Berkeley Studies in Governance, and the Continuum series on War, Culture and Society. Researchers edit the *Journal of War and Culture Studies* (founded in 2008) and *Journal of the Philosophy of History*. They have guest-edited ten journals including *Government and Opposition*, *Public Administration*, *Policy and Politics*, *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* and *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*. Researchers have served on 26 journal editorial boards and edited 21 books. **In addition, researchers have published major reference works and text books** including a 3 volume encyclopaedia of political theory (Sage) and introduction to terrorism (Palgrave) which won Choice outstanding academic title awards in 2010 and 2012; a four volume collection on interpretive political science (Sage), and introductions to governance (OUP), International Security (OUP), and War and Children (Praeger).

**Bevir's publications on governance have been the focus of symposia** published in special editions of *Political Studies Review*, *Comparative European Politics*, *British Politics*, *Administrative Theory and Praxis* and *International Journal of Organisation Theory and Behaviour*; and his work on the history of political ideas has been the subject of a special journal edition of *Intellectual History Review*. Members of the UoA have served on two political science association awards' juries, and provided refereeing for 140 journal submissions, 54 publisher book proposals and 17 research council bids. They have given 198 papers at conferences or in other universities' seminar series and delivered 36 invited keynote lectures.

**The UoA has made three research leadership contributions in the UK Political Studies Association and British International Studies Association.** These are first, as co-convenor of the PSA Territorial Politics Specialist Group, activities including panels at each PSA annual conference 2008-2013; and three specialist group 2-day conferences in Edinburgh (2008), Oxford (2010), and Scotland and Wales House, Brussels (2012); second, as co-chair of the British International Studies Association Interpretive Approaches to International Relations working group since 2011; and finally, as co-convenor of the British International Studies Association Critical Studies on Terrorism Working Group since November 2011, entailing the co-organising of two annual conferences at Kings College, London (2012) and Loughborough (2013).

**Colleagues have also made professional contributions to associations and learned societies.** These include memberships of the ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship Panel until 2009; the Wales ESRC DTC Management Group since 2011; the AHRC Peer Review College; the Languages and Area Studies QAA benchmarking panel; and the Executive Council of the Western Political Science Association, USA. Colleagues have acted as president of the Society for the Philosophy of History (US Philosophical Association), adviser to the Commonwealth Scholarships Committee; international Assessor for the Australian Research Council until 2010, and chair of an expert international panel evaluating higher education in Estonia in 2010.

**Finally, collaboration has become intrinsic to PGR training.** With Aberystwyth and Cardiff we have provided +three training in security, conflict and justice as a Wales ESRC DTC training specialism in the politics and international relations pathway. Ten staff from the UoA took sessions in annual training conferences held in Aberystwyth in 2012 and Swansea in 2013. The 2013 conference attracted PhD students funded by ESRC training bursaries from Birmingham, Warwick, Surrey, Reading and Bristol. In the Language based area studies pathway we provided, with Cardiff, five training events (3 in Swansea, 2 in Cardiff) in the academic year 2012-13. PCS provided up to 10 staff to take sessions in each event. Swansea's workshops focused on identity politics and inter-cultural violence, culminating in a training conference on 1-2 July 2013 in Swansea on 'The study of post-colonialism in the social sciences and humanities'.