

<p><b>Institution: SOAS</b></p>
<p><b>Unit of Assessment: 24A Anthropology and Development Studies: Social Anthropology</b></p>
<p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>Anthropology, one of five departments in the SOAS Faculty of Arts and Humanities, hosts the <b>Centre for Food Studies</b> and the <b>Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies</b> (both recently recognized as funded Faculty Centres). Since 2008, full-time, permanent academic staffing has risen to 19 (usually including 4-5 Professors, 3-4 Readers and 2-3 ECRs); the Department has typically accommodated around 50 doctoral researchers, 100 taught postgraduate students, 5 postdoctoral research fellows, and 15 active research associates. As sociocultural anthropologists with regional and linguistic expertise in Africa and Asia (including the Middle East) in a specialist institution, we work closely both with area experts across the gamut of languages, humanities, and social sciences, and with colleagues from other disciplines who share topical interests, notably in art and architecture, development and medical studies, history, film and media studies, gender studies, political economy, law, food and agriculture studies, and the study of religions. Structure is provided to these regional and cross-disciplinary collaborations by staff membership in School-wide area and thematic Centres; several are further strengthened by shared, advanced teaching either in thematic MA programmes (e.g. the anthropologies of development, media, food, migration and diaspora), or in SOAS's distinctive, inter-disciplinary regional programmes.</p>
<p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>Within a School of Oriental and African Studies, the Anthropology Department's research is predominantly but not exclusively focused on Africa, Asia and their diasporas. We design research projects in innovative ways meant to address issues at the leading edge of our own discipline that also need to be relevant to our cross-disciplinary, regional colleagues. This involves strategies to encourage and direct both individual and collective creativity.</p> <p>Individual creativity is fostered and structured during one-to-one annual appraisals to retrospectively review and prospectively set research objectives that make appropriately high demands on regional expertise and language skills, recurrent and long-term fieldwork, and theoretical, disciplinary sophistication. Meeting these expectations is enabled by SOAS employing around 400 permanent staff (together the greatest concentration of specialists in Africa and Asia in the world) and maintaining the UK's national library for Africa and Asia. Our resources are augmented by those in Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia – including the British Library, British Museum (and its Anthropology Centre), the RAI, and the archives and specialist libraries of the colleges of the University of London, altogether an unparalleled resource for anthropological research.</p> <p>The collective research culture of the Department has been maintained and broadened by strategic recruitment in relation both to our regional responsibilities to the School and our agreed disciplinary targets. We see our existing strengths to lie centrally (though not exclusively) in the anthropology of religion, food/environment, development and media, as applied within our specialist regions of Equatorial Africa, South and Southeast Asia, the Near and Middle East, China and Japan. This is demonstrated by our contributions to agenda-setting, sub-disciplinary surveys: the ASA's <i>Sage Handbook of Social Anthropology</i> (ten contributing authors writing on Asian regions; learning; media; food and disasters); the <i>Annual Review of Anthropology</i> (the anthropology of international development) and edited volumes (on Islam, post-Socialism, knowledge transmission, media etc.). Alignment of individual and shared research goals in an agreed strategy is achieved at the Department's research-focused away days, as well as through sub-disciplinary collaborations in SOAS's regional and thematic Centres. Citing large grants only, we particularly seek to generate research income within an overall strategy that: (a) advances knowledge of our specialist regions: e.g. the identities and history of Gujarat (ESRC, Simpson), or the Swat Pathans (British Academy, Marsden); (b) focuses regional research through key disciplinary concerns: south India through its religious pluralism (AHRC/ESRC, Mosse), Gujarat through disaster reconstruction (ESRC, Simpson), Central-South Asia through trade across frontiers (British Academy, Leverhulme,</p>

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Marsden), China through the Beijing Olympics (ESRC, Latham), or Indonesia through Islam and middle-class gift markets (ESRC, Retsikas); and (c) extends regional research by comparison and generalization about: e.g. the anthropology of Christianity and Islam (AHRC/ESRC, Mosse; British Academy, Marsden), the comparative and cross-disciplinary study of skill transmission extending work begun with Yemeni and Malian masons to master-carpenter craft-knowledge in the UK (ESRC, British Academy, Marchand). In addition to responding as a Department to major interdisciplinary research council initiatives, like the AHRC/ESRC's on Religion & Society, we have developed comparative, thematic research clusters (funded by BA, ESRC and Leverhulme) through established research centres, notably those founded by the Department.

The three departmental research centres described in RAE 2008 have grown in significance. Both the **Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies** and the **Food Studies Centre** were upgraded to Faculty Centres in 2013 with augmented resources. Their Chairs remain anthropologists (Raman and West). The **Centre for Media and Film Studies** has developed into an independent disciplinary Department in all but name.

The **Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies** (CMDS) has created connections within wider disciplinary fields for the Department's research including: the western Indian Ocean (Simpson); Afghan trade diasporas (Marsden); Indian labour markets in the Gulf (Osella); UK asylum law applied to emigrants from the Horn of Africa (Campbell); Chinese diaspora and media in Italy (Latham); religious diasporas in Nigeria and The Gambia (Janson); and South Asian diasporas in post-war Britain (Raman). Since 2007, the Centre's membership has expanded to 75 SOAS members (from 17 departments), 3 Research Fellows, 31 Research Student Members and over 80 associate members. The CMDS coordinates the vigorous research culture on diaspora and migration across SOAS, and beyond it nationally and internationally, running 6-10 seminars per term, workshops and public lectures (<http://www.soas.ac.uk/migrationdiaspora/>) that have resulted in Special Issues of journals (e.g. *Diaspora and Disease*; *Food and Diaspora*). With 5 partners, the Centre was the SOAS member of a large research grant award from the Marie Curie Initial Training Network, *Diasporic Constructions of Home and Belonging*, including placement of two Early Stage Researchers.

The **Food Studies Centre** (FSC), which was a new initiative in 2007, has focused research and publishing around the themes of: urban food security (Pottier); linkages between agriculture, health and gender in South Africa (led by Hull); diet and choice (led by Centre Research Associate Emma-Jayne Abbots); ethical foods in post-socialist settings, including China (led by Klein); food and foodways between the Country and the City (led by West and Centre Research Associate Nuno Domingos); geographical Indications and *terroir* (led by West); food and migration (led by Raman with CMDS, and Department/Centre Research Associate Monica Janowski); supermarkets (led by West, Hull and Abbots); food waste (led by Centre Professorial Research Associate Anne Murcott); and the legacy of Jack Goody's seminal work, *Cooking, Cuisine and Class* (led by Klein and Murcott). Since 2007 the membership of the FSC has grown to 42 SOAS members (from 12 departments), 10 Research Fellows/Associates, 23 Research Student Members and over 650 associate members. Grounded in, and enriched by SOAS's regional expertise, the Centre is well-placed to conduct research that is boundary crossing and global. The Centre's events (<http://www.soas.ac.uk/foodstudies/forum/>) attract global leaders in the field and its reputation has become international.

The Anthropology of Media remains a departmental research focus facilitated by connections between our research clusters and the SOAS **Centre of Media and Film** (CMTS) (itself an outgrowth of the Department's successful research cluster in the Anthropology of Media), and the **Centre of Film and Screen Studies** (CMFS). Several PhD students are co-supervised with Anthropology, and the Department runs a popular course in 'Media Production Skills' offering multi-media training for fieldwork.

In 2007, we had contemplated the launch of an MA in the Anthropology of Islam to repeat the trajectory that led to the creation of the three research Centres above (based around core staff, research associates, taught and research postgraduates, and funded projects). A core course was

created and continues to be taught at both BA and MA levels. However, MA numbers, along with the success of key staff in attracting research awards with research leave entitlements, dissuaded us from pursuing this for the moment. Instead, with the part-time appointment of Tom Selwyn, we have recreated a cluster of MA degree and staff and student research in relation to the Anthropology of Tourism, drawing here upon a past specialism in an earlier stage of Dolores Martinez's work (see mobility below). We are looking to develop this research cluster further. We have also continued to develop the interests – both of staff and funded PhD studentships – in apprenticeship and learning. Some elements of this trajectory (including an anticipated MA) have been postponed as a result of the success of Marchand in twice winning research funding during the review period. The core course for this degree will run as an option on Marchand's return from research leave and we are confident that momentum will be maintained.

**Future research plans:** Our research culture in 2013 develops themes we were addressing in 2007 and demonstrates the refinement of a shared intellectual agenda that draws upon synergies between anthropology, our regional and thematic research Centres, and other disciplines taught at SOAS. This degree of stability and concentration results from our institutional setting: many of our posts are linked to regional specialisms, lending the department a recognizable identity notwithstanding circulation of personnel. In our RAE 2008 submission, we outlined two integrating collective research strands (1) '**global process and contemporary knowledge practices**' and (2) '**religion, media and cognition**'. These two headers, understood within our institutional regional commitments, continue to encompass a majority of our research. While retaining these descriptors, with a view to focusing the future direction of our research we have additionally refined three, emergent, cross-cutting themes.

**Alternative approaches to an anthropology of the state:** our research into the 'global processes' of international development, state/governance and resource systems has developed into a cluster of on-going and published work around issues of the transformation of the state in the era of globalization, and the ways anthropologists research it. We are interested in 'back door' perspectives on state processes: looking at asylum law from the perspective of litigants (Campbell); parliament through an ethnography of chamber and constituency practices of elected MPs, and effective parliament as a condition of poverty reduction in Bangladesh and Ethiopia (Research Associate Crewe), food and farming, and health interventions from the perspectives of food producers and consumers (Food Studies Centre) and health workers (Hull); religious organizations as state-like institutions in the provision of opportunities, welfare and charity (Retsikas, Janson, Simpson); the social categories (of caste and religion) through which people engage with the state (both in India, and in UK through changes in equalities legislation), seek justice or organize activism (Mosse); post-earthquake reconstruction (in Gujarat) as a means for the political production of urban space (Simpson); and the consequences of business corporations moving to the centre of formerly state- or NGO-dominated international development (Dolan). Intensive fieldwork will be used to reflect on contemporary theory, provide alternative angles on problems, engage critically with macro-processes, and propose new modes of enquiry and counterpoint perspectives on global institutions, the state, law, development or (food) industry.

**Social processes of peace:** within our broad strand of 'religion, media and cognition' we have now developed a particular interest in the means by which people maintain and/or restore social harmonies, and the features of their structural and interpersonal contexts that allow them to do so. In doing so we have taken debates such as those on religious identity beyond the telos of division and conflict within which they are often shaped. We look to theorize and connect three strands. The first concerns *forms of universalizing identification (religion, ideological conviction, political purpose) and the recognition of shared suffering*, for example: research on religiosity and spirituality in 'Chrislam' in Lagos (Janson); Shia protest and the shift towards discourses of human rights (vom Bruck); Dalit rights agendas among Indian civil society activists (Mosse); social suffering and empathy (Davis); and the horizons of charitable donations (Retsikas). The second concerns *interruptions in cycles of violence, oases of peace, whether temporal or spatial*, and their relation to (our third strand) the *convivialities and celebrations of everyday life*. Examples include current research on: micro processes that might explain peaceful times/places in West African conflict zones (Fardon); Yemeni protesters' attempts to keep their 'revolution peaceful' (vom

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Bruck); trade across the boundaries of the former Cold War (Marsden); local histories of religious pluralism that defuse inter-religious/group conflict in south India (Mosse). On utopian processes more generally, we can cite: the 'pursuit of pleasurable work' (Marchand); rural responses to structural violence through commensality and artisan/heritage projects (West); collaborative media ventures between Chinese and Italian journalists (Latham).

**Mobility:** further refining work undertaken in the framework of transnationalism (reported in RAE 2008) in terms of a general concept of 'mobility/ies' — of people, ideas, media and artefacts — allows us to focus on movement as integral to the emergence, connections between, and transformations of social and cultural forms. Sites include: transnational institutional and corporate reach (Campbell, Mosse, Dolan); development policy, advocacy and activist networks (Mosse); the movement of sailors, cargoes and ideas in the western Indian Ocean (Simpson); the global culture of road-building and the future of oil mobility (Janson, Simpson); mobile religious networks (Janson, Marsden); *Itineraries of Film: distribution, exhibition and audiences in south India* (title of Hughes's funded project); co-circulation of people, capital and artefacts in international trade networks, an ethnography of Afghan merchants connecting people, places and goods internationally (Marsden); movement of foods, ideas of authenticity, and food technologies (West); of artworks (Fardon); and cricket and 'home teams' in South Asian diaspora (Raman). Research students have extended these interests *inter alia* into: Senegalese in Paris; Zimbabwean musicians in London; memory amongst migrants from post-socialist Yugoslavia. Our MA programmes in 'Migration and Diaspora', 'Tourism, Travel and Pilgrimage', and 'Food' contribute as feeders into postgraduate research within this cluster.

**Creative arts and performance:** the work thematized as 'media, consumption and popular culture' in RAE 2008 has developed into a common interest in the creative arts and performance. Participation in, and research on, exhibitions and film studies have led to involvement in film-making and reflection on film as pedagogy (Marchand on Djenne, Fardon on Nigeria and forthcoming on Senegal); earlier research on Chinese opera has led to interests in Chinese media and pop culture (Latham); involvement in disaster reconstruction in Gujarat has created a forthcoming exhibition about journeys and maps (Simpson); popularization of research on the film-making centre of Chennai which has overtaken Mumbai (Hughes); research into mimetic practice has been applied to anthropological pedagogy (Osella). Investigations into the aesthetics of the everyday (Marsden) and of religious performances (Janson, Retsikas) have widened our debate about modes to represent representations. Part of our agenda is next to theorize connections between our studies of specific creative practices and our modes of academic dissemination. In addition to our own initiatives, we anticipate increased institutional support for strands of our research in the run up to the SOAS centenary. New interdisciplinary SOAS China and South Asia Institutes have been created with resources to enhance research networks in the regions and across the School, and pursue research opportunities. Research on the creative arts and performance will find enhanced support within the newly established SOAS School of the Arts.

### c. People, including:

#### i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Since RAE 2008, full-time permanent positions have increased by 1.5 net: Elizabeth Hull's additional post strengthens our expertise on southern Africa; Richard Fardon's secondment as Head of the new SOAS Doctoral School on a proportional contract, was compensated by a full additional post for the West Africanist Marloes Janson. On retirement, Johan Pottier was replaced by an East Africanist, Catherine Dolan, and Dolores Martinez by a Japan specialist Fabio Gygi. Other full-time, permanent staff were in post by the end of 2007. Our four new appointments have maintained key specialisms in the anthropology of religion, development and food, media and health systems. Visiting Professors/Readers and Research Associates enhance staffing in tourism (Tom Selwyn), humanitarian aid (Raymond Apthorpe), security (Jeremy Keenan), and parliamentary democracy (Emma Crewe) and specific regions (North Africa, Japan, Middle East, Taiwan). Emeritus staff (Peel, Mayer) contribute actively to research. 19 of 20 'Category A' staff are on long-term contracts. We attract applicants globally: 8 nationalities are represented currently, broadening our research networks. The Department has mentored 6 postdoctoral research fellows,

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and a further 10 grant-funded postdoctoral researchers/assistants under EU/ESRC projects. Research Associateships and academic hospitality typically add 15-20 active researchers.

SOAS is committed to the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers*. Provision for early-career researchers (ECRs) includes two consecutive teaching terms following a 3-year probation to enable a calendar year to complete a major output or starting a new one. ECRs are supported by mentors to organize or contribute to seminar series, panels or conferences leading to edited publications (e.g. Marsden & Retsikas *Articulating Islam: Anthropological approaches to the Muslim world*; West & Raman *Enduring Socialism*, including Klein), to apply for grants, and to take publications from reviewed drafts to published outputs.

For all staff: mentoring (on the 'critical friend' model) and staff development ensure that research goals are set and reviewed annually. The Department has procedures for reviewing, improving and controlling the quality of research submissions. With additional support from the Research Office, all staff are expected to secure research funding.

Transparent workload monitoring is applied to all stages of research careers. Particular attention is paid to the administrative loads on staff research: in addition to entitlement to a term sabbatical leave after four years teaching, maternity leave being treated as terms taught, full-year sabbaticals are given to holders of onerous roles (Head of Department, Associate Dean of Faculty, Head of Doctoral School etc.). Since 2007, 2 staff have been granted research leave supported by non-FEC funders (Leverhulme Trust), 2 have earned full-year sabbaticals, and several others have benefited from FEC funding by RCUK (12 staff for periods up to 3 years). New research ventures have been launched from personal research fellowships (Leverhulme, British Academy to Marchand, Marsden, Latham), while staff may also apply for seedcorn funding for research development from the Faculty which manages entitlements for conferences/short research visits. High quality research is strongly incentivized in hiring and promotions procedures, which are additionally subject to monitoring for equality and diversity.

## ii. Research students

Since 2007, 51 FTE PhDs have been completed, a 60% increase over the preceding assessment period; 65.5 FTE students have entered the Department over the same period. 17 funded research studentships have been held for all or part of the assessment period: ESRC (2) (we belong to the ESRC Bloomsbury Doctoral Training Centre); AHRC (3); Felix Foundation (3); as well as SOAS, Bloomsbury College Scholarships, Marie Curie, and Meiji-Jingu; 6 more doctoral researchers were part-funded by Commonwealth Scholarships, embassies, and private foundations. Smaller grants have provided fieldwork support more widely.

Continuation from the Department's large taught MA cohort is one source of a PGR student body that remains notably diverse, with strong representation from SOAS regions of study. The 1+3 PGRS pathway is growing in popularity and particularly appropriate to SOAS because it facilitates difficult language learning (a 4 year pathway is being introduced). PGR recruitment policy emphasises the need of PRGSs for supervision on their specialist region. Where there is a close thematic match, we occasionally accept innovative doctoral projects beyond our departmental specialisms with regional expertise from elsewhere in SOAS, usually through membership of the supervisory panel. Doctoral theses have broadly predominantly clustered in our thematic priorities: mobility; religion (especially Islam); development (poverty, environment and institutions), with pervasive interests in identities, gender, media/material culture, heritage, trade and the state. MRes/MPhil disciplinary research training, provided and supported within the framework of our leadership of the Anthropology cluster within the ESRC Bloomsbury DTC, is complemented by an unmatched range of language tuition from SOAS's language departments or its commercial Language Centre, enabled by state of the art language laboratories, access to about 30 satellite television channels in African and Asian Languages, and exhibitions in SOAS's Brunei Gallery to which research students can contribute. The excellence of SOAS's language teaching was recognized in the award of the 2009 Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education.

The most recent QAA (March 2013) noted PhD supervision at SOAS, particularly 'the quality and

promptness of feedback and accessibility of supervisory support', as an example of Good Practice. PGRSs are assigned a 3 person supervisory committee (to cover theme and region) and undertake an annual research training needs analysis recorded in their online logbooks. The Research Tutor ensures the regularity of formal supervisions (weekly or fortnightly in the first year) and weekly PGRS seminars. Students must document their research process in their logbooks, and are strongly encouraged to record their progress as Early Career Researchers (including courses provided through the Doctoral School). In addition to annual reporting, progression is monitored when the research report and fieldwork plan, including security analysis and ethical approval, are formally assessed by a committee (excluding the first supervisor) to upgrade from MPhil to PhD status. As well as offering specific fieldwork advice based on regional knowledge, most supervisors nowadays can remain in contact with students electronically (email, phone, Skype) and/or take opportunities to meet them during country visits. Supervisory guidance in writing up, the post-fieldwork PGRS writing-up seminar, and SOAS-wide writing support schemes, has helped PGRSs increase the 48 month submission rate for yearly cohorts of the REF period to 62% (up from 20% in the RAE period).

PGRSs participate in an unparalleled range of disciplinary and regional seminars at SOAS, including as presenters and discussants, while also developing as a cohort through peer-to-peer learning in their own MPhil and writing-up year seminars. The annual, inter-collegiate, Anthropology in London Day for PGRSs augments these opportunities. SOAS has the benefit of numerous specialist lecture series and research seminars where PGRSs may interact with visiting scholars. The institutional culture (for instance, of PGRS membership of the staff common room) and a favourable staff-student ratio (under 1 to 12) facilitates informal meetings with academic staff. Students, including overseas students with particular needs, may access additional study skills support from the Academic Development Directorate, the student welfare office and our relations with housing and support organizations who provide scholarships in the form of accommodation. PGRS feedback is encouraged through termly departmental Student-Staff forums, and by participation in the national PRES survey. The Faculty funds PGRS attendance to present at conferences as part of their ECR formation.

The establishment of a SOAS Doctoral School in 2012 has enhanced coordination of generic and specialist research training across SOAS and doubled the workspace for PGRSs with 100 new places at the newly opened Gordon Square building. Two active representatives of the SOAS Research Student Association are full members of the Doctoral School Management Group which has overall responsibility for PGRS provision across the School. Additional courses are provided through the Bloomsbury Skills Network, a cross disciplinary collaboration, and the ESRC Bloomsbury Doctoral Training Centre.

90% of PhD students take the opportunity from their third year onwards of acquiring teaching skills as Graduate Teaching Assistants, for which two training modules provided by the Academic Development Directorate are prerequisite. Following their doctorates, some have worked as Teaching Fellows, convening courses or delivering lectures as part of their progression as ECRs. A number of well-reviewed monographs based on SOAS PhDs have appeared during the review period, and most of our graduates have gone on to work on externally funded research programmes, or into full-time posts at other institutions, including overseas. We have facilitated post-PhD careers in the parts of industry or the third sector to which we are linked, particularly international development.

#### **d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

**Income:** Research income of £2,138,890 (reported to HESA) showed significant growth from £1,254,589 in the RAE 2008 period. Including all sources, £3.27 million of funding has been awarded to support departmental research since January 2008. The department exceeded a 35% success rate in funding competitions, including EU FP7 and Research Council grants. Awards include: major 2/3 year ESRC and AHRC research grants (Campbell, Mosse, Simpson, Retsikas); a research fellowship (Marchand); a 5-year Leverhulme (to LCIRAH); and several one-year grants/senior research fellowships from AHRC, ESRC, Leverhulme, British Academy, National

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Endowment of the Humanities (Mosse, Marsden, Marchand, Hughes).

We attribute some of this success rate to mandatory procedures for internal review of research proposals, the need for approval by ethics committee, and dedicated support from the SOAS Research Office. Because our researchers build on a base of long-term regional knowledge and local networks, some of our best outputs have been achieved from small grants and short fellowships, in which context, non-FEC grant-aided research leave is invariably approved.

**Infrastructure and facilities:** the SOAS Library is the National Research Library for Africa and Asia containing over 1.2 million volumes in 400 plus languages, 4,500 journal subscriptions, and extensive textual and photographic archives. The von Fürer-Haimendorf archive (of photographs, films and text) is the best-known of several anthropologists' archives, and has been digitized to make it accessible to researchers. During the assessment period, the Library had a (notional) annual book budget for anthropology of £23,000-£28,800, with additional resources for serials and electronic resources. The library has increased its collection of electronic books in anthropology, and holds 124 electronic journals and key databases in the subject (AnthroSource etc.) and a searchable database to access streaming of over 1,200 ethnographic films. Region and language-based research is supported by specialist librarians. The Anthropology department has its own library and PGRS Centre including work stations. In addition to School and Bloomsbury resources mentioned above, the London International Development Centre (LIDC) is a second home to departmental research on agriculture and health (led by Hull) funded through the 5-year £3.5m award to the Leverhulme Centre for Integrated Research on Agriculture and Health.

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

Under the managing editorship of Richard Fardon, and co-editorship of Trevor Marchand, 10 department members contributed to the ASA's two-volume *Sage Handbook of Social Anthropology*, a state of the art research manual.

Most staff have been involved in **collaborative** research (as co-researchers, or advisors). (1) **University Collaborations** include: LSE on Arab uprisings (vom Bruck); Nottingham University on Chinese immigration to Europe (under the Europe China Research & Advice Network, Latham); George Washington University on Islam, trade and northwest South Asia (Marsden); Muster, Stockholm, Oxford, Mumbai and Northampton through the Marie Curie CoHaB project (Raman); Edinburgh on rural change in South Asia (Simpson); Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich on Global Theatre Histories; three Indonesian universities with respect to Islamic charity (Retsikas); the Centre for Ethnic Studies, Colombo on post-disaster environments and memory (Simpson); the universities of Universities of Edinburgh, Sussex and Oxford on the Centre for New Economies of Development (<http://ResponsibleBOP.com>)(Dolan); Copenhagen, Wolverhampton and two south Indian university research institutes on contemporary Dalit activism (Mosse). (2) **Collaborations with industry and the third sector** include initiatives in the arts sector, such as documentary films and exhibitions: 'Masons of Djenne' with Smithsonian and Rijkmuseum, Leiden (Marchand); Nigerian arts with the Fowler Museum at UCLA and Musée du quai Branly (Fardon); AHRC funded cultural exchange involving 3 Postdoctoral Fellows with London-based arts charity Cultural Co-operation (Fardon). Other collaborative work has provided agendas for new research, research access, analytic insights, and opportunities for dissemination of the department's research to wider audiences; this would include activities with: Hansard Society on effective parliament and poverty reduction (Crewe); Indian NGO networks on Dalit rights (Mosse); business actors in development (CSR, inclusive markets initiatives, and bottom of the pyramid schemes, [Dolan]). We have additionally undertaken advisory work for aid organizations (e.g., World Bank Social Development programme in Indonesia [Mosse]) and provided expert country reports in support of asylum seekers (e.g. Campbell on the Horn of Africa).

Cross-cutting staff affiliations to Area Studies Centres and specialist Centres (Water and Development; Media and Film; Gender; as well as Food, and Migration and Diaspora) makes **interdisciplinarity** intrinsic to SOAS's structure. Working with area specialists and participating in their research seminars at SOAS, some organized by country-specific societies, demands we

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maintain our regional expertise. Most other SOAS departments (art, development studies, history, law, languages, music, politics and religions) have anthropologically-trained members with whom we collaborate. Among our cross-disciplinary projects are several with an explicitly historical perspective (e.g., on the Swath Pathan [Marsden], south Indian Christianity [Mosse], Tamil cinema [Hughes], Nigerian art [Fardon]). We actively participate in the London International Development Centre, where the Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health [LCIRAH] connects anthropological research (Hull) with food and medical care. Marchand's current work on 'Brain, Hand, Tool' involves collaboration with neuroscience and linguistics; Campbell's research on the UK asylum system extends to law. Other research projects involve the disciplines of art/art history, media and development, economics, education, ethnomusicology, film/theatre studies and Islamic, media and gender studies (Fardon, Hughes, Mosse, Simpson, Trapido).

Developing substantive interests of the Department, more than forty **international seminar series/workshops/conferences/panels** have been organized. The resulting journal and book collections include *Documenting the Beijing Olympics* (Latham/Martinez), *Rethinking the Swat Pathans* (Marsden), *Articulating Islam: Anthropological Approaches to Muslims Worlds* (Marsden, Retsika), *Food and Diaspora* (Raman), *The idea of Gujarat* (Simpson), as well as three successful exhibitions: *Djenne: African City of Mud* (Royal Institute of British Architects, 2010) & *Mud Masons of Mali* (Smithsonian 2013; both Marchand); *Central Nigeria Unmasked: Arts of the Benue River Valley* (Fardon).

SOAS anthropologists have acted: as **PhD examiners** in all major UK anthropology departments, and in Europe, North American and the Antipodes; as members of **research council peer review panels** (ESRC, Dutch NIAS, Norwegian INDNOR, Italian MOUR, Wenner-Gren Foundation, Max Planck); on **editorial boards** of more than ten top disciplinary and area studies journals; extensively as peer reviewers of articles and book manuscripts. Staff have served on Council and committees of the RAI (Research, Publications, Medical, Film), the ASA, and the British Association of South Asian Studies. We provide the Anthropology Cluster Leader of the Bloomsbury ESRC Doctoral Training Centre. Fellows of the British Academy Fardon and Mosse (elected July 2013) have contributed to higher education policy debate and served on senior BA Committees (Research and Higher Education Policy Committee, Publications Committee).

**Lectures and prizes:** Fardon delivered 2 ASA keynotes, and public lectures at UCLA and Musée du quai Branly; Hughes, the Cinema Studies Annual Lecture at Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi; Marchand, five keynote lectures including the Institut Français de l'Éducation (Lyon), and the British Council Museum of Skills Conference; Marsden, an annual public lecture at the Oslo Peace Research Institute, and a keynote to the Parliamentarian Society in Berlin's Reichstag; Mosse, a SOAS inaugural lecture and a keynote at the Nordic Conference of Development Research in Helsinki; Simpson, a keynote public lecture at the Goethe Institute, Delhi. Marchand scooped the Melville J. Herskovits, Amaury Talbot, and Elliot P. Skinner awards for *Masons of Djenne*, and Marsden the monograph prize of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies.

The Department is active in **PGR training** collaborations. Davis and Marchand have been Distinguished Guest teachers of master classes for the Scottish Training in Anthropological Research (STAR) [2012, 2013]. Marchand also conducted research training at Universities of Sardinia and Zurich. Mosse contributed to PGR training in anthropological research methods at China Agricultural University in Beijing (2008); Raman is a collaborator on the CoHaB research training network for Early Stage Researchers across five institutions involving workshops, web-resources, non-academic training with third sector organizations. West is co-organizer of the Doctoral Summer School at The European Institute for the History and Culture of Food, François Rabelais University, Tours. Fardon coordinates PGRS training across SOAS.