

Institution: University of Worcester
Unit of Assessment: 29 - English Language and Literature
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>The research environment reflects the interdisciplinary ethos of research activity in literary and cultural studies, film and media, and socio linguistics. Interests include: American literature and culture; Shakespeare studies; children's literature; Restoration and 18th-century studies; Victorian studies; British film and cinema; folklore, horror cinema and exploitation films; ecocriticism; the sociology of language. All contributors (Profs Jean Webb and Roger Ebbatson; Drs Athanasia Chalari; Nicoleta Cinpoes, Tricia Connell, Paul Elliott, Simon Hardy, Alan How, Eleftherios Kailoglou, Mikel Koven, Barbara Mitra, Andreas Mueller, Catherine Neale, John Parham and Jill Terry; and Julie MacLusky, Claire Wolfe and Jenny Lewin-Jones) are based in the Institute of Humanities & Creative Arts (IHCA) - one of 6 academic institutes at the University of Worcester (UW). Three research groups (Early Modern Research Group; International Forum for Research in Children's Literature; Transnational Studies Research Group) were fully operational in the period; a fourth, Narrative Spaces Research Group, was inaugurated.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy: Strategy 2008-2013</p> <p>UW's 5-year Strategy aimed to increase research impact, quality and sustainability, with main objectives to: grow the number of academics involved in peer recognised research and 'knowledge transfer' (broadly defined); focus resources on existing and potential areas of research strength; grow externally sourced research income; further develop postgraduate (PGR) and early career researcher (ECR) communities in response to growing research capability. Research infrastructure has developed in support of these objectives, with demonstrable success: four times as many academics are submitting outputs to REF2014 as they did to RAE2008, across eleven UoAs (as opposed to four in 2008); since gaining Research Degree Awarding Powers (2010), PGR numbers have grown by 18% to 104 students, and annual research income over the REF period by some 300% (£1,295,000 in 2012/13). Reflecting UW strategy, the unit sought to build on existing achievement, focussing on: (i) making new/replacement academic appointments to individuals with strong existing or emerging research profiles; (ii) investing in individuals' pursuit of their research and its dissemination; (iii) mentoring and other help to develop bids for externally- and University-sponsored programmes; (iv) development/hosting of research seminar programmes, conferences and other events; (v) external collaboration/partnership working; (vi) active participation in subject associations/learned societies/academic journals; (vii) development of interdisciplinary research groups; (viii) growth of high quality PGRs. These clear objectives, and the extent of their achievement, are indicative of emphasis placed, throughout, on planning for future research development beyond the level of the individual (identified as a weakness of the unit in RAE2008).</p> <p>(i) Academic staff appointments during the REF period: See c.i below.</p> <p>(ii) Investment to support staff research activity and dissemination: All UW academics are allocated 20 days' annual research leave, and UW-wide schemes gave further support throughout the period (see c.i). Locally, an annual 'small research grants' programme (providing for some remission from teaching/related duties, and other research-related costs such as travel, indexing/permissions costs etc) further assisted the unit's achievement, as did investment in attendance and participation in conferences and other research fora (through meeting travel/accommodation costs/fees etc.) and, in practice-led subjects, in colleagues' doctoral research (through payment of fees). Some £9,500, annually, supported the unit's research travel/conference attendance; Arnold, Cinpoes, Hardy, How, Mueller, Neale and Parham also all received one or more small research grants to assist research activity and/or completion of work for publication in the period.</p> <p>(iii) Accessing UW- and externally-sponsored investment: UW operated three programmes of research support in the period (Research & Project Leave - see c.i; Research Studentships - see c.ii; Vacation Research Assistantships) from which the unit benefited. Cinpoes's Research & Project Leave enabled completion of her first monograph. Mueller's two periods of leave enabled completion of his first monograph and research for a co-authored book. MacLusky's resulted in a co-authored book. Parham's supported completion of his next monograph. Mitra's, for Semester 2 2013/14, will support completion of her first edited book. 6 studentships were won by academics attached to the unit (awarded to PGRs Flynn, Jones, Jung, Marland, Peters, Stenning). From 2011, Vacation Research Assistantships funded undergraduate to support academics' research. Two</p>

Assistantships were awarded to staff members in the unit: Cinpoş for development of *Manuscripts in the Web 2.0 Age* with Worcester Cathedral Library; Parham for research into 'green computer games'. Throughout the period, IHCA's Head and UW's Director of Research Development mentored colleagues in their development of grant applications and the number, quality and ambition of these (several in collaboration with colleagues in other universities - Bath Spa; Sheffield Hallam; Oxford Brookes; Newcastle; Cambridge) significantly increased. (See also: **b.**future strategy; **c.**staff development; **d.**development of support infrastructure).

(iv) Research seminar programmes/conferences/other research events: Research seminars and conferences in the period greatly benefited the unit, growth of its international engagements, and its PGRs (who gained valuable organisation and presentation experience and networking opportunities). In 2009, Terry organised *Transatlantic Routes of American Roots Music* with Dr Neil Wynn (University of Gloucestershire). Financially supported by the British Association of American Studies and the US Embassy, it brought together eminent speakers and delegates from Europe and the USA (eg Emeritus Professor Paul Oliver, Oxford Brookes University; Tony Russell; Prof Brian Ward, University of Manchester; Elijah Wald; Robert D. Cohen, formerly Professor of History, University of Indiana) and resulted in an edited volume *Transatlantic Roots Music: Folk, Blues, and National Identities* (University Press of Mississippi, 2012). In 2010, Webb convened *Nationalism(s) and Cultural Memory in Texts of Childhood* (see **b.(vii)**); PGR Jones and former research librarian Johnson hosted a Henty Society day conference; PGR Young hosted the 2-day British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (BSECS) *Postgraduate and Early Career Conference*, with 42 delegates from across Europe and a keynote lecture by BSECS President Michael Burden (University of Oxford). In 2011, Koven convened *Childlore and the Folklore of Childhood*, the annual conference of the Folklore Society, opening with a keynote lecture by the Society's President, Dr Eddie Cass (University of Aberdeen); Mueller hosted the *Second Biennial Conference of the Defoe Society*, with over 70 international delegates and keynote lectures by Profs Paula McDowell (New York University) and Pat Rogers (University of South Florida); Arnold co-convened a University 'Research Focus Day', *a space, a place*, bringing together UW researchers with artists, performers, writers and academics based elsewhere to draw - through papers/walks/performances/spatial interventions - "links between different disciplinary approaches to place and space". This led to recent inauguration of a Narrative Spaces Research Group. In 2012, Parham and Arnold co-convened the 3-day biennial Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE-UKI) conference: *Composting Culture: literature, nature, popular culture, science* attracted over 70 international delegates, with keynote lectures from Profs Jed Rasula, Thierry Bardini and Molly Scott-Cato (Universities of Georgia, Montreal and Roehampton, respectively). Future events were also in development in the period: a 2014 EMRG conference on early modern memory (see **b.(vii)**); the 2015 International Research Society for Children's Literature (IRSL) Congress, convened by Webb; the 2015 biennial European Shakespeare Research Association Conference, for which Cinpoş is lead organiser. Throughout, the unit also contributed to annual cross-Institute research seminar series.

(v) Collaborations/partnership working: Aspects of Cinpoş's ongoing work with the biennial International Craiova Shakespeare Festival, and George Volceanov (editor in chief, *Shakespeare's Complete Works in Romanian*), are discussed in an Impact Case Study. With academics in Romania, Cinpoş convened 2010 and 2013 Festival conferences; with Volceanov, she launched the Romanian Shakespeare Journal. Mueller's collaboration with Dr Mäkikali, University of Turku (see **b.(vii)**) resulted in a co-edited collection on Defoe. Mueller also led development of international links/exchange opportunities, resulting in research-focused guest lectures and visits by members of the unit to, eg the Universities of Catania and Pescara (Italy), La Coruna (Spain), Pazmany Peter Catholic University of Budapest (Hungary) and Brock University, Canada. Webb's collaboration with historian Dr Alysa Levene, Oxford Brookes University, tracing relationships between medical/policy approaches to children's health in England and its representation in children's literature from 1820, led to co-authored papers, journal articles and a book proposal. Webb was a member of the British Academy-funded, Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde-led *Reading Fictions* research network, contributing to outputs including a one day conference (2013) and projected book publication. 2009 participation in the AHRC-funded *New Impulses In Picturebook Research. Beyond Borders: art, narrative and culture in picturebooks* resulted in contributions to a *New Review of Children's Literature and Librarianship* special issue, Vol 17, 2011 and to E. Arzipe, M. Farrell, J. McAdam (eds) *Picturebooks Beyond the Borders of Art*,

Narrative and Culture, Routledge, 2013. Locally, Cinpoes worked with Worcester Cathedral Library and Archive, leading to a successful UW Vacation Research Assistantship bid (see **b.(iii)**). Mueller's work on Richard Hurd led to a partnership with the Diocese of Worcester to develop research on the Hurd Library, Hartlebury Castle (former country seat of the Bishops of Worcester); he collaborated with Hurd and UW librarians on e-cataloguing and proposed digitisation of the Library, working with Humanities Research Institute colleagues, University of Sheffield. Collaboration with Dr Stephen Gregg, Bath Spa University led to their forthcoming co-authored book on Hurd. Koven's collaboration with the Worcestershire Film Festival and Worcester Arts Workshop supported programming and development of regional film culture.

(vi) Active participation in learned societies/academic journals: See section **e**, below.

(vii) Development of cross-/interdisciplinary research groups: The unit is involved in 3 research groups: International Forum for Research in Children's Literature (IFRCL); Early Modern Research Group (EMRG); Transnational Studies Research Group (TSRG). Each aims to provide inter- and cross-disciplinary forums for the lively exchange of ideas, research dissemination, collaboration and associated public engagement.

IFRCL (<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/discover/international-forum-for-research-in-childrens-literature.html>), led by Webb, provides a focus for literary, cultural and socio-historical scholarly enquiry into writing for children in a global context. It houses eight research collections of children's literature and autobiographical writing on childhood (five these added in the period). It hosted Visiting Leverhulme Research Fellow, Dr Benjamin Lefebvre, 2009-10, who contributed to research seminars and a day symposium, *Nationalism(s) and Cultural Memory in Texts of Childhood*, with keynote lectures also by Prof Mavis Reimer (Canada Research Chair in the Culture of Childhood, University of Winnipeg) and Dr. Björn Sundermark (Malmö University). British Council sponsored post-doctoral researcher Dr Sabah Asawi of King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia, pursued work on Muslim children's literature while based at IFRCL in Autumn 2009. Funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Prof Lissa Paul of Brock University presented her research on Eliza Fenwick in 2012. IFRCL members (staff and PGRs) contributed regularly to research seminars hosted by the Cambridge/Homerton Research and Teaching Centre for Children's Literature and to many international conferences (eg Webb's keynote lectures for the Children's Literature Association India conference, Mangalore, 2008, the Belfast PhD Research Network in Children's Literature, 2009, the University of Wellington *New Zealand Children's Literature in New Zealand* conference and the Australasian Children's Literature Association for Research Bi-annual Congress, University of Wollongong, 2010, and the Alworth Institute International Lecture Series, University of Minnesota Duluth, 2011). Associate Members Julia Eccleshare (The Guardian's Children's Books Editor/writer on children's books), Prof Judith Elkin (UW), Prof Peter Hunt (University of Aberystwyth), Dr Rachel Johnson, (independent researcher), Prof Maria Nikolajeva (University of Cambridge), Michael Rosen (author, broadcaster and UW Honorary Professor) and Dame Jacqueline Wilson (author) all actively contributed in the period. IFRCL PGRs (3 registered for MPhil/PhD; 2 more transferred to PhD and one completing to PhD in the period) were energetic in their research engagements, contributing to conferences and peer-reviewed publications (eg Laura Jones, 'Writing and Righting History: Henty's Nation' in Kelen & Sundmark eds. *The Nation in Children's Literature: Nations of Childhood*. Routledge, 2013).

EMRG (<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/discover/humanities-early-modern-research-group.html>), convened by Cinpoes and Mueller, provides an interdisciplinary focus for research within the period c.1550-1800. It organised publicly directed events, including annual St Swithun's Lectures held in one of Worcester's 18th-century churches (with guest contributors including, for example, Dr Jerome De Groot of the University of Manchester on representations of the English Civil War in modern TV programmes), and day symposia on the English Civil War (eg *A Crowning Mercy: the Battle of Worcester in Perspective*, Prof Ronald Hutton et al; *The English Military Experience in the 17th Century*, Prof Richard Cust et al). International scholarly conferences included the *Defoe Society Conference* and the *BSECS Postgraduate and Early Career Conference* (see **b.(iv)**). PGR Young (one of 3 PGRs attached to the Group) became a postgraduate rep. member of the BSECS Executive Committee in 2009 and its acting secretary from 2011, contributing to organisation of its annual conference. A 2-day conference on early modern memory was in development by PGR Peters, supported by Cinpoes and Mueller (see **b.(vii)**); Associate member, Dr Aino Mäkikalli's year-long, Finnish Academy-funded visiting fellowship was hosted in 2009/10; alongside her work

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with Mueller (see **b.(v)**), she progressed work on a textbook on literary history in Finnish.

TSRG (<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/discover/transnational-studies-research-group.html>), led by historian Dr Neil Fleming, encourages interdisciplinary and collaborative research in transnational studies. It aims to develop scholarship beyond traditional categories of analysis towards greater understanding of transnational and trans-cultural interactions and movements, promoting, in the process, interdisciplinary and collaborative research in the humanities and social sciences. The unit's engagement with the Group is through Mueller's research on transatlantic hermeneutics, focussing on the ways in which texts 'crossed' the Atlantic during the American Revolution.'

(viii) High quality PGRs attached to research groups: See above and section **c. ii** below.

b. Research strategy: the next 5 years

UW's 2013-18 Strategic Plan identifies "arts, culture and heritage" as an aspired "area of distinction" within its work. This offers strong endorsement of a next phase of humanities research development, and a new IHCA post of Associate Head (Research & Postgraduate Programmes) – Elliott – was appointed in 2013 further to enhance research development and achievement over the next period. In this context, broad unit objectives will be: growth in the reach and significance of academic and non-academic research impact (including growth of academics' public engagement to the benefit of UW's immediate region and more widely); greater long-term sustainability through growth of research income (assisted by partnerships/collaborations and extension of mentoring/institutional support for staff); continuing focus on appointment of research-active staff capable of internationally significant contributions to knowledge; continuing individual assistance to advance research achievement; growth in the number of excellent PGRs able to benefit from staff research specialisms and with the capability to assume academic careers internationally; growth of UK international research collaboration; growth of research fellows/associates; ongoing research group development, including of the new Narrative Spaces Research Group and a forthcoming Group focussing on ecology and ecocritical approaches in the humanities (see **c.ii**).

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development: UW's current research strategy inaugurated personal, 4-year research planning for all academic staff, with plans and development needs reviewed annually at appraisal. The Graduate Research School (GRS) staff training programme is delivered through thematic strands: research funding; dissemination, engagement and impact; research governance; research supervision. In line with the *Concordats to Support Research Integrity and for Engaging the Public with Research* it addresses ethics/research integrity, and public engagement. Implementation of the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers* also introduced a research staff forum, principal investigator training around its commitments, and the tracking of researchers' careers on leaving UW. More fine grained address of researcher need at different career stages has been introduced in 2013/14. IHCA and the unit supplemented GRS training in the period with peer mentoring, occasional workshops on specific topics (eg AHRC funding programmes; securing publication, with Matthew Frost of MUP) and dissemination of relevant information.

During the period, while investment focussed on those likely to submit outputs to the REF, the unit nonetheless sought to assist all colleagues intent on developing their research (an inclusive approach considered the most effective to continuing development of research environment and culture and to supporting ECR development). At the census date, some 17.3 FTE academics were contributing to the unit's research environment (as opposed to 12.3 FTEs at the start of the period), with some 50% of these submitting outputs for assessment (including one – Elliott – to UoA35). Of eight new full-time colleagues appointed since 2008 in UoA29 relevant disciplines, four (Elliott; Somerville; Kailoglou; Chalari) were appointed as ECRs and one (Parham) offered an existing research profile. Four of these 5 are submitting outputs to the REF. (The three other appointments were all in Journalism, a subject new to UW, with track records of outstanding professional practice initially prioritised over research). ECRs assume lighter teaching loads in their first two years, supporting their institutional integration, research progression, and completion of UW's PGCert in Learning & Teaching, if needed. All new colleagues are assigned an academic mentor and comprehensive induction includes introduction to academic resources and the GRS. The unit encouraged new colleagues to join research groups and contribute research seminars.

UW's Research & Project Leave Scheme offers sabbaticals of up to 2 semesters to support book

and journal article completion, or development of research grant applications. Of the 11 sabbaticals awarded to IHCA academics in the period six were to colleagues in the submitting unit. As well as UW-wide provision, smaller amounts of support were made available annually within IHCA towards achievement of more modest research outputs (which might support ECRs' development of larger-scale projects for which they would then be eligible for UW leave). (See **b.(iii)** for unit-specific details). Almost all UW academics teach *and* research, with career progression in line with this model: progression to Senior Lecturer is by annual pay scale progression; an Academic Promotions Scheme provides for accelerated progression (up to PL level) and rewards exceptional performance (including in research). Submissions for professorial title are invited annually (with 2 professorship awarded to existing staff and 2 offered to new IHCA staff members in the period). UW utilises Vitae's *Every Researcher Counts* resources in research supervisor and PI training and its Equality Framework 2013-18 restates its commitment to ensuring that recruitment policy and procedures encourage applicants fielding the widest possible range of backgrounds, skills and experiences, and to equal opportunity for all staff members to develop and progress. UW has adopted a 'two ticks' approach in all recruitment; recruitment/ selection/ retention/progression are all monitored in relation to Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics.

ii. Research students: Nurturing postgraduate research was an important element of unit activity in the period with PGR numbers growing from three at the outset to 10 in 2012/13 (including six UW full-time, bursaried students), with no withdrawals, and 2 successful completions (Johnson; Flynn). PGR progress/ experience was monitored and developed by IHCA's Research Student Co-ordinator (Webb), working with supervision teams. Webb is a seasoned contributor to research student training in her own field: she was, eg, instigator and executive director of the 2000-06 NORFA-funded NorChilNet, a Nordic and international research training network for PGRs, and contributed to S. Carter et al (eds) *Generic Doctoral Support: International Perspectives*, Routledge, 2013. An IHCA Research & Knowledge Transfer Committee (RKTC) Sub-group was established early in 2008 to increase focus on PGR monitoring/development, resulting in more efficient co-ordination, greater developmental discussion, and better liaison with the GRS. IHCA's RKTC included a PGR representative.

The GRS research training programme is tailored to individual need: PGRs undertake a training needs analysis in conjunction with their Director of Studies (DoS) utilising Vitae's RDF Planner. Needs are reviewed annually by the student, DoS and the GRS's Research Training Co-ordinator. If they cannot be met by UW, PGRs are financially supported to access externally provided training. In-house provision includes an extensive programme of workshops ('Preparing for the Viva', 'Time Management', CV 'Drafting Your Thesis', 'Writing a Journal Article', 'CV Clinic', 'Research Ethics' 'Data Management', etc), and all PGRs must also pass 2, taught 20 credit modules: one on subject-specific research methods and the other, *Processes & Skills, Management & Methods*. PGRs passing a third, optional module, *Publication, Dissemination, Engagement & Impact*, gain a PG Cert in Research Methods. In the period, the unit also offered opportunities to collaborate on journal editing/conference organisation/public presentations (see **b.(iv)**) and to gain mentored teaching experience (see **c.i**). PGRs are attached to research groups and participate in IHCA's cross-disciplinary annual Research Seminar Series.

The GRS manages UW's research degree programmes, providing dedicated PGR work space and IT equipment, monitoring progression, co-ordinating PGR training, supporting and training supervisors, and offering student support. It facilitates/promotes student-led Annual Research Student Conferences and Postgraduate Work-in-Progress seminar series. UW membership of CREST (the Consortium for Research Excellence, Support and Training) also offers PGRs access to training resources, conferences and seminars at 20 member institutions. The unit works with the GRS to assure supervision teams' subject expertise and supervisory experience. Teams comprise a DoS (normally the expert in the field) and at least one other internal supervisor. They draw occasionally on additional external input (eg end-stage specialist support for Young from Prof Sarah Prescott, University of Aberystwyth and support for Jung from Prof Alan Downie, Goldsmith's College, University of London). All supervisors join UW's register of approved supervisors (reviewed annually to ensure currency vis à vis research and training).

Two developments in the period particularly benefited the unit's PGRs. Parham's editorship of *Green Letters* provided invaluable opportunities for experience of editorial work. PGR Marland has worked as the journal's editorial assistant since 2012 and PGR Stenning co-edited (with Prof Terry

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Gifford) the first issue in its new, Routledge-published form. Parham's joining the unit in 2009, and his involvement with ASLE (UKI), catalysed colleagues' burgeoning interests and activity in nature writing, ecocriticism, and environmentalism – encompassed within UoAs29, 34 and 35. This is reflected in related postgraduate research development in the period (Marland; Shearsmith; Stenning; staff member, Hassall), conference activity, and publication. *Green Letters'* role as an international engine of discourse in these regards enabled the unit to secure 3-year UW seed feeding to support its transition to publication by Routledge (matched by funding from Bath Spa University). Future development will include formation of a fifth research group, for which the ground was laid by the UW Research Focus Day, *a place, a space* (see **b.(iv)**). All of the above was also crucially supported by IHCA's continuing working relationship with former UW academic Prof Roger Ebbatson, who contributed to seminars, conferences and research supervision, as well as acting as a generous, informal mentor/reader for colleagues. A second, initiative was reformulation of the unit's former in-house journal, *Worcester Papers in English & Cultural Studies*: growth of postgraduate research proposed its new role to showcase/disseminate the work of the unit's PGRs alongside that of associated international colleagues and peers, with yearly themed issues, edited and co-ordinated by PGRs, supported by an Editorial Board comprising past student editors and academic staff members. A first issue, convened by PGRs Aziz and Kubiesa on *Fantasy, the Gothic and the Body* was in preparation in the period and will be published in December 2013, with a lead article by Prof Roderick McGillis (University of Calgary).

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income generation: See **b.(iii)** describing colleagues' activity in this regard. Terry successfully gained British Association of American Studies and US Embassy funding in 2009 (see **b.(iv)**). Mitra and Terry both gained support from the Herefordshire & Worcestershire Lifelong Learning Network in support of pedagogic research: Mitra (£5,000) in relation to exploring the potential of blended learning and Terry (£15,000) to research and pilot a model for enhancing and embedding employability and supporting progression in humanities curricula. Former research librarian, Johnson (who completed her PhD with Webb in the period) gained a £55,600 JISC award for *Cataloguing Kays: Body Image in 100 Years of Kays Worcester Catalogue*. Kays Catalogue is the subject of Mitra's first edited book to be published by Cambridge Academic (see **b.(iii)** above).

Scholarly, organisational and operational infrastructures: Worcester's £60M award-winning new library, The Hive, opened in July 2012. The first joint academic and public library in Europe, it houses over 12 miles of archival material, more than 26,000 records of historic buildings and monuments, and 250,000 books. Integration of the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service has provided for ready access by researchers to a nationally significant manuscript collection, to the Stuart Collection (over 1,000 books 1603-1714) and the Palfrey Collection of rare antiquarian studies. IFRCL also houses a number of specialist collections, the majority of which were added in the period (see **b.(vii)**). UW invested heavily in print and e-resources for research, increasing annual book and journal expenditure by 30% over the period (approaching £600,000 in 2012/13). The unit's researchers have access to 44 subject-specific databases, e-book and e-journal packages, including *Early English Books Online*, *Eighteenth-Century Collections Online*, the *Burney Newspaper Collection* and *Nineteenth-Century UK Periodicals Online*, as well as *Academic Search Elite*, *Project Muse*, *Oxford Scholarship Online*, *JSTOR* and *LION*. UW maintains the AHRC-funded *Victorian Plays Project* website (<http://victorian.worc.ac.uk/modx/>), established by Prof Richard Pearson in the last RAE period, and invested in its online open access repository, WRaP. Cinpoeş's collaboration with Worcester Cathedral Library (see **b.(v)**) enabled privileged staff and PGR access to the Library's holdings; Mueller's collaboration with the Hurd Library since 2011 opened up access to an extensive collection of early modern editions identified by the British Academy as a cultural heritage of "national – indeed international – significance".

UW's Research Degrees Board, responsible for research degree programmes/ associated training (of which Webb was Deputy Chair until 2012) answers to its RKTC, which answers to its Academic Board. RKTC's agenda is disseminated/implemented via academic Institutes' RKTCs. IHCA RKTC membership currently includes 5 academics attached to the unit. Its Chair sits on UW's RKTC, as does Elliott (representing ECR interests). Within this broader context, the scale and size of the submitting unit meant that organisational/ operational matters specific to it were progressed through overall planning/decision making within IHCA's Division of English, Journalism & Cultural Studies, to which research activity is integral. UW invested substantially in overarching

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organisational research infrastructure in the period, growing staff resource of its long-established GRS, and establishing a new Research Office to support academics in their research development, focusing on: supporting external income generation; developing/co-ordinating implementation of research governance systems; assuring research quality and integrity. Growth of IHCA's own academic support unit during the period provided additional local support for academics organising conferences and events (see **b.(iv)**).

Maintaining appropriate balance between infrastructures, their maintenance and priorities:

Appropriate balance between scholarly/organisational/operational infrastructure investment was maintained by consistent reference to research strategy aims, objectives and progress. Academic Institutes bid for infrastructural enhancement (staffing/facilities/equipment/scholarly resources) through UW's annual planning round. Research strategy requirements were integral to IHCA's formulation of bids in the period, prepared by the Head of Institute in consultation with its four Heads of Division (and, from 2013/14, the new Associate Head, Postgraduate Programmes & Research).

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Arnold peer reviewed for the journal *English* (2010) and the online journal *Papers on Surrealism* (2011/12). Cinpoes contributed to organisation of the 7th Craiova International Shakespeare Festival, Romania (2012). She peer reviews for *META: Translators' Journal*, Université de Montréal, and *Brno Studies in English*, Masaryk University, and is an Editorial Board member for *Acta Iassyensia Comparationis*, University of Iași and the *Romanian Shakespeare Journal*. She was appointed to The International Shakespeare Conference (SHK-ISC), 2012. Hardy is an Editorial Board member of, and peer reviewer for *Sexualities* and also peer reviews for the *Journal of Enterprise and Society*. How peer reviewed for *Theory, Culture and Society* and *Sociological Research Online*. Mitra peer reviewed a book for Routledge (2008/09). Koven is President of the International Society of Contemporary Legend Research (ISCLR), a committee member of the Folklore Society, editorial board member of *Littman Jewish Cultural Studies* and *Critical Studies in Television*, and the Series Editor of *Television & Genre*, University of Wales Press. Editor of *Contemporary Legend*, 2006-11, he examined PhDs registered with Warwick and Roehampton Universities in the period. Mueller was elected Director of the US-based Defoe Society in 2011 and is a reader for the peer-reviewed journals *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*, *The Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* and *Digital Defoe* (and will guest-edit the latter's 2014 issue). Parham was Secretary of ASLE (UKI) 2006-12, and is co-editor of its journal, *Green Letters* (pub Routledge); he peer reviews for the journal *Green Letters*, *International Journal of Sustainable Development* (pub CUP) and also undertook peer reviews in the period for the journals *Ecozon@*, *Nineteenth Century Contexts* and *Victorian Review*, and for Cambridge University Press; he is a member of the University of Glasgow-hosted AHRC-funded research network, *Values of Environmental Writing* and was a member of its AHRC-sponsored network 'Values of Environmental Writing (2010-11)'; in 2012 he was an invited participant in the 'Health, Literature and Ecology' workshop, organised by the AHRC-funded International Health Humanities Research Network, University of Nottingham. He was external examiner for a Trinity St Davids MPhil, 2011. Webb joined the Board of IRSC (International Research Society for Children's Literature) in 2013, was an Executive Board member of the Children's Literature Association (2010-13) and an editorial board member for *Children's Literature in Education*, the *Journal of Children's Literature Studies* and the *Journal of ChLa India*. She contributed to the British Academy-funded Universities of Glasgow/Strathclyde *Reading Fictions* project and became an Australian Research Council-appointed research grants assessor, 2013. She acted as an expert evaluator of grant applications and other submissions for diverse research funding bodies and institutions in the period, including The Icelandic Research Fund for Graduate Students, Dutch Council for the Humanities, British Academy, Illinois State University, Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Scottish Government, and the ESRC. She reviewed manuscripts and book proposals for Routledge, Bloomsbury, Palgrave Macmillan and Broadview Press and was peer reviewer for issues of the *Australian Journal of Environmental Education* and *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures* (2010). She was external examiner for PhDs registered with Queensland University of Technology and the Universities of Birmingham and Warwick in the period. Wolfe is an Executive Committee member of the Association for Journalism Education. See **b.(vii)** for examples of invited keynotes/lectures. For information on collaborations, see **b.(v)**.