

## Impact template (REF3a)

<b>Institution:</b> King's College London
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 32 Philosophy
<p><b>A. Context</b></p> <p><b>A.i</b> During the current cycle, the Unit's research has benefitted non-academic users at personal, professional and institutional levels including: 1) medical practitioners, lawyers and educators; 2) policy makers in the UK and Australia; 3) young people, including children at crucial stages in their formation, and students of philosophy at HEIs internationally; and 4) the general public in London, nationally and internationally, including people from all educational and social backgrounds.</p> <p><b>A.ii</b> The main types of impacts achieved have been: 1) shaping the understanding of fundamental concepts such as health, disease, body, mind and identity; and their underpinning of the methods and ethics of the medical profession; 2) informing and enriching public understanding of standards of human rights, well-being and equality, and their relevance to policy making; 3) preserving and presenting in an accessible form our intellectual and cultural heritage; and 4) contributing to transforming the imaginations and sensibilities of individuals, enriching and expanding their lives, and influencing their intellectual, cultural and personal development.</p> <p><b>A.iii</b> These impacts cover the unit's full range of expertise, especially in strategic areas: mind and metaphysics; moral and political philosophy; comprehensive coverage of the history of philosophy.</p> <p><b>B. Approach to impact</b></p> <p><b>B.i</b> The department systematically encourages its members to identify the many areas in which their research has the potential to have an important impact beyond academia, and to develop that potential, relying on the School and College policies and support for impact-generating activity.</p> <p><b>B.ii</b> We have intensified our engagement, so that the majority of members of the department have been involved in a variety of public and non-academic professional fora, with wide-ranging impacts:</p> <p>1) <u>Engagement with traditional mass media (especially radio and print) to enrich public cultural and intellectual life.</u> Members of the department have regularly deployed their research expertise on national and local radio: BBC's R4 and R3, including <i>In Our time</i> (Adamson, six times; Papineau); <i>Reclaiming the Sceptic</i> (Kingma); <i>Click</i> (Lappin); <i>Night Waves</i> (McCabe, three times), <i>The Essay</i> (McCabe); <i>Analysis: Thought Experiments</i> (Shea); BBC News and BBC 1 &amp; 2 (Lappin); and BBC World Services (Antognazza, Lappin); Resonance Radio (McCabe; Papineau); Premier Radio (Papineau); Radio 5Live and BBC Scotland Newsdrive (Gold); and on international radio and TV: ABC (Australia), RAI (Italy) and Norddeutscher Rundfunk (Germany) (Antognazza); <i>Philosophers Zone</i> (Adamson). And in print, in the UK: <i>The Independent</i>, <i>Prospect</i>, <i>TLS</i> and <i>The Observer</i> (Papineau); <i>The Guardian</i> and <i>THES</i> (McCabe); and abroad: <i>Il Giorno</i>; <i>La Provincia</i>; <i>Avvenire</i> (Italy); <i>Kristeligt Dagblad</i> (Denmark) (Antognazza, Sangiovanni).</p> <p>2) <u>Use of new media to present our intellectual heritage in accessible forms.</u> In addition to the impacts of our Podcasts and Commentators projects (see case studies) members of the department have participated in <i>Philosophy Bites</i> (Adamson, McCabe, Gaita, Pink and Papineau); and audio and video podcasts and web debates: Shea <a href="http://thesciencenetwork.org/">http://thesciencenetwork.org/</a>; Brewer: <a href="http://www.fueltheatre.com/projects/while-you-wait">http://www.fueltheatre.com/projects/while-you-wait</a>; Reid: <a href="http://www.askphilosophers.org/">http://www.askphilosophers.org/</a>; Littlejohn: <a href="http://bloggingheads.tv/">http://bloggingheads.tv/</a> and <a href="http://newbooksinphilosophy.com">http://newbooksinphilosophy.com</a>; Papineau: <a href="http://www.philostv.com/">http://www.philostv.com/</a>; and Sorabji: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/6unkt3">http://tinyurl.com/6unkt3</a> among others.</p> <p>3) <u>Working with cultural institutions to contribute to transforming and enriching the imaginations and sensibilities of individuals.</u> Members of the department have contributed to the public understanding of ideas such as objectivity, science, love, reasoning, value, mind and body, among others, by their participation in events such as the Institut Français's <i>My Night with Philosophers</i> events, 2012 and '13, which attracted ca. 4,000 visitors (Brewer, May, Papineau, Travis); <i>Citéphilo</i>, Lille, Nov. 2012 (Travis); Leibniz-Festtage, Hanover, 2009 and '10 (Antognazza); Blackwell's 'Oxford Halloween Philosophy Night', 2011 (Papineau); the 'Big Ideas' Pub Talks, London, 2011 (Alvarez); and 'Parolario', Como, 2010 (Hughes). We have started links with <i>The Culture Capital Exchange</i>, and have already contributed to some of its activities (Golob, at the <i>Man Ray</i> exhibition at the NPG; and Brewer, Golob, and McCabe at the <i>Inside Out Festival</i> both in 2013). McCabe's expertise shaped Radio 3's play 'The Trial and Death of Socrates', first broadcast in 2008.</p> <p>4) <u>Working with non-academic professional groups to influence their thinking and practice by bringing to bear new philosophical insights from our research onto a range of personal,</u></p>

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professional and public concerns. As well as our work with educationalists, social workers and lawyers (see the Gaita case study), we have developed a major project in the Philosophy of Medicine (£1.95m Wellcome Trust award), which influences medical thought and practice by bringing fundamental philosophical concepts to bear on our understanding of health, care and well-being. Project activities, including five workshops engaging health professionals and philosophers in carefully structured discussion, as well as related research have produced changes in medical thinking and practice recorded in published reports and feedback (e.g. letter from the Chief Medical Officer commenting on its impact in her thinking about future strategies for the NHS; workshop questionnaires; letter from the Staff Attorney for the National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW) in the USA describing one of Kingma's articles as an 'immense resource', 'required reading for all NAPW interns' and 'for law students'). Lappin has sustained connections with Google NLP, with a view to exploring practical applications of his work on computational linguistics.

5) Use of public engagements to bring our research to bear on pressing ethical, social and intellectual concerns. For example, through engagement with community groups such as *Islamic Circles* (Adamson); with ethical groups such as 'The Good Fashion Show' (Alvarez); and with cultural-scientific societies such as the Edinburgh Royal Statistical Society (Papineau). We have also consolidated the impact of our research on policy makers in citizenship and immigration by creating strong links with users in these areas. Thus, Fine joined a group of experts that collaborate with the IPPR think-tank in shaping policy debate (2013-); she participated in a Policy Network event on immigration, which included high-level politicians (2010) and in two Labour Party Policy Review seminars attended by politicians and practitioners (2012), and she spoke at the 'One Nation Labour' conference, addressing policymakers and senior politicians (2013).

6) Working with young people. As well as Gaita's impact in this area (see case study), the unit has been engaged in various activities intended to bring philosophy to young people. In addition to over 25 school visits by faculty and PGRs, in 2011 we started a widening-participation project with a pilot in Holland Park Comprehensive School for knowledge exchange and academic mentoring. The project includes annual visits by ca. 130 A-Level students to King's to engage in philosophical discussion, and an annual residential three-day course at Cumberland Lodge, featuring sessions on debating, basic logic and academic methodology (about 20 A-Level students attended the course in 2012). The project organizes an academic mentoring scheme where PhD students and postdocs from various London colleges act as mentors to (currently about 30) students in their penultimate school year. This will be a strategic area of development for the new cycle.

**B.iii** The impacts detailed above can be documented with (a) emails from members of the general public and from participants and organisers of events attesting how the unit's research, disseminated through these pathways, has contributed to transforming and enriching their lives, and has influenced their thinking and personal development; (b) letters from non-philosophical specialist users spelling out the ways in which our research has impacted on their understanding of relevant concepts or their approach to core problems in their professional practice or policy decision making; (c) quotes and references from international public figures, including artists, writers and commentators, that reflect the impact of the unit's research.

### C. Strategy and plans

**C.i** Our general goals for the new cycle are to consolidate and enhance our main impacts by continuing to develop relationships with existing beneficiaries, by creating new relationships, and by supporting more targeted and strategic impact activities.

**C.ii** To achieve our aims, we shall: (a) continue to develop areas where the unit has been successful in its impact; (b) identify and support areas with impact potential. Our plans include:

The History of Philosophy. In the new cycle, we shall seek to intensify the impact of our research in this area on the cultural and intellectual lives of individuals and groups by enhancing our current relationship with national media and our use of social media. In addition we shall continue with our Ancient Commentators and Podcasts projects, the latter to be bolstered from 2014 by a series of public lectures on the 'Great Philosophers' to coincide with key podcasts.

Understanding Mind and Body. This is an area where our strong research profile in philosophy of mind and action, metaphysics, philosophy of science and biology, and moral philosophy will enable us to make a significant contribution to the public's understanding of profound problems concerning man's place in nature through use of traditional and new media and participation in cultural events

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and specialised fora. We shall capitalise on our new appointments (Fridland, Knox, Shea) to develop issues at the intersection of philosophy and science. This area will be significantly expanded thanks to successful fundraising, resulting in the endowment by the Peter Sowerby Foundation of a Chair linked to the Philosophy of Medicine project. A key aspect of the remit of the Chair is to help intensify our impact on the methods, ideas and ethics of medical professionals. These enlarged activities will capitalise on the network of closely-engaged health professionals established through the workshops and other activities of the Philosophy of Medicine project.

Political Philosophy and Policy Decisions. Adding to Fine's impact activities in this area, we are developing a new project involving specialist workshops linking our research in political philosophy to the King's new Centre for Politics, Philosophy & Law, established with a £7m donation from the Yeoh Tiong Lay family. This will build on Sangiovanni's work on solidarity and international justice, and on Fine's work on immigration, in order to maximise its impact on policy in these areas.

Philosophy Applied. We plan a series of podcasts consisting of discussions with non-philosophers on their professional work as it interacts with the full range of our research interests. The podcasts will deal with pressing current issues such as: human and animal applied ethics; value, freedom and choice; reason and religion; language and communication; justice and obligation.

Outreach Programme: Philosophers in Schools. Our impact in this area will be developed by: (a) targeting more specifically schools with a poor record of University participation; (b) introducing greater flexibility in our activities (for instance, we are working on securing the use of a 'Philosophy bus' to reach out-of-the-way schools); and (c) supporting the development of our pilot widening-participation project and exploring the possibility of extending it to other schools.

**C.iii** In order to increase reach and effectiveness we shall guide the unit's impact activities in a more targeted way by: (a) using staff's annual Performance Development Review to identify activities and pathways relating to current or planned research; (b) developing a database of departmental activities to be managed by the departmental media administrator; (c) integrating impact activities, and sharing experience and good practice through the greater involvement of the Department's Media Presence and Research officers, using information gathered through (a) and (b) to advise individuals and groups; and (d) liaising more closely with the College's Public Engagement Department to identify effective pathways to impact and also training needs.

This strategy will be supported at College and School level by the Public Engagement Department, part of the College's External Relations Directorate, which provides advice, training, and opportunities for staff and postgraduates, and the Public Relations Department, which employs a press officer dedicated to Arts and Sciences, and runs workshops on media interviews. The newly created King's Cultural Institute (KCI), intended as a bridge between King's and the cultural and creative industries, directs the 'Creative Futures' programme, funded by HEIF2, to support innovations, engagement, and knowledge exchange between academics and the wider cultural and creative sector. The School of Arts and Humanities supports impact through a full-time Research and Development Officer in Impact and Policy, and a full time Publicity Coordinator. Their remit includes identifying ways in which the public engagement activities of the School can be best promoted, through its constituent departments and through the Arts and Humanities Research Institute, often using digital technologies to reach new audiences.

#### **D. Relationship to case studies**

**D.i** The impacts outlined above, like our case studies and our plans, are embedded in our research and capitalise on our success in securing funding. Thus, the *Ancient Commentators Project* and the *History of Philosophy without Gaps Podcasts*, as many of the impacts described in 1), 2), and 3) above, are rooted in the unit's strength in the history of philosophy (six members of the unit have already participated in the podcasts) and both are supported by large research grants. The case study *Morality, Humanity and Narrative—the work of Rai Gaita* is underpinned by our research in ethics, philosophy of mind and metaphysics, as are impacts summarised under 4) and 5) above.

**D.ii** The case studies and other impacts evince the unit's approach of identifying pathways that reach appropriate users but also dovetail with the activities of investigation, dialogue, synthesis, dissemination, etc., in which we engage as researchers. For instance, the 'expert-interview podcast' format of the History of Philosophy project has proved an excellent way of maximizing reach to the non-specialist public, as have been many of our dialogue-based public engagements.