

<p><b>Institution:</b> University of Hull</p>
<p><b>Unit of Assessment:</b> D32: Philosophy</p>
<p><b>a. Context</b>          Philosophy at Hull has a long tradition of engaging in impact related activities in education, public policy and public awareness and discourse. Those activities focus especially on curriculum development, widening participation, equal opportunities and professional ethics. The main types of impact achieved involve: development of curricula across European and Latin American HE institutions in the area of Gender Theory; promotion of widening participation and equal opportunities policies in Latin American universities; enhanced understanding of the needs of vulnerable groups and subsequent modification of the attitudes of professionals engaged with these groups. The main users of the impact generated by Philosophy at Hull include academics and students internationally and in general groups concerned with curriculum development in HE institutions overseas; policy makers including legal professionals and managers who are involved with the development of legal frameworks for widening participation and equal opportunities in Latin American HE institutions; pressure groups concerned with gender identity, including transgender groups; health care professionals and users. The impact achieved relates to research undertaken by Philosophy at Hull and clustered in three main areas: <i>Gender Theory and Feminist Philosophy</i>, <i>the Philosophy of Embodied Subjectivity</i> (including the lived experience of illness and vulnerability) and <i>Applied Ethics</i> (including applied issues in Higher Education, medical ethics, criminal justice ethics and political ethics).</p> <p><b>b. Approach to impact</b>          Our approach to impact is characterized by two main features: (1) a vibrant and wide-ranging interdisciplinary ethos traditionally cultivated by Philosophy at Hull and structurally and financially supported by the university, and (2) emphasis on the development of links between Philosophy at Hull and HE institutions internationally with a view to sharing our research and academic curricula.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Interdisciplinarity</u></b></p> <p>Philosophy has traditionally sought to enrich its research scope by engaging in interdisciplinary collaborations especially in the areas of Gender Theory and Feminist Philosophy, the Philosophy of Embodied Subjectivity and Applied Ethics. By their nature these collaborative ventures had a significant applied dimension and enabled philosophers in Hull to first reflect on the possible impact of their research and subsequently explore the most fruitful ways of achieving this impact through interaction both with academics in other disciplines and with non-academic potential beneficiaries. Our immediate collaborative partners have been academics in the Social Sciences, Politics, Law and the Hull and York Medical School (HYMS). The University has offered significant structural support for impact related interdisciplinary collaboration through various interdisciplinary Institutes and Centres, like the Institute of Applied Ethics (IAE), the Centre for Gender Studies (CGS), the Centre for Research in Embodied Subjectivity (CRES) and the Centre for Experts and Institutions (CEI). Since 2010 general strategic guidance on and supervision of impact activities is provided by the advisory committees of the interdisciplinary themes described in the University's strategic plan. Most of Philosophy's impact activities fall under the interdisciplinary themes of 'Ethics and Social Justice' (Hatzistavrou and Whiting are members of the advisory committee for this theme) and 'Health and Well-being'.</p> <p>IAE and the Centres provide administrative support. For example, IAE has an administrator who assists with the organisation and advertising of public events and the dissemination of research. They also promote impact related activities by the organisation of (a) conferences and workshops which involved non-academic potential beneficiaries and (b) targeted outreach activities which engage directly with non-academic potential beneficiaries. The conferences and workshops enable philosophers to interact with potential non-academic beneficiaries of their research, explore with them the possible impact of their research and receive valuable feedback.</p> <p>The University provides significant financial support to IAE and the Centres for the organisation of this type of conferences and workshops. For example, IAE has a separate budget which during the assessment period was used to fund workshops and conferences on issues like the ethics of cognitive enhancement, military ethics, the reliability of expert witnesses, processes of medical and legal decision-making, which have engaged a variety of local non-academic users, like legal professionals and medical practitioners. The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) has</p>

offered a start up fund of £2,500 for the establishment of the CEI which has been used for the organisation of an interdisciplinary conference on Experts, Authority and Law that involved the engagement of local lawyers, magistrates and health officials.

These interdisciplinary activities and the interaction with non-academic users have resulted in the development of impact from related research in Applied Ethics. For example, they have informed Whiting's research on medical students' attitudes and fitness to practise, which is discussed and cited by a project commissioned by the Health Professions Council as part of its policy work on student registration (2012), in a report to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society on fitness to practise for pharmacy students in UK universities and in a 2010 report on continuing professional development commissioned by the General Medical Council and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges. These targeted activities led also to Uniacke's engagement with the Wellcome Trust Biomedical Ethics Enhancement project on "Building a Sustainable Capacity in Dual Use Bioethics" which aims at the development policies and practices that will prevent the misuse of knowledge generated through biomedical research.

Interdisciplinary activities of CGS and CRES include a conference on Embodiment and Subjectivity (May 2008), a conference on the Phenomenology of Illness (May 2010); a series of gender related seminars: Feminism Now (2011/12), New Directions in Biology (2009/10), Issues of Transgender and Intersex (2008/9); and seminars in Medical Humanities: Reading the Vulnerable Body (2010/11); The Body, Health, Well-being and Vulnerability (2012/2013). These activities were funded by the department of Humanities of which Philosophy at Hull was part until August 2013 (a sum of £1,500 per year was reserved for funding impact related activities of the two Centres in the period 2008-2013), FASS, the Faculty of Health and HYMS. They have also attracted external funding from the Royal Institute of Philosophy (£1,500 in total for 2010/11 and 2011/12), The Ferens Educational Trust (£1,000 for the Embodiment and Subjectivity Conference) and AHRC as part of The Concepts of Health Illness and Disease Research Network (£800 for the Phenomenology of Illness Conference).

These interdisciplinary activities involved a variety of non-academic potential beneficiaries ranging from pressure groups concerned with gender identity including 'Press for Change', the UK's leading experts in transgender law, to artists like Deborah Patfield who works with chronic pain sufferers, and has made several visits to discuss her work with researchers in CRES. Her images generated extensive discussion in the edited volume *Embodied Selves* (González Arnal *et al.* 2012). The medical humanities seminars and workshops have also attracted professional healthcare workers as well as disability activists and chronic pain and cancer sufferers. The interaction with non-academic potential beneficiaries within the context of these interdisciplinary activities has fed into the development of impact from the interdisciplinary research of Lennon and González Arnal as described in the two impact case studies. Furthermore, members of the CGS have been actively engaged in a variety of targeted outreach activities, like running courses and evening classes on gender equality, embodiment and vulnerability and chairing meetings of the local women organisations in Hull. These activities have enabled relevant research in Hull to contribute in shaping public understanding about gendered embodiment and illness and vulnerability.

#### **International Perspective**

Researchers at Hull in the area of Gender Theory and Feminist Philosophy have adopted an international perspective and have sought consistently to make a tangible impact on education and public policy internationally. As a result there have been concentrated efforts to establish links with HE institutions both in Europe and further afield in Latin America, India and Pakistan primarily through academic visits and provision of educational material. These efforts were facilitated by the fact that Philosophy at Hull had gained international visibility as a centre for Gender Theory and Feminist Philosophy. These contacts date back to 2002 (with visits funded by the British Council to Chile, India and Pakistan) and came to fruition in the assessment period especially through utilising funding from the 7<sup>th</sup> European Framework Programme. Philosophy at Hull and the University have assisted these efforts through providing teaching relief and funding for González Arnal to make visits to international HE institutions and prepare relevant applications (for example, for the application for the MISEAL project see case study 5ic). The impact achieved is ongoing and described in detail in the two impact case studies.

Another example of the emphasis Philosophy at Hull has put on the international impact of its research has been the links Philosophy and the IAE have established with the Philosophy

Department of Lomonosov Moscow State University and the Russian Academy of Sciences. A delegation from these two institutions visited the University of Hull in 2008 with a view to using the curriculum of the MA in Applied Ethics offered by Philosophy at Hull as a model for introducing postgraduate modules in Applied Ethics at the Moscow State University and developing a common project evaluating the prospects of civil society institutions in Russia. The university provided administrative support through the IAE and the British Academy funded this collaboration with two travel grants (in the area of £5,000 to each of the partners) in 2009 and 2011. The collaboration is ongoing and has resulted in changes in the academic curriculum of the international HE institution.

**c. Strategy and plans**

**Strategy.**

The size of the new School of Politics, Philosophy and International Studies (SPPaIS) which Philosophy has joined since August 2013 means that with an enlarged academic and administrative structure future impact related activities will be better supported in terms of research leave, clustering of teaching and teaching relief, funding for impact related activities and administrative support. The new school also provides opportunities for the expansion of our international links. The university will continue to support impact related activities both structurally and financially through the IAE and the interdisciplinary Centres.

Philosophy at Hull has the following strategic aims: (1) Enhance and extend links with HE institutions overseas with a view to further developing educational and policy-relating impact in the areas of Applied Ethics, Gender Theory and Feminist Philosophy. (2) Expand established interdisciplinary links within SPPaIS and the University (especially with Law, HYMS, Social Sciences and the Faculty of Health) in order to initiate further impact-related activities in Ethics and Social Justice and Health and Well-Being, two of the University's key inter-disciplinary themes. (3) Engage with artists and architects with a view to developing the impact potential of the research cluster of Aesthetics which is becoming a significant research strength of the unit since the appointments of Zangwill and Wilson and (4) Explore further collaborations with professional groups (primarily health and legal professionals).

**Plans.**

(1) Apply to the EU for the second-phase of the MISEAL project and contribute to the development of an Erasmus Mundus doctoral programme in Women's and Gender Studies, initial funding for which has been secured by the GEMMA consortium in the form of an EU ERASMUS Life Long Learning Programme funding grant of €429,234 (Fec). (2) Develop impact-related activities in the area of aesthetics that builds on: a) Zangwil's contribution to the Royal Musical Association Music and Philosophy study group which many practitioners attend; b) Zangwil's work on architectural theory, especially as embodied in a recent architecture textbook (*Philosophy for Architects* by Branko Mitrovic) which affects the training of architects and their practice; c) the collaboration of Wilson with Caroline Wiseman (Gallery owner of the Art House and South Lookout in Aldeburgh) in the organisation of a twelve-month programme of art and philosophy residential partnerships. (3) Organisation of yearly seminars in Medical Humanities and in the ethics of expertise which will communicate research undertaken in Hull to health and legal professionals.

**d. Relationship to case studies**

The combination of an interdisciplinary approach to impact with an international perspective (as described in b) has led to the development of the two impact case studies. The case study concerning widening participation in Latin America has arisen out of González Arnal's interdisciplinary work on widening participation within the context of the CGS. It began on local focus groups which participated in workshops and seminars of CGS and was further developed as a result of visits to Higher Education institutions in Europe and Latin America. The impact case study promoting curriculum development in Gender Theory has arisen from interdisciplinary workshops and seminars within the context of the CGS and CRES. These activities involved transgendered people, a wide range of differently situated and differently culturally embedded women and men and LGBT support groups. It was further developed by international involvement and in particular participation in the Erasmus Mundus GEMMA consortium and British Council funded visits to higher education institutions in the developing world.