

Institution: University of Exeter

Unit of Assessment: UOA 28: Modern Languages and Linguistics

a. Overview

The Department of Modern Languages at Exeter (ML) comprises a large group of scholars working in a wide range of fields, pursuing individual and collaborative research, and committed to sustaining and enhancing the discipline nationally and internationally. It has strengthened its collective identity over the assessment period in an organizational sense, through close integration of research and language groups, and, following from that, in ways that have allowed an intellectual flowering through collaboration and interdisciplinarity. We are committed to interdisciplinarity and collaboration as these approaches foster original, fruitful avenues of research. Developing the next generation of researchers is central to our mission. Our Centre for Translating Cultures is the capstone of this collective research effort.

Our 37 FTE staff work across 5 research groups (Medieval & Early-Modern Studies, Modern Literary Studies, Gender Studies, Linguistics and Visual Culture), concentrated in 7 languages (new appointments in Chinese and Portuguese adding to French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish, which were submitted to RAE2008). Our commitment to both languages and groups allows us to collaborate across languages and disciplines at Exeter, nationally and internationally. This strengthening of our collective identity as a department anticipated the shift towards a single unit of assessment in REF2014.

Our aspirations can be seen in the award of over £2 million in external research grants in the REF period; individuals in every one of the five languages submitted to the RAE have attracted significant external research funding. Between 2008 and 2013 we were awarded 4 AHRC research grants and 2 AHRC Fellowships, a Research & Enterprise in Arts & Creative Technology (REACT)-AHRC grant and a Leverhulme grant. These projects funded, inter alia, 3 Associate Research Fellows [ARFs] and 7 PhD students. In 2010-11 alone, Exeter ML attracted £931k from the AHRC. The most recent awards include an EU-funded multidisciplinary grant in visual culture and a 2013 Philip Leverhulme Prize for Spanish cinema. The department's ethos of collegiality and mutual support allows us to integrate early-career staff quickly by sharing the knowledge and expertise needed for this high level of collective performance.

Leadership is provided at unit level by the Head of Department (HoD; Cayley) and Director of Research (DoR; Faulkner), supported by the Director of Postgraduate Research (DPGR; Vonhoff) and the Discipline Strategy Group. ML is part of the University's College of Humanities and dedicated administrative staff at College, as well as University, level provide individually-tailored support for academic staff to develop research projects, public engagement and impact.

b. Research strategy

Our strategy cements our traditional strengths in European languages, literatures and linguistics, and supports developing work on other global languages, literatures and cultures; gender studies; and visual culture (including art history and film). Our strengths are demonstrated in our research groups and their integration into a common Centre for Translating Cultures. Their role and achievements are outlined below.

Our strategy fosters research excellence by supporting the work of individual scholars, and encouraging collaboration. These two activities are mutually reinforcing, for individual achievements such as monographs are extended and deepened through activities like conferences and the publication of multi-authored edited collections, often aided by external research grants (for example, Roberts's 2006 *Dogs' Tales* was followed by 6 grants from the AHRC, British Academy and Leverhulme with related conferences, impact and multi-authored publications, 2007-15.) Attracting such grants has been a particular strength of the department, with £2,174,783 collectively awarded since 2008 (£58,778/FTE member of staff; figures exclude proportions for CIs at other institutions, where PI is at Exeter): a 255% increase since RAE2008. Colleagues are first encouraged to deepen their expertise, and explore new and creative avenues, and second, to collaborate at Department, College and University levels, and in national and international fora. They are encouraged to make the best use of infrastructure and support described in (d).

Over 2008-13, Exeter ML has both realised and exceeded its RA5, RAE2008 aims. These included an ambition to build on our 'commitment to interdisciplinary research', extend our

'intermedial approach' and continue to 'initiat[e] innovative interdisciplinary and collaborative projects and conferences' (RA5s French and German). For example, we hosted the Santander-funded interdisciplinary conference 'The Cultural and Literary Meaning of the Spanish Political Exile of 1939' at Exeter in 2009 (organisers Flitter, Moros and Urrutia, Carlos III, Madrid). The fact that the quotations above were drawn from the RA5 documents for French and German, yet the example of their fulfilment is drawn from Hispanic, exemplifies our pursuit of common goals as Modern Linguists. The achievements of our 5 research groups, described below, further demonstrate the fulfilment of these aims.

Rather than establish five individual research-group centres, we took the strategic decision to launch ML's Centre for Translating Cultures (CTC) (December 2012, dir. Faulkner) as a single forum in which to pursue the research aims of our groups and languages, and one that complements the interests of our research students, including those on our successful MA in Translation (dir. Mansell) (8 graduates of the MA went on to PhD study 2008-13). At the CTC, individual scholars and research students (both at Exeter and invited national and international speakers) share their work, and collaborators pursue collective interests through workshops and conferences, and through the development of grant applications. Through collaboration with Exeter's Royal Albert Memorial Museum, the CTC also fosters public engagement, especially in connection with material and visual culture (see Impact Template). Since its launch, we hosted 7 lectures (2 by Exeter ML staff, and 5 by visiting speakers, including an inaugural by Wood [Princeton] in June 2013) and 3 collaborative workshops (Modernism and the Arts; Linguistics; and Gender Studies and Visual Culture; these workshops involved 5 Exeter ML colleagues and 8 visiting speakers). For 2013-14 the CTC has scheduled 11 lectures by colleagues and research students in both ML and the College of Humanities, and 2 workshops.

In addition to RA5 aims, over 2008-13 we have also pursued the goals of supporting research in global languages and cultures and of renewing our discipline through the supervision of research students and fellows. 46 postgraduate research students (PGRs) have registered in the period (they initially register for MPhil, with upgrade to PhD by the end of year 2); 41.4 PhD awards have been made (split FTE with other disciplines); we have supported 3 ARFs and 1 visiting post-doc, and have appointed 7 Early Career Researchers (ECRs) (Afonso, Bradbury, Guo, Hinton, Martins, Thomas, Zhuang). The following sections demonstrate that staff changes over 2008-13 at Exeter have led to strategic appointments in our key areas of growth. Between 2008-13, 5 colleagues retired (Professors Cook, Hayward, Kearns, Lauster, Sharpe), 3 took academic posts elsewhere (Wynn and Professors Downing and Worth-Stylianou), 6 left (Adlam, Bayo, Bridge, Canaparo, Cooke, Schulte) and 12 colleagues arrived (Cox, Maguire, Nevola, Scott and Watt in addition to 7 ECRs).

ML has played a leading role in the development of the College's Art History and Visual Culture (AHVC) initiative (launched September 2011) through Jones's directorship of Visual Culture; has contributed significantly to the University's Internationalisation Strategy (2010-15), especially its China Strategy (November 2012-) (for example, our establishment of a progression degree in Translation Studies with Peking University, May 2013); and is participating in its Humanities and Social Sciences Strategy (HASS) (November 2012-). The appointment of Nevola to a chair (2013) confirms ML's thriving Visual Culture research group (see below), and deepens existing expertise in Italian and Medieval & Early-Modern Studies. To complement flourishing work in ML on global languages and cultures (eg Higbee's and Vassallo's work on the visual and literary cultures of Francophone Africa; Goglia's sociolinguistic research with African immigrants in Italy; Moore's work on Latin-American literature) we have made 4 ECR appointments. Lecturers in Chinese Guo (appointed 2012) and Zhuang (2013), who are both specialists in the East-West interface, thus join an ML Department that already researches global cultures, languages and theories. Lecturers in Portuguese Afonso and Martins (both 2013) join colleagues in Hispanic Studies with specialisms in peninsular (Capdevila, Faulkner, Flitter, Mansell, Murphy) and Latin-American (Moore) languages and cultures to form a team with expertise in Luso-Hispanic languages and cultures across Europe, Latin America and Africa. Our longstanding experience of organising a smaller group of colleagues working in Russian will be invaluable in supporting these 4 new appointments in Chinese and Portuguese, as we further expand the geographical range of our research and teaching portfolio. In addition, French has been sustained by the appointment of Cox (2010, Gender Studies), Watt (2012, Modern Literary Studies) Hinton (2013, Medieval & Early-Modern Studies) and Scott (2013, Modern Literary Studies); Hispanic Studies by the appointment

of Bradbury (2013, Medieval & Early-Modern Studies) and Thomas (2013, Visual Culture); and Russian by the appointment of Maguire (2013, Modern Literary Studies). The appointment of Hinton and Thomas also demonstrates our commitment to global languages and cultures through their developing work on post-colonial theory and Latin-American history, while Guo joins Mansell with shared expertise in cultural translation and identity formation.

Research Groups

Medieval & Early-Modern Studies

Over 2008-13, this energetic group has authored a monograph, a critical edition and 7 edited collections; hosted 5 conferences/workshops; and led or co-led 2 scholarly networks. Cayley's 2008 co-edited volume (with Kinch) *Chartier in Europe* has been complemented by her organization of the July 2009 'Accipe et Devora', The Early Book Society conference, co-organization of the September 2012 symposium 'Alain Chartier: Politics, Poetics and Authority at the Medieval French Court' (University Center of Chicago, Paris) and award of a REACT-AHRC grant (£27k, 2012) for the Exeter Manuscripts Project (see Translating Material and Visual Culture case study). As PI of the AHRC grant 'Gossip and Nonsense: Excessive Language in Renaissance France' (£196k, 2012-15), Roberts leads CI Butterworth (KCL) and PhD student Blaen. The project develops his AHRC Research Network 'Obscenity in Renaissance France' (£49k, 2007-09) and British Academy Research Development Award (BARDA) 'French Libertine Verse (c.1600-1622): A Pilot Project for Editing the "Recueils satyriques"' (£56k, 2010-13) (CI Peureux, Paris Ouest Nanterre), which in turn builds on a critical edition of the works of Bruscombille (funded by a Leverhulme Research Fellowship, 2009-10). These grants funded a symposium (Exeter, July 2008), publication workshop (Oxford, March 2009) and website 'Gossip and Nonsense: Excessive Language in Renaissance France'. Smart similarly collaborates with an international team, and co-organised (with Wade, Illinois) "'That all the world may wonder!" The Palatine Wedding of 1613, its Celebration and Significance' (Exeter, September 2008), the co-edited acts of which were published by Herzog August Bibliothek Wolfenbüttel (2013). The 2013 appointments of Bradbury, Hinton and Nevola thus expand this group's activities. Bradbury's expertise in early-modern Spain complements Mangini and Nevola's work. Hinton's specialism in French early-medieval studies complements Cayley's work on the late medieval period (Cayley and Hinton will host the British Branch annual conference of the International Courtly Literature Society in 2014).

Modern Literary Studies

Exeter's traditional strengths in this area, such as textual analysis and scholarly editing, have been deepened over 2008-13 through interdisciplinary and digital approaches. We host 2 databases of German literature (with a third in Russian to launch in 2014) and College IT support staff have acquired skills on our projects that have been deployed on other projects in the College. Significant grant capture by this group renews the discipline via the training of ARFs and PhD students. 5 monographs (including a R. H. Gapper Prize shortlisted volume on Beckett) and 5 edited collections have been published, while the CTC now provides a forum for activities. K Hodgson is PI on the AHRC Grant 'Reconfiguring the Canon of Twentieth-Century Russian Poetry, 1991-2008' (£452k, 2010-14; CI Smith [Edinburgh], ARF Shelton, PhD students Karakulina and A Hodgson, and team member Lygo), which organised 3 workshops (Exeter December 2011 and January 2013; Edinburgh July 2012) and will launch a database in 2014. Similarly, PI Schmidt leads CI Allan (Warwick) and ARF Howe on the AHRC grant 'Kleist, Education and Violence: The Transformation of Ethics and Aesthetics', (£414k, 2010-14), which hosted 'Constructive and Destructive Functions of Violence in the Work of Heinrich von Kleist' (Exeter, July 2011, acts published by Königshausen und Neumann, 2012). Strengths in German Studies are deepened by Vonhoff's Leverhulme grant 'German Narrative Prose 1850-1930' (PI, £157k, 2010-13), which funds 2 PhD students Sinjen and Stolfa and hosts the on-line database 'Lost Voices: Rare German Narrative Prose 1840-1940' in addition to his Karl Gutzkow Editions Project (see Editing case study). Vonhoff organised 2 conferences, the MHRA-funded 'Karl Gutzkow and His Contemporaries' Exeter September 2010, proceedings published by Bielefeld, 2011 (editor Vonhoff) with the publisher's annual publication grant, and 'Censored by Forgetfulness. Neglected German Narrative Prose 1840 to 1914' Exeter, June 2012. Examples of further dynamic Modern studies at Exeter include Cox's organization of two conferences (2012, 2013) for the Société des Dix-Neuviémistes, and Watt's colloquium '1913: The Arts in Europe' at the CTC (Exeter March

2013). The appointment of Maguire and Scott (2013) complement these grant-attracting teams; both bring further expertise in modern literature.

Gender Studies were co-ordinated by the Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Sexuality and Gender in Europe (CISSGE) until the departure of Downing in 2012, when the strategic decision was made to establish its activities more firmly under the aegis of the CTC. Colleagues have published 5 monographs and an edited collection, and hosted 3 conferences. Capdevila published 2 monographs and a translation with subsidies from the Spanish Ministry of Culture (*Autoras inciertas* 2008; *He de tener la libertad* 2009; *Artistas y precursoras* 2013), and hosted a Spanish post-doctoral researcher (Burgos-Lejonagoitia, 2010-12, funded by a Basque government grant of 50,000 euros). Similarly, Cox developed *Sibylline Sisters* (2011) through further collaborative work, like the BA-funded 'Contemporary Women's Writing and the Classical Tradition' conference (Exeter, July 2012). CISSGE supported Hipkins's co-organised conference (with Taylor) 'Representations of prostitution, sex-trafficking and sex work between the 19th and 21st centuries' at Exeter (September 2010), with a follow-up workshop at the CTC (June 2013). Following *The Body Besieged* (2012), Vassallo organised the exhibition 'Algeria(s) in France: A Journey Through Identity'. CISSGE supported Zitzlsperger's 'Gender, Agency and Violence' conference at the IGRS, London, March 2010 (Schmidt, Smart and Downing also spoke), the proceeds of which were published in 2013, *Gender, Agency and Violence* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing), and include the work of 3 former and current Exeter PhD students. Martins and Scott (appointed 2013) thus join a flourishing group: expert in Portuguese-language women's writing Martins complements Capdevila's and Murphy's work; Scott joins contemporary French literary specialists Cox and Vassallo with a focus on the nineteenth century that she shares with Cox.

Linguistics

Exeter ML Linguistics has particular strengths in sociolinguistics, and hosts a number of significant corpora (see [d]). Portuguese specialist Afonso (appointed 2013) joins a thriving group that includes French specialists Boughton and Coveney, and Italianist Goglia. Articles and book chapters published in the period include Coveney's 2010 'Vouvoiement and tutoiement', among the most downloaded articles from the *Journal of French Language Studies*. In addition, colleagues have won 4 grants, including Boughton's AHRC Research Leave: 'Social and Regional Variation in the Phonology of Standard French' (£24k, 2008-09) and Goglia's AHRC Fellowship 'Language Contact in the Immigrant Context: The Case of Igbo-Nigerian Immigrants in Italy' (£36k, 2012), and the work of this group has influenced areas of educational practice and public policy (see Linguistics Impact case study). It has nurtured a vibrant postgraduate group over the period, 5 of whom have created spoken corpora. 10 students have been supervised from 2008-13, 5 of whom received AHRC funding. A further AHRC-funded student begins in 2013-14. 2 of these students have already won prizes for their work or been invited speakers (expenses paid) at international conferences (see c [ii]). Between 2008-12 Exeter ML Linguistics hosted a distinct seminar programme of internal and external speakers at which all 10 students presented papers. From 2012 these activities have flourished in the CTC, which hosted a lecture by Nagy (Toronto) (March 2013) and a workshop 'Language Contact in Immigrant Contexts', May 2013 (co-organisers Afonso and Goglia).

Visual Culture

This group has published 2 monographs and an edited collection in Film Studies, a volume on art history and a further monograph and edited collection in Urban Studies, activities that have both developed from and led to the organization of conferences, scholarly networks, impact and PhD supervision. Director of Visual Culture (2010-13) in the College's AHVC initiative (2010-), Jones provided leadership in ML and across the College, running AHVC research seminars (2011-13) and advising on PGR training. He co-organised with Paver the workshop 'Repositioning Memory: Between the Archive and the Rubbish Heap' (Exeter May 2011) and developed his interest in legacy as UK-based PI of the INTERREG-IV-funded project '1914FACES2014' (£193k, 2012-15), in which he leads a HASS team of 15 collaborators based in the College of Humanities and 3 in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences (Barreto, Life Sciences, is CI). Kearns (retired 2010) won the AHRC grant 'Painting for the Salon? The French State, Artists and Academy, 1830-1852', (£281k, 2010-13), with Exeter-based ARF Mill and PhD student Griffiths. Research in film is

fostered by both the CTC and the Centre for Interdisciplinary Film Research (2010-, formerly the Centre for Research in Film Studies founded and directed by Hayward [retired 2010] in 1998). Grants awarded include Faulkner's AHRC Fellowship 'A New History of Spanish Cinema: Middlebrow Films and Mainstream Audiences' (£66k, 2011), which led to the publication of *A History of Spanish Film* (2013) and the symposium 'Middlebrow Cinema' (Exeter, July 2012; proceedings forthcoming with Routledge in 2015), and Hipkins's AHRC Research Leave 'Behind Closed Shutters: Unlocking Gender through the Figure of the Prostitute in Post-war Italian Cinema (1942-1965)' (£24k, 2008-09), which aided her co-organization (with PhD student Pitt) of 'The Child in Italian Film' (Exeter, July 2008, acts forthcoming with Peter Lang, 2014). In research student supervision, Higbee has led a collaboration with the London Film School (2012-), and currently supervises 2 co-funded students. Zhuang, Nevola and Thomas (appointed 2013), thus enhance this energetic, grant-attracting group. In particular, Nevola's expertise in the Italian Renaissance city and Zhuang's in Chinese landscape gardens add to Zitzlsperger's work in spatial studies (her monograph *Topografien des Transits* (2013), 2 conferences, 'The Berlin Department Store' March 2011, London and 'Department Stores in Literature' July 2012, Berlin, and 2 edited volumes, *The Berlin Department Store* [2013] and *Department Stores in Literature* [Peter Lang 2014]).

Strategic aims & plans 2014-19

In order to maintain and enhance our research, we have agreed the following principles. We will:

1. Continue to advance the discipline through our publication of innovative research.

In this area, Hodgson's AHRC-funded *Canonicity, Twentieth-Century Poetry and Russian National Identity (1991-2008)* (Peter Lang) is due in 2014; Nevola's *Street Life in Renaissance Italy* will be published by Yale in 2015 and Schmidt's AHRC-funded *Unverhoffte Wirkungen: Erziehung und Gewalt im Werk Heinrich von Kleists* (Königshausen und Neumann) is due in 2014.

2. Provide an environment in which colleagues are supported in establishing themselves firmly and offered every opportunity to develop their potential. For mechanisms of support see (c) (i).

3. Work to recruit and mentor the next generation of ML researchers. Building on the work of the AHRC Block Grants Partnership (BGP) (2009-13), the South, West and Wales AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership (2014-) will provide a hub for best practice in doctoral recruitment and training (£14.2 million awarded to the consortium for 200 studentships across the Humanities). We will also seek to fund and support PGRs and ARFs through research grants and external collaborations and seek externally-funded postdoctoral research fellows. For mechanisms, see (c) (ii).

In this area Jones's INTERREG IV grant has already appointed an ARF for 2014-15 (Gehrhardt).

3. Maintain and enhance our record of grant capture from multiple national and international funding bodies by drawing on both disciplinary and interdisciplinary expertise in the Department, College and University. For mechanisms, see (d) (ii).

For 2013-14, we have already been awarded the 2013 Philip Leverhulme Prize for Spanish cinema (Faulkner) and the AHRC Grant 'In Search of Italian Cinema Audiences in the 1940s and 1950s: Gender, Genre and National Identity' (Hipkins CI) (£690k; £80k to Exeter, 2013-16). Following the May 2013 CTC workshop, Afonso and Goglia's Leverhulme Networking Grant 'East Timorese in Portugal' (£80k) has reached the second stage of application.

4. Continue to play leading roles in AHVC and internationalization strategies, and move from participatory to leading roles in the HASS strategy, using the platform of the CTC.

5. Develop our strategy and activity around public engagement and impact (see Impact Template). In this area Cayley has won further REACT funding (£30k) for the Exeter Manuscripts Project.

c. People, including:

(i) Staffing strategy and staff development

This section describes how we will achieve our Strategic Aim 2014-19: build an environment in which colleagues are supported.

The University's Performance Development Review (PDR) is followed by all ML staff (4 Professors, 6 Associate Professors, 18 Senior Lecturers, 10 Lecturers, 2 ARFs plus non-research staff); it consists of an annual appraisal plus two shorter meetings with an allocated Academic Lead (AL). It reviews past performance and plans for the future, usually taking a 3-year period into account. ARFs discuss their career aspirations with their AL, and have access to further staff development opportunities via the University's Staff Learning & Development and Careers Office. We thus implement the University's Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers in line with the Concordat Implementation Plan (2009), including full integration of fixed-term staff into the PDR system. The DoR meets with staff on request to advise on all research matters.

The Professional Development Programme (PDP) is a five-year schedule followed by all staff appointed at lecturer grade, with promotion to Senior Lecturer at the end subject to meeting performance thresholds. For research, these include publication of at least two items that have been graded internally as internationally excellent and a convincing narrative of grant applications. Since 2008, all 8 staff who have reached the end of their probation have gained promotion.

Promotion to Associate and Full Professorship is open to all Senior Lecturers via the University's criteria-based career progression model. Since 2008, there have been 4 promotions to Associate Professorship and 2 to Professorship.

ECRs have their teaching load reduced by 10% in their first year and 5% in their second year to free some extra time for research at this critical early stage of their careers.

Research leave. From 2011, Humanities policy changed from periodic entitlement to a bidding process in which the production of excellent outputs and/or impact and/or grant applications are the key criteria. ECRs may apply after 2 years in post, and part-time staff are eligible pro-rata.

Equality and Diversity (E & D) is supported by the University's flexible working policy for staff with caring responsibilities. Staff can request some timetable restrictions to help them meet caring responsibilities, and can reduce their contract to 0.5 FTE on a temporary basis. This has been taken up by a number of members of the Department, including those who are currently Associate Professors. In addition, the University implements Equality Impact Assessments on all policies (2010-), beyond legal requirements. The College E & D Lead is Capdevila.

Open Access. The University received significant funding to support this from RCUK (£500k) and the Wellcome Trust (£90k), completed a £250k Jisc-funded project to embed a culture of Open Access across the institution and developed an institutional repository 'Open Research at Exeter'.

(ii) Research students

Our PhD numbers have grown 18% in the period (33 FTE in 2007-08; 39 in 2012-13). From 2008-13, 46 PGR students registered in ML and 41.4 FTE have successfully completed – more than 1 per member of staff. This section describes how we will build on this to meet our Strategic Aim 2014-19: fund and mentor future researchers.

Funding. A distinctive feature of the postgraduate research culture at Exeter is that students have been funded by colleagues' external research grants, in addition to those funded by the 2009-13 AHRC BGP. Thus alongside 14 BGP studentships, we have 4 PhDs funded by AHRC research grants, 2 by the Leverhulme Trust and 1 collaborative doctoral award funded through industry partner Antenna International (via REACT) and a HUMS scholarship. From 2008-10, 20 scholarships/graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs) were also awarded to the Department from University funds. These combined limited teaching hours with a fee waiver and bursary. One of these students was part-funded through DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), the Institute for European History in Mainz and a GTA. In addition, we won a Santander studentship and 3 further HUMS scholarships.

Recruitment and training. All research students are recruited according to the University's principles of equal opportunity and supervised according to its Code of Good Practice for the

Supervision of Postgraduate Research Students. This includes the appointment of first and second supervisors, and a mentor who has a pastoral role, and who makes contact with the student at least once a term. All students have a £200 allowance for research trips and conferences.

Monitoring progress to ensure timely completion is carried out through Graduate Progress Committee (GPC) meetings. These take place twice a year between the student and first and second supervisors to review work and establish goals until the next GPC. Progress reports are agreed at the GPCs and submitted to the postgraduate administrator for review at the Annual Progress Meeting attended by all DPGRs in Humanities, and chaired by the College's Associate Dean for Research. The first supervisor can independently signal concerns about progress to completion to the postgraduate administrator and the DPGR. There is also an ML PGR Liaison Forum at which students are able to raise concerns. Our stress on clear objectives, regular milestones and achievable targets, and our detailed attention to students' needs, has aimed to create a culture of timely completion.

Integration into research culture. The DPGR organises a monthly PGR seminar for research students which staff also attend and which is advertised to Humanities as a whole. All first-year students present at this seminar as part of their monitored progress and to develop their presentation skills in a friendly setting, while second and final-year students are also encouraged to present work in progress and/or draft conference papers, either at ML's CTC, or another University research centre. There is an annual Humanities postgraduate conference, organised by research students who are usually in their second year. The 7 ML students funded by research grants and partnerships are also integrated into project research teams and often take on specific and supervised organizational duties within these to enhance their career development.

The Humanities Postgraduate Training course is taken by all students and provides generic and career development skills both for future academics and for those intending to work outside academia. ML research students are also encouraged to take part in training courses run by Exeter's Researcher Development Programme in such topics as starting a PhD, writing a literature review, preparing for the viva, academic job applications/interviews, and the creation of an on-line profile (eg Basilio, Baso, Gehrhardt and Knowles). Each GPC meeting starts with a discussion of training needs. The department follows the University's Code of Good Practice for the Employment of Postgraduate Research Students, which states that they must do no more than 6 hours/week (180 hours/year), including preparation and marking. Students who teach complete Stage 1 of an accredited Learning and Teaching in Higher Education Course, and have the option of taking Stage 2.

Conference organization and participation, and seminar participation. Building on their experience at the PGR and/or research-centre seminars, over 2008-13 ML students have organised 2 conferences, the 2011 Society for Italian Studies PGR colloquium and a joint ML PGR conference with Bristol in September 2012 (for which Gehrhardt was jointly responsible for funding). Elsewhere Dekhissi was invited to speak jointly with Coveney at 'La syntaxe des interrogatives en français' conference, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, June 2013, with expenses paid by Fonds National Suisse de la Recherche Scientifique. In addition, ML students delivered papers at 12 UK institutions and 14 abroad: Belgium (Brussels), Canada (Québec and Vancouver), France (Paris X; Lyon; Nancy, Paris; Amiens and Perpignan [2 students, of whom Pipe received joint second prize from the *Association for French Languages Studies* for 'Best Student Paper']), Germany (Hamburg), Ireland (Gehrhardt, Cork September 2011 [with postgraduate bursary]), Poland (Opole; Warsaw) and the US (New York).

Peer-reviewed publications, prizes and awards. Supervisors provide advice on publishing. In the period, a monograph (Howe, *Heinrich von Kleist and Jean-Jacques Rousseau*) and 7 articles/chapters (in *Pagine di Celluloide* [Baso]; *Karl Gutzkow and His Contemporaries* [Butler]; *Le verbe en verve. Réflexions sur la syntaxe et la sémantique verbales* [co-authored Gaucher/Coveney], *Modern Language Review* [Knight], *Forum* and *Modern & Contemporary France* [Lewis], *Quaderni di Donne & Ricerca* [Masenga]) have been published. Our students have won the School of Latin-American Studies Postgraduate Travel Grant, a Herzog August Bibliothek

Environment template (REF5)

grant, the Peter Morris Postgraduate Travel Prize from the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France and the EdmissionUK conference grant.

Future researchers. Postgraduates who have gone on to academic posts 2008-13 include Elliot, Senior Lecturer in Media and Cultural Studies, Lincoln; Lewis, Lecturer in French, Liverpool; Sealey, Lecturer in Media Arts, Plymouth and Rose-Steel, post-doctoral fellowship, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore. Howe and Howell are ARFs on AHRC- and ERC-funded research projects at Exeter.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

This section describes how we will achieve our Strategic Aims 2014-19: build an environment in which colleagues are supported; and maintain and enhance levels of grant capture.

(i) Support

Library. ML's annual budget (currently £65k) is used to build new, or enhance established holdings in research areas, and to provide resources for research-led teaching. The University awarded ML an additional £10k to build holdings in Chinese (June 2013). Colleagues may use unlimited Inter-Library Loan tokens. Since 2008, the University spent £7.58 million extending and renovating the main library, and refurbishing the old library to create a dedicated work space for postgraduate students, renamed 'Research Commons'.

Specialist College IT staff. 5 colleagues provide support to maintain ML's electronic databases. They support Vonhoff's 'Editionsprojekt Karl Gutzkow' (2001-) (see Impact Case Study) and 'Lost Voices' (2010-); Roberts's 'Gossip and Nonsense' website and database (2012-) and our 4 sociolinguistic corpora: Boughton's Nancy-Rennes corpus (60 hours, 80 speakers), Coveney's fully-transcribed Picardy corpus (250,000 words) Goglia's Igbo-Nigerian corpus (10 x 20-minute recordings) and Goglia and Afonso's East-Timorese corpus (6 hours, 12 informants).

Personal Research Allowance. £1000/year may be used for research trips and conferences.

(ii) Grants

In developing applications, colleagues benefit from ML's highly collegial research culture and the College and University's experienced administrative support. After initial advice from their AL or the DoR, the DoR then oversees preparation of the application and ensures colleagues consult previous successful applications; submit proposed Pathways to Impact to ML's Impact Steering Group (see Impact Template); and consult central Research and Knowledge Transfer (RKT) staff who have expertise in each research council and in impact. 5 specialist College administrative staff advise on costings and technical appendices; the College Ethics Officer (Boughton) advises where necessary. Draft applications are reviewed by the DoR and subject specialist(s) from ML, the College or the University as appropriate; more than one specialist is commissioned if appropriate. The DoR is both reactive, supporting staff with their own applications, and proactive, finding suitable candidates for particular schemes.

The effects of this approach can be seen in awards won in the REF period. ML staff have been awarded 4 AHRC Research Grants (as PIs; Hipkins began as CI on a grant in September 2013), 2 AHRC Research Leaves, 2 AHRC Research Fellowships (Early Career) and a REACT-AHRC grant, 1 Leverhulme Research Project, 1 Philip Leverhulme Prize and 2 Leverhulme Research Fellowships, 2 BARDAs, 17 BA Small Research Grants, 5 BA Overseas Conference Grants, a Santander grant, an INTERREG IV grant and a Wellcome Trust Small Grant.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Leading roles in subject associations: co-founder and Vice President, International Alain Chartier Society (Cayley 2008-); International Secretary of the International Courtly Literature Society (Cayley 2010-2013); MHRA Research Grants Officer (Paver 2010-); Conference Officer, Société des Dix-Neuviémistes (Cox 2010-) and Honorary Treasurer, Society for French Studies (Roberts 2008-12; Cox 2012-). Faulkner was appointed in April 2013 to serve on the Executive of the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland (AHGBI) (2014-).

Environment template (REF5)

Editorial positions include Boughton, co-editor, *Journal of French Language Studies (JFLS)* (2013-); Coveney, co-editor, *JFLS* (2010-12) & *JFLS* advisory board (2006-09 & 2013-), editorial board, *Journal of Sociolinguistics* (2007-11) and editorial advisory board, *French Studies Bulletin* (2006-11); Flitter and Hodgson, respectively Hispanic (2006-) and Slavonic (2007-) editors, *Modern Language Review*; Handyside, editorial college, *Studies in French Cinema* (2011-); Higbee, editor, *Studies in French Cinema* (2006-); Jones, French editor (20th C), *The Literary Encyclopedia* (2006-12), editorial board, *e-France: an on-line journal of French Studies* (2009-) and *Reconstruction: Studies in Contemporary Culture* (2011-), advisory board, *Reinvention; a Journal of Undergraduate Research* (2008-); Mangini, editorial board, *Studi e Problemi di Critica Testuale* (2001-); Parisi, associate editor, *Schedario manzoniano* (2010-), editorial board, *Appunti leopardiani* (2010-) and Vonhoff, co-editor, *Immermann Jahrbuch* (2000-). Cayley and Watt were appointed in July 2013 to the editorial boards of *Modern Languages Open* and *Acta Fabula* respectively.

Conference organization. In addition to those mentioned in (b), we have hosted at Exeter: the Society for French Studies annual conference (Cayley July 2012) and the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes Annual Conference (SDNAC) (Cox April 2013), with Faulkner and Murphy's application to host the AHGBI annual conference 2015 confirmed April 2013. Outside Exeter Cox organised the SDNAC, Limerick, Ireland, April 2012, Handyside organised 'Is There Such a Thing as European Cinema?', annual European Cinema Research Forum, Exeter, July 2010 and co-organised (with UCL's Martins) 'The Girl in Global Cinema', July 2013 and Boughton and Capdevila served on scientific committees for 'New Ways of Analyzing Variation', Houston, November 2008, 'Perceptions of Accents in French', Avignon, November 2011, Association of French Language Studies, Perpignan, June 2013 and 'Imágenes femeninas en la literatura y las artes escénicas españolas (s. XX-XXI)' Madrid April 2011. We have organised 16 conference panels in the UK (9), US (4), Canada (1) and France (2).

Refereeing academic work is carried out by all colleagues for 66 national and international journals across our languages and research groups. We also referee work for 24 publishers. Cayley (2008-14), Downing (2009-13 [left Exeter 2012]), Nevola (2012-15 [arrived Exeter 2013]) and Parisi (2010-13) are members of the AHRC Peer Review College, and Cayley served on Panel D AHRC Fellowships Panel (May 2012). We review for 6 further national and international councils: Agence Nationale de la Recherche (Boughton 2009, Watt 2013); European Science Foundation (Roberts 2008-); ESRC (Boughton 2010); Leverhulme (Parisi 2009); The Nuffield Foundation (Boughton 2009); Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (Coveney 2012).

Awards, key-notes, seminars and networks include: joint first, Malcolm Bowie Prize (Roberts 2008); Philip Leverhulme Prize (Downing 2009); Fellowship at Beinecke Library, Yale (Lygo 2010); Certificate for Outstanding Contribution in Francophone Postcolonial Studies, *International Journal of Francophone Studies* (Vassallo 2010); R. H. Gapper Book Prize shortlist *Samuel Beckett and Testimony* (Jones 2012). We have delivered 10 key-notes in the UK (4), Canada, France (2), Germany, Ireland and Switzerland and over 50 invited seminars nationally and internationally. Roberts leads the AHRC-funded network 'Obscenity in Renaissance France' (2007-); we are invited members of 8 further schemes across the UK, Europe and the US.

External examination of 17 PhDs: 15 in the UK (2 at Birmingham, 2 at Cambridge, 1 at Chichester, 1 at Essex, 1 at KCL, 1 at Keele, 1 at Manchester, 2 at Oxford, 1 at Salford, 1 at Sheffield, 1 at UCL, 1 at UWE); 1 in France (Orléans); 1 in Australia (Melbourne).

Conclusion

During a challenging period for languages nationally, Exeter ML has built a sustainable and collegiate research community, expanding from 5 to 7 languages, holding a varied and substantial portfolio of national and international grants, and growing our PhD student numbers. This rise in trajectory gathers pace: our live grants for 2013-14 total £897k, while in 2014-15 we look forward to hosting 2 major subject association conferences at Exeter: the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland (2015) and the Association of British and Irish Lusitanists (2015).