## Institution: Faculty of English, University of Cambridge

## Unit of Assessment: UoA 29 English Language and Literature

#### a. Overview

The Faculty of English at Cambridge is one of the largest concentrations of researchers in the subject in the UK, internationally recognized for the scale and significance of its contribution. It supports research across the entire chronological range of the discipline from the early Middle Ages to the present, and across critical, editorial, theoretical and other approaches. It is determined to maintain this leading position, by extending and diversifying its activities to take account of recent developments in English studies and adjoining fields, and by encouraging innovation through collective interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary projects.

The Faculty is the academic unit responsible for teaching and research in English across the University, and it is co-extensive with the submission to this UoA (apart from Hirsch [Education] and Skrebowski [History of Art]). Although for most internal administrative purposes the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic (ASNC) comes under the aegis of the English Faculty, it teaches and examines its own courses, and for the REF it forms part of the submission returned to UoA 28. Until October 2011 the Research Centre for English and Applied Linguistics was also part of the Faculty (and was included in the 2008 RAE return), but it is now part of the newly-formed Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics which is also making its submission to UoA 28.

## b. Research strategy

The Faculty is committed to sustaining research activity at the highest levels, both across the main fields of English studies as traditionally understood, and beyond into collaboration with other disciplines and the formation of new fields. At a time when many universities are reducing the range of their research and teaching in English, the Faculty sees its dedication to top quality work across this very broad front as essential to maintaining its leadership in the discipline, both nationally and internationally. The internal organization of research activity is described in more detail below, but the nub of the Faculty's strategy is its determination to attract and appoint the individual scholars and critics most likely to make the biggest impact on their field of work, and then to provide a stimulating and supportive environment within which they can most fully develop their intellectual strengths and capacities. Collaboration and team research is actively encouraged, as, for example, in the inauguration of the interdisciplinary Centre for Material Texts (CMT) and the development of several new Research Groups (see further below under b.3), but the single most vital ingredient in the Faculty's strategy for maintaining its reputation for academic leadership remains the ethos which encourages all individual members of staff, at every stage of their career, to produce research at the highest international level.

## 1. Development of plans in RAE 2008

Significant progress has been made with the themes singled out in the 2008 submission:

**i) Bibliography**. As explained above, the founding of the CMT, a new forum for cross-disciplinary research into textuality, has enabled the Faculty to broaden its activities in this area, and to become a leading presence in the field of book history. Research activity in the area has expanded and accelerated, as evidenced in publications by Alexander, Beadle, Burlinson, Lees-Jeffries, McKitterick, Phillips, Scott-Warren, Taylor, Wade, Wilson-Lee and Zurcher, and in regular conferences, symposia, workshops and seminars to which many members of the Faculty have contributed. Important recent conferences include 'Eating Words' (2011) and 'Texts and Textiles' (2012). 2009 saw the successful completion of the 3-year AHRC-funded Resource Enhancement project led by Beadle, Burrow (now at All Souls, Oxford), Lyne and Zurcher. 'Scriptorium: Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts Online' is a freely accessible digital archive of manuscript miscellanies and commonplace books from the period *c*. 1450-1720. Between 2006 and 2009 the project-leaders held a series of annual symposia, hosted at the Faculty, for experts from





manuscript study and digital research, on the topics of manuscript digitisation, manuscript culture in the late medieval and early modern periods, and the sustainability of digital resources. Selected papers from the second symposium were subsequently published as a special issue of the periodical *English Manuscript Studies 1100-1700* 16 (2011), under the title *Manuscript Miscellanies c. 1450-1700*, edited by Beadle and Burrow.

**ii) Commonwealth and International Literature in English**. In 2009 this domain of the Faculty's teaching and research was re-named 'Postcolonial and Related Literatures' (PARL). The Faculty has been committed to expanding activity in this area. Staff already provided options for the Culture and Criticism MPhil, and from 2012 this has also been possible with the Modern and Contemporary Literature MPhil. Faculty funds were used to support a Research Fellow in this field (Etherington 2009-11). A reorganisation of part of the undergraduate syllabus (taking effect in 2013-14) means that there will be more teaching in this area, and this helped to justify a third permanent appointment who brings welcome new expertise in Caribbean literature (McIntosh 2012).

iii) Language. This area of the Faculty's research has undergone a major reconfiguration following from the University's own restructuring, which has included the movement of the Research Centre for English and Applied Linguistics from the English Faculty to the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages (MML). Staff changes have contributed significantly to adjustments in the Faculty's aims for teaching and research in this area: Wakelin's departure to a Chair at Oxford (2011), Griffiths's early retirement on grounds of ill-health (2012), and the appointment of Gorji (2009), with strong research interests in the modern period, especially in eighteenth- and early nineteenthcentury literary language. Lyne's teaching and research in the early modern period have borne fruit in Shakespeare, Rhetoric and Cognition (2011); he contributes significantly to plans for further collaboration with MML. Research strategy now entails increasing collaboration with MML and ASNC and is centered on the work of Wright, the Faculty's leading researcher in the language field. Such collaboration enabled the 2008 International Conference on Middle English (ICOME6), organised by Wright with assistance from Dance (ASNC), the proceedings from which have been co-edited by Wright and Dance (2012). Wright is also taking the lead in the Faculty's collaboration with MML, where in addition to new arrangements for teaching provision (with Willis) there is potential for continuing research growth through joint degrees, including an MPhil in Sociolinguistics, Wright is actively furthering these collaborative initiatives, with the full support of both Faculty Boards.

One major focus of research activity in recent years has been the introduction of new MPhils. The MPhil in 'Criticism and Culture' (led by Jacobus) began in 2004; the inter-faculty MPhil in 'Screen Media and Cultures' (led by Trotter) started in 2006. As long ago as 2002 the Faculty had plans for a new MPhil in literature since 1830, but staff shortages in this area hampered development. However, the appointment of Macfarlane (2006), Waithe and Houen (both 2009), enabled the introduction of a new MPhil in Modern and Contemporary Literature in 2012, with an initial intake of 12. Faculty MPhils are research-led and provide essential research training for the doctorate. These MPhils allow staff to teach options that are closely linked to their research. For example, beyond two compulsory core courses, the range of options for the new MPhil in its first year (2012-13) included: 'Victorian Work Ethics: Labour in the Literary Imagination, 1830-1914' (Waithe), 'Henry James and Others' (Follini and Poole), 'Parisian English-Language Modernism from Wilde to Beckett' (Milne), "Naturalism" in Literature and Cinema' (Trotter), and 'Sacrifice in Film and Literature since WWII' (Houen).

Several major pieces of research that were in train at the time of RAE 2008 have since been brought to completion, including Cooper's *Shakespeare and the Medieval World* (2010), Gopal's *The Indian English Novel* (2009), Houghton-Walker's *John Clare's Religion* (2009), Kerrigan's *Archipelagic English* (2008), Page's *The Christian West and its Singers* (2010), Schramm's *Atonement and Self-Sacrifice in Nineteenth-Century Narrative* (2012), Trotter's *The Uses of Phobia: Essays on Literature and Film* (2010), Warnes's *Magical Realism and the Post-Colonial Novel* (2009), and Zurcher's *Shakespeare and the Law* (2010).



## 2. Strategic Aims 2014–19

Between 2010 and 2012 the Faculty carried out an extensive review of its teaching and research capabilities to support its case for new appointments. The review grouped its research and teaching into eight main areas: 1) medieval; 2) early modern; 3) eighteenth century and Romantic; 4) nineteenth century; 5) twentieth and twenty-first century; 6) criticism and language; 7) drama; 8) American and postcolonial. These areas will underpin the Faculty's strategy for 2014-19, ensuring that Cambridge continues to produce world-leading research across the full range of English studies. The boundaries implied by these areas are flexible and in practice there is much collaboration and exchange across them. Nevertheless, it was an important consideration in this exercise that staff planning should focus on consolidating the necessary critical mass to support coordinated research activity based in each of these eight areas, including the provision of graduate supervision. As a consequence of this review, the University decided to make a major investment in the Faculty, providing six additional University Lectureships to which appointments have been made in 2011-13, Thus, the Faculty's establishment has been significantly enlarged and this, together with further proleptic replacement appointments, will secure the long-term future of all its major areas of research (and teaching). The appointments are in the following fields: Medieval (Da Costa, Zeeman), Literature and the Material Text to 1500 (da Rold), and Literature and the Material text from 1500 (Lees-Jeffries), Eighteenth-Century Literature (Haggarty), Victorian (Hurley, Schramm), Criticism post-1750 (Wilson), Modern Anglophone Drama (Svendsen), modern American (Boddy), Postcolonial (McIntosh). Several members of staff are due to retire shortly after the assessment period (Collini and Cooper in 2014, Poole in 2015), but plans have already been made to re-distribute some of these and subsequent vacancies so as to maintain strength across the eight designated areas. Meanwhile the Research Policy and Support Committee (RPSC) oversees research policy and practice, acting as co-ordinator, facilitator and promoter of activities that cross these (and other) boundaries, such as the formation of new Research Groups. It also contributes to policy discussion over appointments. The interdependence of research and teaching essential to the Faculty's ethos has been reflected in an historic change to the undergraduate course that now licenses the simultaneous study of English and all other anglophone literatures in all three years (effective for the first time in 2013-14). This has been co-ordinated with a shift of emphasis in recent appointments (Boddy, Connor, Houen, McIntosh) towards research expertise in transatlantic, international and post-colonial writing.

The Faculty aims above all 1) to maintain its position as a leading international centre for research in English studies across the full range of the discipline; also, 2) to sustain its commitment to the highest quality of research in fields by which English studies have traditionally been defined, while 3) developing its research capability in fields more recently emerged and still in formation, such as the study of material texts; contemporary writing; literature, technology, media; writing and the environment; performance; 4) to consolidate the Research Groups created as a strategic priority during the last three years, and to establish a small number of them on a more permanent footing comparable to that of the CMT; 5) to integrate further into its research policy and practice the College Teaching Officers, Junior Research Fellows and other postdoctoral appointees, who constitute a significant part of the Faculty as a whole, by mentorship and research collaboration; 6) to pursue opportunities for Open Access publishing creatively rather than simply as a matter of obligation; 7) to extend the Faculty's collaborative relationships and to institute further partnerships with external cultural organizations; 8) to foster the development of high-quality applications for external funding; 9) to use demonstrable excellence in research as well as teaching as the basis for fund-raising with a view to endowing, or part-endowing, at least one University post, and providing new sources of funding for research students. These plans and aspirations will be driven forward through the Faculty's existing committee-structure, especially the RPSC and Planning and Resources Committee (PRC), reporting to the Faculty Board.

# 3. Support for Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Research

An important development in sustaining and expanding the Faculty's research culture was the establishment in 2009 of the CMT, which fosters research into the physical forms in which texts are embodied and circulated. Based in the Faculty of English (and initiated with start-up funding recommended by the PRC), it provides a focus for editorial and bibliographical work, and for critical, theoretical and historical projects of many kinds. The CMT offers a forum for the study of a



wide variety of media and brings together academics and postgraduates from faculties and departments across the University, including Archaeology and Anthropology, History, History and Philosophy of Science, Music and Modern Languages. The Centre is run by a Director (currently Scott-Warren) and an Executive Committee, overseen by a professorial Advisory Committee. Its website publicizes news and events, discusses developments in the field via a gallery and a blog, and allows members of the Centre to communicate via an intranet Forum. The Centre has its own History of Material Texts seminar, which meets to hear papers from invited speakers twice a term, and it hosts a variety of occasional seminars, colloguia and conferences, as well as offering bespoke master-classes in textual studies for graduate students. The Centre has strong links with the Cambridge library community, with the University's Digital Humanities network, and with related Centres around the country. Among the Centre's current research projects is an AHRC-funded collaboration with the National Trust to unlock the intellectual and public impact of the Trust's newly-catalogued library collections. The significance of CMT to the Faculty's research plans and strategy has recently been recognized by the allocation of the two new University Lectureships in Literature and the Material Text that will be associated with the Centre. The Faculty supports and promotes interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research in further areas through work associated with taught MPhils, such as Criticism and Culture, and Screen and Media Cultures. The appointment of Connor in 2012 to the Chair previously held by Jacobus has encouraged connections with neighbouring areas in cultural and visual studies. In collaboration with the Centre for Latin-American Studies, the Faculty supported a Mellon-funded postdoctoral fellow (Viala 2009-11); it also funded from its own resources a research fellow in drama and performance (Svendsen 2009-12), who worked with colleagues from Psychology on themes of attention and performance.

Interdisciplinary research is the animating motive of the University's Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (CRASSH), a major international centre. The English Faculty enjoys close links with CRASSH, now housed in the immediately neighbouring building; Jacobus, professor of English (retired September 2011), was its previous director. CRASSH currently has 24 salaried post-doctoral fellows; it also hosts each year: 12 early career fellows from Cambridge: 15 international visiting fellows; nine Humanitas distinguished Visiting Professorships, and three Mellon Visiting Professorships. Each year, via an internal competition CRASSH selects, funds and organizes 25 interdisciplinary conferences, and 15 Faculty research groups, which meet fortnightly through the year. Through the Mellon Disciplinary Innovation programme, the Centre runs two graduate teaching courses each year taught by four Faculty Teaching Fellows. By virtue of a collaboration with the Huntington Institute and UCLA, CRASSH awards two fellowships a year on material and visual culture in the early modern period; a collaboration with McGill, Montreal involves two fellowships a year working on conversion in the early modern/Renaissance period. CRASSH hosts the University Strategic Network for Digital Humanities, under which are run three funded projects (2 AHRC Knowledge Exchange, one CIGREF-funded project on intellectual property). The benefits to the Faculty from this Network are mediated through the digital enterprises of the CMT in which several of its members play a leading role. CRASSH hosts four major, five-year research projects (with funding from the ERC, Leverhulme Trust and Andrew W Mellon Foundation), and has networks and collaborations with Chicago, New York, Berkeley, UCLA, Uppsala, Toronto and Montreal. CRASSH develops and submits around 8 large grant applications a year; external grants account for the vast majority of the £2 million it spends each vear.

While many members of the Faculty at large, both staff and graduate students, draw regular benefit from all the activities at CRASSH just noted, specific examples of those who have made direct use of CRASSH's resources for the support of interdisciplinary conferences, seminars and workshops include Kennedy, 'Literary Britten' (2011), Waithe, 'Work Ethics: Rethinking Literary Labour in the Long Nineteenth Century' (2012), and Alexander, 'Chains of Gold: Rhetoric and Performance in the Verse Anthem' (2013). Since October 2011, CRASSH has also funded Interdisciplinary Faculty Research Groups that run a series of seminars and are encouraged to become the basis for collaborative grant applications. Faculty staff involvement includes the Research Group 'Intoxication of the Senses: 1600-present' (Moshenska, Read). Further connections with CRASSH's research programmes include Knight's and Murray's post-doctoral Fellowships on 'The Bible and Antiquity in Nineteenth-Century Culture'. The Centre for Disciplinary



Innovation at CRASSH, funded by the Mellon Foundation (2008-15), supports many activities and events, including landmark international conferences on 'Changing the Humanities/The Humanities Changing' (2009) and 'The Future University' (2011), to which Faculty staff (Collini, Jacobus, Patterson) made prominent contributions, and a Mellon Teaching Seminar, 'Practising Re:Enlightenment' (2013), co-led by de Bolla.

Recent initiatives within the Faculty include the establishment of the Research Groups previously mentioned, some of which may eventually be developed into larger enterprises along the lines of the CMT. These Research Groups (whose identities deliberately differ somewhat from the broad areas of teaching and research referred to in 2. above) are designed to promote new kinds of dialogue and engagement with the wider research community, as well as providing more locally a forum for online debate and blogging, and a central conduit for information useful to particular research communities, such as a list of relevant seminars and events, names of the Faculty members and PhD students working in the area, and details of collaborative research projects. The Nineteenth-Century Studies Hub, organised by Waithe in 2011-12, was the first of these. Other groups have since been established in the fields of Medieval, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Eighteenth-Century and Romantic Studies, Literature/Technology/Media, Performance, and Contemporaries. The aim of this initiative is not to duplicate existing research seminars, but to foster individual and collective projects leading to publication, public engagement, and bids for external funding.

## c. People, including:

## i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The University's policies on the recruitment and retention of staff are directed towards supporting research at the highest international level. These range from the possibility of equity-sharing housing to flexible working, generous maternity/paternity leave, and the returning carers scheme. University policy provides for statutory sabbatical leave at the rate of one term for every six terms worked. In a national context where regular sabbatical leave is becoming less common, it is an essential part of Cambridge's strategy to ensure that staff maintain an active research profile by continuing the current entitlement. To claim sabbatical leave, staff must have their programme of research approved by the Faculty Board and by the General Board; they must also report on their progress at the end of the leave. Applications for unpaid leave are subject to a similar process of approval, and, where appropriate, replacement appointments are made through the established appointments procedure, with research potential as a leading criterion. Of submitted staff, 46 (just over two-thirds) have had at least one period of leave since the beginning of 2008.

The reputation of the Cambridge English Faculty attracts exceptionally strong fields of applicants for posts at every level, many of whom hold permanent positions elsewhere. The selection process attaches particular weight to research potential and achievement; samples of work are read by the Appointments Committee and additional experts from the relevant fields. Once in post, probationary staff have a significantly reduced lecturing load in their first three years; progress is monitored through a formal University probationary system (normally five years), and support is provided by a Faculty mentor, via annual appraisal meetings. Probationary staff also have annual meetings with the Chair of the Faculty to monitor progress. The University makes available orientation and introductory career development sessions for all newly-appointed staff, including the 'Pathways in Higher Education Practice' (PHEP). Thereafter, members of staff continue to be monitored by the appraisal system, involving biennial meetings with senior colleagues; these meetings include advice and assistance with research strategies and publishing opportunities. All staff are contractually obliged to pursue research; there is an explicit expectation within the Faculty of high-quality research outputs from all of its staff.

Research achievement is a significant element in the system of personal promotion to Senior Lecturer, and central to the case for promotion to Reader and Professor. These processes always involve the judgement of external (and nearly always international) assessors. The Faculty, which provides advice and support for potential applicants, has been conspicuously successful in securing such promotions since 2008: to Senior Lecturer, Alexander, Connell, Hillman, Houen,



Macfarlane, Mukherji, Tilmouth, Waithe, Warnes; to Reader, Lyne, Scott-Warren, Wright; to Professor, Beadle, De Bolla, Jarvis, Page. In addition in 2012 the established chair held by Jacobus was filled, from an outstandingly distinguished international field, by Connor.

In 2008 the Faculty Board reviewed the teaching and administrative commitments falling on members of staff, and decided to adapt the provision of Faculty teaching more closely to meet student needs and free up a higher proportion of time for research. The FB also decided to require from individuals an 'annual record of activity' (ARA) and to make this available on the Faculty's Intranet to the whole Faculty, with a view to increasing awareness of colleagues' current research and to facilitate collaboration. In 2009 the FB undertook a major projection of the distribution of administrative responsibilities up to 2020, designed to assist in the timing of sabbatical leave and external grant applications in relation to the completion of major pieces of research.

The Faculty attaches great importance to developing the research potential of early career staff, and, in conjunction with CRASSH and the Careers service, provides appropriate mentoring and training. All eligible staff are encouraged to apply for the Early Career Fellowships at CRASSH which provide an extra term's leave for the completion of a research project. The Faculty's record of success in these annual competitions is exceptional: in 2008-9 Batsaki, Ettenhuber, and Wakelin won awards; in 2009-10 Mellor and Zurcher; in 2010-11 Lees-Jeffries; in 2011-12 Gorji and Waithe; and in 2012-13 Burlinson, Joy, Moshenska, and Read. In 2011-12 Schramm was awarded the Crausaz Wordsworth Interdisciplinary Fellowship in Philosophy. The provision within Cambridge of college-funded Research Fellowships contributes significantly to the density and vitality of the local research culture as well as enabling younger scholars to develop their own work before proceeding to established university posts here and elsewhere. These staff participate in Faculty teaching and belong to Subject Group Committees, and play their part in organizing the research seminars and related activities. Senior Faculty representatives are involved in all selection and appointments processes for these posts. The following took up appointment as Junior Research Fellows in this period: Baxendine, Bellis, Boyson, Craigwood, Crawford, Dobbin, Freedman, Harmer, Harris, Hetherington, Howe, Jones, Kennedy, Partner, Purdon, Ravinthiran, Razzall, Riley, Roberts, Robinson, Ross, Thaventhiran, Weir, and Wingfield, Since 2008 the Faculty has hosted four British Academy Postdoctoral Fellows: Lashmore-Davies, Oppitz-Trotman, Urban, and Wort; it has also funded or co-funded three further postdoctoral appointments (Etherington, Svendsen, Viala).

The Faculty actively supports the University's Equal Opportunities Policy (recently updated in line with the Equality Act 2010) in all matters relating to staffing. (The University was the highest-ranking HEI in the Stonewall list of top employers 2013.) In October 2009 the University approved the appointment of Equality Champions to demonstrate leadership and support for equality and diversity matters. The Equality Champions support the University Diversity Networks, which are open to any members of protected groups to discuss diversity issues, network, and raise awareness. In 2010 the University also adopted a Combined Equality Scheme that sets out how it meets its commitment to equal opportunities and creates a unified strategy for improving Cambridge's performance in these areas. During this period, 4 staff members were supported by the University during maternity leave and 2 during paternity leave.

The Careers Service offers a dedicated Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences advice programme. ECRs are provided with detailed online careers advice as well as seminars and face-to-face advice with a dedicated advisor for the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. The Careers Service also provide an opportunities database and run careers partnership and employer mentoring schemes to assist research staff in accessing employment. Cambridge also runs an Employer Forum focused on postgraduate researchers and research staff that incorporates training and development initiatives from around 20 different employers from across all employment sectors.

## ii. Research students

The Cambridge English Faculty is one of the most significant centres of postgraduate research and training in the UK, with around 200 students under supervision during 2012-13. Their research is funded from numerous sources, including the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Cambridge Home and EU Scholarship Scheme, the Cambridge International Scholarships



Scheme, the Gates Cambridge Trust, the Wolfson Foundation, the Kathleen Hannay Awards, and various Cambridge college research support schemes (e.g. St John's Benefactors' Studentships). The size and diversity of the graduate community is a vital stimulus to a flourishing research culture, and the Faculty has developed intensive procedures and mechanisms for encouraging outstanding research performance at this level. The graduate school is overseen by the Degree Committee, chaired by a senior member of the Faculty (currently Windeatt). Much of its day-to-day business is monitored by the Director of Graduate Studies and the Assistant Director of Graduate Studies (currently Wright and Houen), the latter having particular responsibility for MPhils and for graduate training. Steps are taken to ensure equality of opportunity in the admission of graduate students, by allowing an element of flexibility in judging relative levels of achievement in first degrees, and by offering telephone interviews to selected applicants. The Faculty is well positioned to respond to offers of external funding for studentships, as for example support for a studentship created by a private donor in 2012 for a thesis on 'Financial Crisis in English and American Fiction'.

Responsibility for the detailed administration of research is devolved from the Degree Committee to five subject area Graduate Sub-Committees (GSCs), which oversee admissions, assign supervisors, organise MPhil coursework and examining, make provision for research training activities, and monitor the progress of individual students at both PhD and MPhil level. GSCs also convene graduate seminars in their respective areas of the subject, and invite numerous visiting speakers to address them. Registration for the PhD occurs towards the end of the first year of research, and is based on an assessment of substantial written work and a detailed thesis plan, carried out by two members of the Faculty other than the student's supervisor. Further advisory meetings based on the submission of substantial bodies of new writing take place in the second and third years; in 2010 the Faculty increased the length of this writing sample to 15,000-20,000 words, plus (in the third year) a detailed timetable for completion. In this period 132 PhDs have been awarded; by 2012 the four-year completion rate stood at 76%.

All graduate students are subject to termly reports by their supervisors, and they themselves complete feedback forms; both are monitored by the Director of Graduate Studies. Students' practical concerns are also discussed at termly meetings of the Graduate Consultative Committee, and a Graduate Funding Committee also meets regularly to distribute financial support for research-related travel, student-organised conferences and the obtaining of copies of primary research materials. All category A staff may be called upon to act as supervisor, advisor, or examiner for research students; all may serve on the relevant GSC; and all may contribute as appropriate to MPhil teaching and to the research seminars.

The Faculty offers two research degree programmes. The one-year MPhil degree consists of coursework options in the first two terms (assessed by either two or three long essays), plus training in methods and resources, followed by a dissertation, usually of 15,000 words, to be submitted by early June. In 2012-13 MPhils were available in five areas: Medieval and Renaissance; Eighteenth-Century and Romantic; Culture and Criticism; American; and Modern and Contemporary Literature. Each MPhil course has its own external examiner, who reports to the GSC and the Degree Committee on its conduct and outcomes. MPhil students are assigned an overall supervisor in addition to their coursework teachers; the supervisor works with the student throughout the year, culminating in submission of the dissertation.

The PhD is awarded, usually after three years' study, for a dissertation of 80,000 words. PhD candidates are admitted from all fields of English Studies; they must have successfully completed a Master's (or equivalent) either in Cambridge or elsewhere. They are assigned a main supervisor and a secondary advisor, so that in addition to regular supervision, advisory meetings with two staff take place in each year of the student's course to monitor progress and advise on the direction of the research. All students attend seminars in research methods and resources in their first year. Regular talks are given on opportunities for academic publishing by senior editors from Cambridge University Press who are also active scholars and members of the Faculty: in recent times these have included Linda Bree, Ray Ryan and Sarah Stanton. Graduate students receive specialist and generic training, supported from time to time by AHRC training funds, some of which is carried forward in partnership with the University's Staff Development office. During 2012 this included an external course for 10 students, 'Beyond the PhD'. A Graduate Research Forum, run by students



and funded partly by the Faculty and partly by external sponsorship, arranges fortnightly meetings covering such topics as funding applications, job applications, and opportunities for publication. In addition to established sessions on teaching, giving presentations and so on, recent innovations include a mentoring scheme wherein graduate students observe, and are observed in, small-group undergraduate teaching, plus a series of methodological half-day workshops. A Graduate Lecture Series has also been instituted, supported financially by the Faculty, with a year-round programme of lectures, advertised alongside regular lectures and open to all. In addition to the Graduate Consultative Committee, there is formal graduate representation on the Faculty Board and several other Faculty committees, thus providing valuable early experience of academic administration.

Numbers have been broadly stable during this period, with approximately 25 PhD and 45 MPhil students admitted each year. As well as their involvement with the Faculty's own graduate students, several members of staff contribute to supervising and/or examining research students in other Faculties, including Classics, Development Studies, Divinity, Education, History, HPS, Modern Languages, and Oriental Studies. Postgraduate students are attracted to Cambridge from a wide range of countries: in 2011-12, 76 (about one-third) of those working in the Faculty towards higher degrees were of non-UK origins.

Within the School of Arts and Humanities, support for doctoral students is provided by the Graduate School of Arts and Humanities, which was established on 1 January 2010. This provides doctoral students with advice and support on training, obtaining funding, future career pathways and allocation of supervisors. The Graduate School also seeks to ensure access to top quality skills training for doctoral students by offering specially tailored courses through the University's Graduate Development Programme, facilitating the creation of courses specifically designed for Arts and Humanities students elsewhere in the University (such as specialised training in French and German offered by the Language Centre), and coordinating training offered at a departmental and faculty level.

The Faculty's system of research seminars provides the main focal point for collective research activity, involving staff, research fellows, visiting scholars, and graduate students. The scale and extent of such seminar activity sustains and develops a research culture in English studies which few institutions anywhere in the world could match. The following seminars run regularly each year, American, Drama, The History of Material Texts, Literary Theory, Middle English, Nineteenth-Century, Criticism and Culture, Postcolonial and Related Literatures, Renaissance, Interdisciplinary Renaissance, Restoration to Reform, Eighteenth-Century and Romantic Studies, Screen Media Research, Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature. Many of the programmes are jointly organized by staff and students. For example, in the Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature seminar one or two senior staff oversee the series, but it is headed by the graduate students, who draft the programme, issue invitations and lead the seminars; one of the four termly meetings is usually a student symposium of between two and four mini-papers. The Eighteenth-Century and Romantic group mounts an annual conference run by the graduates themselves. Other student-run conferences and panels include 'Considering Performance: A Symposium of American Culture and Literature' (May 2010) and 'Imagined Civities: Cities and Alternatives in the Nineteenth Century' and 'Lyric' (June 2012).

Administrative support for all these activities is provided by the Degree Committee office, with Faculty funding for visiting speakers. Several of these seminars have generated reading groups (eg on the History of the Book, Tudor literature, Intermedia, and Prosody) while the Medieval Reading Group, founded in 2004 and entirely run by graduate students, holds joint sessions with students from other universities and has to date published 15 issues of *Marginalia*, an interdisciplinary online graduate journal of medieval studies (partly funded by the Research Training Fund; an advisory board draws on staff from London and Glasgow as well as Cambridge). Many of the outputs listed in RA2 were given their first impetus as a result of being delivered as papers in these seminars. While doing their PhD, several students have had scholarly articles published or accepted for publication, from Felce on *Hamlet* in *Shakespeare Survey 61* (2008) to Ravi, awarded the John Updike Review Emerging Writers Prize in 2013 for an article on Updike.



### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

#### **1. Policy and support structures**

The English Faculty belongs to the School of Arts and Humanities and its Chair (currently Trotter) is a member of the Council of the School. Since 2003 the University has devolved considerable budgetary responsibility to the Schools, enabling them more effectively to support research activity within their constituent faculties. Decisions about funding and resources are now made at School level within the strategic framework set by the University's Resource Management Committee. The School also provides constituent Faculties with some additional administrative support, particularly in the form of a Research Administrator. Further technical assistance with applications for and administration of external funding is provided by the University's Research Office.

The Faculty Board (FB) has overall responsibility for the Faculty's activities. The Research Policy and Support Committee (RPSC), which reports to the FB, has oversight of all aspects of research activity; its membership includes senior figures from the main areas of research and an adjacent discipline (currently History), and its chair is an ex officio member of the FB and its key advisory committee on policy, Planning and Resources (PRC). In 2010 the constitution of the RPSC was amended and a new chair appointed (Collini) with the aim of promoting and supporting a culture of external grant application. Workshops have been held for all categories of staff, including dedicated meetings for postdoctoral staff; these meetings have also been addressed by Research Facilitators from the School and other staff from the University's central Research Office. In January 2012, the School appointed two Research Facilitators dedicated to developing engagement between academic staff and the major research funders in the UK and Europe. Recent successes include Zurcher, CI on the AHRC funded edition of Sir Thomas Browne (led by Preston as PI, subsequently at Birmingham and now Queen Mary), and Wright, co-sharer with colleagues from the University of Tampere, of a four-year grant from the Academy of Finland, for a project on 'Multilingual Practices in the History of English'.

## 2. Internal Funds

The Faculty has one major trust fund, the Judith E. Wilson fund, which is dedicated to encouraging the study of drama and poetry, with an emphasis on contemporary practice by professional practitioners. (In 2013 its capital value was £4,810,814; over the assessment period the average annual income was £173,981.) In addition to supporting the Judith E Wilson Lecturer in Drama & Poetry (currently Milne), the fund enables the Faculty to develop links with various aspects of the contemporary drama and poetry world. Each year the fund supports a visiting fellowship for a poet/dramatist in residence, including (since 2009) Trevor Joyce, Peter Gizzi, John Kinsella and Caroline Bergyall, A significant feature of many of these fellowships during the assessment period is their involvement with the research environment of the large group of research students, both at MPhil and doctoral levels, working on twentieth century poetry and poetics. This has been particularly important in developing links with the research culture of North American poetry and poetics, particularly at universities such as Chicago and Notre Dame. The fund also pays for the post of Drama Studio manager to oversee and animate the Judith E Wilson Drama Studio. The Drama Studio has, for example, hosted the rehearsal and development of work on the Cambridge Greek Play – the triennial performance of a play in ancient Greek at the Arts Theatre – an event central to research into ancient drama in both the English Faculty and Classics (Poole and Wallace are on the organising committee). Doctoral students have used the Drama Studio to develop aspects of their research, including the performance of Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida, a one-day performance of Milton's 'Paradise Lost', a series of theatre festivals, various rehearsed readings and visting lectures by theatre academics. The fund also supported the post-doctoral teaching fellowship in drama (Svendsen 2009-12), including her collaboration with Lyne on the project on memory and attention, and her research for the '3rd Ring Out' project. In addition, the Faculty has some smaller trust funds (e.g. the Members' English Fund, capital value £174,158, average annual income £6,740) which provide grants to research students to assist with attendance at conferences and dissertation completion. Beyond that, the School administers both the Small Research Grants scheme (funded by the Isaac Newton Trust) and the inter-school



Cambridge Humanities Research Grants scheme (funded directly by the Vice-Chancellor's office), both newly established during the assessment period; staff members have made successful applications to both schemes (Green, Scott-Warren, Wilson-Lee).

# 3. External grant income

The Faculty has been notably successful in winning funding that supports additional leave and other teaching remission – for example, Collini and de Bolla have won Major Leverhulme Research Fellowships; Gopal, Hillman, Kerrigan and Schramm Leverhulme Research Fellowships; Macfarlane a Leverhulme Prize. Historically, it has been less successful in obtaining large external grant income and funding for collaborative projects, but the re-constitution of the RPSC in 2010 (mentioned above) is part of a long-term plan to remedy this. Figures for external research income over the last five years have been £533,000 (2008/9), £296,000 (2009/10), £215,000 (2010/11), £255,000 (2011/12), with 2012-13 yet to be calculated.

# 4. Libraries

Library resources in Cambridge are world-leading, and the concentration of collections bearing on English studies is almost without parallel. The University Library is a national legal deposit library, holding over 8 million books and pamphlets, and 45,000 print periodicals. An exceptional feature of the UL among copyright libraries is that the majority of items are on open stack and are borrowable. It also offers a digital library open twenty-four hours a day to all Cambridge members, providing access to over 80,000 full-text electronic journals, around 350 databases and a fast growing collection of electronic books. There is access to over 70 networked databases and eresources on English literature alone. The Faculty Library holds a further 80,000 volumes and 75 periodical titles. Every college has a library (to which members of staff have access), several of which (e.g. Corpus, Emmanuel, King's, Magdalene, Trinity, St John's) include major research collections of mss. and early printed books as well as other specialist material relevant to literary studies (Wright's 2012 chapter on 'The Hammond Scribe', for example, draws on a Trinity ms.). Scholars who also act as college librarians include Beadle (St John's), Hughes (Pepys, Magdalene), McKitterick (Wren, Trinity), and Patterson (Queens') while Windeatt is Keeper of Rare Books (Emmanuel). The Library Search catalogue gives access to all Cambridge libraries, including the comprehensive range of electronic journals and databases.

# 5. IT provision

Since 2008, the entire Faculty building has been equipped with wireless internet. In 2010 an IT training suite was installed in the Faculty library. This enables hands-on training of research students in digital and online research resources. All major teaching rooms are equipped with data projectors; graduate training in such areas as palaeography and textual studies is also assisted by the use of a visualiser and a tablet with on-screen writing/annotation software. More generally, the University's CamTools resource is increasingly used for collaborative research projects, as for example the scholarly edition of *The Complete Fiction of Henry James*, to be published by Cambridge University Press, involving some 30 volume editors from around the globe (Follini and Poole being two of the four general editors).

# 6. Visitors

The Faculty sponsors several major lecture series attracting distinguished speakers. Pre-eminent among these are the Empson Lectures, initially co-funded by the Faculty and Cambridge University Press; since their inauguration in 1997, speakers have included Edward Said, Margaret Atwood, Michael Wood, and Geoffrey Hill. The Graham Storey Lecture on the English Novel was founded (with support from Trinity Hall) in 2008; lectures have been given by James Wood, Marina Warner, Anne Enright, Ian McEwan, and Alan Hollinghurst. In addition, several prestigious lectures or lecture series are maintained by the colleges: above all, the Clark Lectures in English Literature at Trinity, where recent lecturers have included Elaine Scarry, Roy Foster, Roger Chartier, Susan Wolfson and Quentin Skinner, and the Leslie Stephen lecture at Trinity Hall, recently delivered by Claire Tomalin, Colm Tóibín and Hermione Lee. The Faculty and colleges provide facilities and support for an extensive range of Visiting Scholars: recent distinguished visitors include Jansohn (Bamberg), Ozawa (Kwansei Gakuin), Schmidt (Glasgow) and Watson (UCLA). The Faculty hosts a programme of meetings and events for its Visiting Scholars (who total on average about 20 per



year), as well as providing them with dedicated accommodation in the Faculty building.

## 7. Infrastructure: new developments

The University has embarked on a major property development in North West Cambridge. In the first £300M phase, due to open in 2015-16, high-quality and sustainable housing will be provided for over 600 postdocs and their families, together with retail and social facilities. In addition, the University has created the new role of Director of Postdoctoral Affairs to coordinate provision for the postdoctoral community. Although funded postdoctoral posts are relatively rare in English (college JRFs apart), these developments will help the Faculty attract and retain postdoctoral staff in the future.

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

The Faculty makes a substantial and varied contribution to the wider discipline of English studies through the activities mentioned in earlier sections. Further professional contributions include: Windeatt was a member of the AHRC Peer Review College (2006-12); Warnes is inaugural chair of the Postcolonial Studies Association. Several colleagues serve on boards of management, including de Bolla (Chair, Danish Council for Independent Research; The Re:Enlightenment Project), Collini (Isaac Newton Trust), and Cooper (Prince's Teaching Institute; Shakespeare Birthplace Trust); Collini, Cooper and Leighton are also on working committees of the British Academy. A significant number are members of advisory boards and groups, including de Bolla (Tate Research Forum), Cooper (Research Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Durham), Houen (Modernism Studies Centre, UNSW, Australia), Kerrigan (Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's, Belfast), Macfarlane (*Green Letters*, and ECLIPSE, Exeter Centre for Literatures of Identity, Place and Sustainability), Parker (Trialogue: Literature, Psychotherapy, Spirituality), Trotter (Modernism Studies Centre, UNSW and OUP's *Online Research Reviews*) and Wright (*Journal of Historical Sociolinguistics, Prague Journal of English Studies, Studia Anglica Posnaniensia*).

Faculty staff involved in the publication of journals include several editors: Boddy, Connor and Trotter (Critical Quarterly, now formally based in the Faculty), Houen (Blackbox Manifold), Lyne (Cambridge Quarterly), Parker (Arts and Humanities in Higher Education). A substantial number serve on the editorial boards of journals and publishing projects, including Alexander (Sidney Journal), de Bolla (European Cultures, and Palgrave Studies in the Enlightenment, Romanticism and Cultures of Print). Collini (Modern Intellectual History, Journal of the History of Ideas, Foreian Literature Studies (China), Cahiers Charles V (France), Prismas (Argentina)), Connor (Australian Humanities Review, Journal of Beckett Studies, Sound Effects), Cooper (Chaucer Review), Jarvis (Journal of Adorno Studies), Macfarlane (Archipelago), McKitterick (Cambridge History of the Book in Britain), Meer (Journal of Transnational American Studies), Patterson (Journal of British and Irish Innovative Poetry), Phillips (Hopkins Quarterly, Victorian and Edwardian Studies Series), Poole (Great Shakespeareans, Bloomsbury; Complete Fiction of Henry James, Cambridge University Press; Complete Works of Evelyn Waugh, Oxford University Press), Schramm (Anthem, Nineteenth-Century series), Warnes (Journal of African Cultural Studies, Cambridge African Studies Series, Ohio University Press, and Literature and Globalisation series, Continuum), and Wright (London Journal). Staff involved in collaborative research projects include Lyne (Deputy Director of the Balzan Project, 'Literature as an Object of Knowledge', directed by Cave, St John's, Oxford, 2010-13) and Poole (Spanish government-funded research project, 'Cultures of Commemoration II: Remembering Shakespeare', directed by Calvo, Murcia, Spain, 2012-14).

Staff who have been awarded visiting professorships and fellowships during this period include de Bolla (Distinguished International Scholar, Centre for Excellence in the History of Emotions, Australia, 2013), Collini (Birkelund Fellowship, National Humanities Center, 2012-13), Kerrigan (Jadavpur, Delhi, 2008; UCLA, 2009; Auckland, 2011), and Wilson-Lee (Makerere, Uganda, 2013). Seven current staff are FBA, including two (Kerrigan, Page) elected since 2008. Distinguished named lectures have been delivered by Beadle (Lyell Lectures, Oxford, 2013), Collini (Berthoud Lecture, York, 2008; Hayes Robinson Lecture, Royal Holloway, 2010; Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture, Birmingham, 2010; John Coffin Lecture, London, 2011; Lionel Trilling



Lecture, Columbia and Alta Lecture, Yale, 2013), Jarvis (Gillian Rose Memorial Lecture, Sussex, 2009), Kerrigan (Robin Dix Memorial Lecture, Durham; Shakespeare Lecture, British Academy; Andrew Lang Lecture, St Andrews, all 2009; Alice Griffin Shakespeare Lecture, Auckland, 2011), Leighton (Bateson Memorial Lecture, Oxford, and Berthoud Lecture, York, 2009), Poole (Bateson Memorial Lecture, Oxford, 2011), and Tilmouth (British Academy Chatterton Lecture, 2011). Many keynote and invited lectures have been delivered at venues across the UK and abroad including Brisbane, Chicago, Cornell, Harvard, Oslo, Pittsburgh, Pomona, St Louis, Tübingen, UNSW (Australia), Washington, Williams and Yale. Senior members of staff are regularly invited to serve as external advisors on appointments, promotions and tenure reviews elsewhere in the UK, US and further afield: in the last few years for example six individuals have between them acted for the following eighteen institutions: Aberdeen, Anglia Ruskin, Birkbeck, Brown, Carnegie Mellon, Chicago, Harvard, MIT, Notre Dame, Oregon, Oxford, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Stanford, Surrey, Vermont, Yale and York. Members of staff at all levels of seniority have regularly served as external examiners of PhDs during this period across the UK, while acting as referees for academic publishers and journals in the UK and US is a task undertaken, to a greater or lesser extent, by almost all Faculty members.

As an acknowledged centre of advanced research and doctoral training, the Cambridge English Faculty also makes a significant contribution to sustaining and renewing the vitality of the discipline, both nationally and internationally, through the activities and careers of its current and former graduate students. A substantial number of former PhD students have published monographs and other publications during this period, and they have been conspicuously successful in obtaining academic posts. Aside from appointments in Cambridge and temporary or postdoctoral appointments elsewhere, the following are among those who have taken up permanent university posts during this period: Ahnert (QMUL), Barr (Dublin), Bennett (Royal Holloway), Cook (Dundee), Critchley (Greenwich), Demetriou (York), Dubois (Newcastle), Etherington (Western Sydney), Harpin (Exeter), Iguchi (Open University, Japan), Johnston (Baylor, Texas), Jones (Greenwich), Kirkby (Newcastle), Leitch (Cardiff), Lewis (Aberdeen), Mroz (Greenwich), Newbon (Northumbria), Packham (Sussex), Roberts (UCL), Rosenberg (Notre Dame), Scott (Nottingham), Vigus (QMUL), Vlitos (Surrey), Walter (Sussex), Wan (Hong Kong), Weston (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Williams (York), Wright (Sussex), and Zimbler (Birmingham).