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| <p>Institution: University of Reading</p> |
| <p>Unit of Assessment: 28 Modern Languages and Linguistics</p> |
| <p>a. Overview</p> <p>In 2010 the three Departments of French, German and Italian Studies were merged into a single Department of Modern Languages and European Studies (MLES). The Department sits in the School of Literature and Languages (SLL), alongside the Departments of English Literature, English Language and Applied Linguistics. This new federal structure has further consolidated the distinctive multi-disciplinarity characterising the pre-existing research units. During the assessment period, six outstanding Early Career Researcher appointments (Heywood, Faloppa, Leavitt, Martin, Paraschas, Fabry-Tehranchi) have brought new approaches and added impetus to work in areas of established strength. Post-doctoral research staff have also made a significant contribution to the UoA (Botana and Ibarz, 2010-12; Tobia, 2008-present). Recent developments in the University have reinforced our research synergies in modern European history, and the School structure has facilitated positive opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration discourse analysis, book history and minor literatures. The UoA also seeks to develop its research within a Faculty context and contributes to six research centres and themes, including the University's new Centre for Literacy and Multilingualism (CeLM).</p> <p>The UoA's research environment builds on the strengths of 24 academic staff, and includes one of the largest groupings in the UK of specialists in Italian studies (7), a sizeable group of experts in French studies (13), and a dynamic team working in the field of German studies (4). Staff research interests lie broadly in four main areas: Medieval and Early Modern Studies (Fabry-Tehranchi, Le Saux, Léglu, Medioli, Nasti, Sampson, Tucker); Modern Literature, Culture and Cinema (Bryden, Heywood, La Penna, Leavitt, Leoussi, Martin, Paraschas, Poole, Wagstaff, Waters, Woelfel), Linguistics and Discourse Analysis (Faloppa, Schroeter, Jaworska), and the multidisciplinary research strand Cultures of War and Conflict (Footitt, Knapp, Tobia, Woelfel). The UoA has produced across the assessment period just under 200 research outputs, including 14 monographs, 15 edited books and 5 special journal issues; it has contributed 67 articles in peer-refereed journals and 92 chapters in books (details on www.centaur.reading.ac.uk). Details of staff keynote and invited papers are given in section e vi (below).</p> |
| <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Through streamlining the collaborative research groupings offered by the new Departmental structure, the UoA's work predominantly centres on issues of translation, adaptation, and cultural exchange in different languages, disciplines and periods. Since 2008, the Department has implemented a strategy providing financial support across all research groupings, and of prioritising, in particular, the development of its Early Career Researchers. This has led to notable successes, including University research prizes (Nasti, Heywood) and the appointment of a postdoctoral researcher to a fractional post (Tobia).</p> <p>During this cycle, the distinctive research strengths of MLES have been developed by strategic use of University structures and resources to promote synergies between scholars, inside and outside Reading, through directorship of the following Faculty research centres: the Beckett International Foundation (co-director Bryden); the Graduate Centre for Medieval Studies (GCMS, director Léglu); and the Centre for East German Studies (CEGS, director Woelfel). Staff have been active in their leadership of and involvement in Faculty-funded research themes such as Language Text and Power, (co-directors Faloppa and Schroeter); Minority Identities: Rights and Representations (Waters is on the steering committee), and in fostering foci of international research exchange, such as the University's growing investment in archives and collections-based research, through initiatives such as 'Archives and Texts' (Heywood). A visiting research fellow from the Uni. Of Oviedo (Spain) gave papers to 'Archives and Texts' and to the GCMS (M.R. Medina Granda, 2012). This vibrant engagement with School and Faculty research culture has led to the organisation of four annual seminar series, many research colloquia and symposia, and public-facing events, including the ERC-funded 'Researchers' Night' (2012) and a series of invited talks by prominent European writers and film-directors. A good example of the cross-disciplinary</p> |

and transnational focus of these events is **Heywood's** and **La Penna's** roles as CIs in the Leverhulme International Research Network 'Diasporic Literary Archives' (2012-2015), involving the Centro per la Tradizione Manoscritta of the University of Pavia, the Beinecke Library, Trinidad and Tobago, National Archives of Namibia, and the Institut de la Mémoire Éditoriale Contemporaine (IMEC), France.

The UoA has a long-standing tradition of fostering public engagement with research through the creation of open-access sources (see David Robey's database on Italian metre, <http://www.italianverse.reading.ac.uk/>). Important examples of such activity during this cycle are:

- 1) Léglu's digitisation of the University's illuminated book of hours, supported by RETF funding, using the University of Sheffield's Virtual Vellum software. This has been used extensively by a doctoral student in Paris (L. Ungerhauer), who will participate in a themed workshop on word-and-image in Reading in May 2014 (<http://www.reading.ac.uk/gcms/>).
- 2) Léglu's work with postdoctoral researchers Botana and Ibarz on the Leverhulme funded transcription and e-edition of an Occitan manuscript (also using Virtual Vellum) has produced three articles for the *Electronic British Library Journal* (eBLJ, forthcoming end 2013/14) as well as a project blog (<http://blogs.reading.ac.uk/manuscript-egerton-1500/>).
- 3) Sampson's on-going collaboration with the Italian Academies database, hosted by the British Library, as part of her AHRC-funded project (<http://italianacademies.org/>).
- 4) La Penna's building of a database to map flows between Italian literary journals and publishing houses, as part of her AHRC-funded project 'Mapping Literary Space' which will be completed in 2015.
- 5) Woelfel's collaboration, as director of CEGS, with the digitization of rare GDR film materials, and the on-going creation of a database.
- 6) Knapp's creation of an online exhibition as part of his AHRC-funded project, in collaboration with the city of Caen (<http://blogs.reading.ac.uk/france-under-allied-air-attack/?tag=prof-andrew-knapp>).

One significant measure of the effectiveness of the UoA's research strategy during the last cycle has been conspicuous success with grant applications: of the staff previously returned in RAE2008 and whose research was supported during this cycle, 8 have won prestigious research grants (3 of them multi-disciplinary and 5 of them cross-institutional) with an income totalling just under £1 million. This success is one of the most robust indicators of an enterprising and forward-looking research environment that has established plans for the next cycle. Among recent examples of this ethos is the swift response of **Schroeter** and **Footitt** to the AHRC's 'Translating cultures' exploratory call (2011), with innovative research projects exploring respectively 'Key Words in European Migration Discourses' and 'The Language of NGOs'. Success with external funding has enhanced individual research profiles, sustained, supported and increased the impact of our research internationally, stimulated new thinking and initiatives on public engagement, developed new cross-disciplinary and networking activities, funded PhD studentships and post-doctoral research projects, and secured the appointment of new academic staff.

Our research strategy for each research grouping is explained below, along with development plans for the next REF cycle:

Medieval Studies continues to be a research strength of the UoA. The four medievalists in the Department (Léglu, Le Saux, Fabry-Tehranchi, and Nasti) are active members of the internationally renowned, cross-departmental GCMS, and have run its established seminar series, peer-reviewed journal (editor Léglu 2009-11), and Summer Symposia (Léglu in 2011, Nasti in 2012). **Léglu's** monograph (2010) and Leverhulme-funded editorial project (2011-13) both focus on questions of multilingualism as well as on textual and visual translation in medieval Occitan and French literature. She will complete a monograph on MS BL Eg. 1500 in the next REF cycle. **Fabry-Tehranchi's** research on word and image relations in Arthurian romances (her monograph is forthcoming in 2014) has strong synergies with **Le Saux's** core research interests in Arthurian literary traditions. **Le Saux's** new monograph project, exploring the connections between scientific discourse and literature in medieval Europe, contributes to the Faculty theme on Science and Culture (<http://www.reading.ac.uk/irhs/>). Also with attention to intellectual traditions and literature, **Nasti** has continued her work on philosophical and scriptural traditions in Dante, focusing on his relationship with the Mendicant Orders, and on the commentary tradition. She has co-edited the first volume in English on this subject (2013).

Early Modern Literature and Culture contributes to the University's multi-disciplinary Early

Modern Research Centre (EMRC), which runs an annual conference. **Tucker** held a 2-year Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship (2008-10) on the *cento* form in early modern Europe, which has led to the publication of numerous articles. Tucker, who is currently (2011-15) serving as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Science, will complete a monograph on the subject in the next REF cycle. **Medioli** has continued her work on Italian women's writing and the church, with research on the intersections between ecclesiastical policy and society in the work of Tarabotti. **Sampson's** research in early modern Italian theatre has focused on manuscripts, academies and women's writing, including a critical edition of the work of Torelli (2013). She is CI (jointly with British Library and RHUL) in the major AHRC-funded project on Italian Academies (2010-14) for which she has organised conferences at the British Library (2012) and in Reading (2013). Sampson's monograph on 'Theatre and Italian Academies' will come to fruition on the next REF iteration. She will also co-edit (with Virginia Cox) a play by Leonora Bernardi for Toronto UP.

Book and Publishing History is a faculty-wide research strength that has emerged as a key research cluster within the Department, with strong collaborative links with English, notably the ongoing 'Diasporic Archives' Leverhulme-funded network. **La Penna's** AHRC-funded project (jointly with Manchester) 'Mapping Literary Space' (2012-15) on the relationship between post-war writers and publishing houses in Italy will produce, inter alia, a monograph. **Heywood**, who has published a monograph on Madame de Ségur (awarded a Faculty prize, 2010) is extending her collaboration with the IMEC in her new work on the Bibliothèque Rose. **Paraschas'** monograph (2013), on publishing and multiple authorship in 19th-c. France, makes an important contribution to this developing strength in the UoA, as does **Martin's** monograph on the reception and dissemination of Humboldt's writings, which draws in part on Reading's Publishers' Archive. This nationally-designated archive also inspired her international, interdisciplinary workshop on women as facilitators of scientific knowledge exchange (Reading, 2013) and feeds into her next planned monograph, in support of which she is making an application to the Leverhulme Trust.

Transnationalism and translation. A strong transnational research strand has emerged in the current REF. **Bryden** won an AHRC Fellowship for her project on 'The transnational T.E. Lawrence', which addresses notions of literary boundaries and spheres. The associated issues of translation and translanguaging are central to **Waters'** work on the Mauritian writer and translator, Ananda Devi, as they are to her work on Marguerite Duras and Indochina. In addition to her research on Rosselli's trilingual poetic oeuvre, **La Penna's** research on the cultural history of translation led to the co-edition of a collection of essays on *Twentieth-century poetic translation* (2008) and to the co-organisation, with Peter Robinson in English Literature, of the centenary symposium on Sereni (2013). **La Penna** also organised an international workshop in Reading (2009) on publishing houses and translation which led to her current AHRC-funded project. **Leoussi's** research on the classical tradition in 19th-century European national cultures and on theories of nationalism shares resonances with **Martin's** monograph on travel writing and translation in the age of Romanticism. Martin's research on issues of national identity and international cultural exchanges has led to the co-edition, with S. Pickford, of a collection of essays on *Travel Narratives in Translation* (2012). She has also given two guest lectures in the prestigious UCL 'Translation in History' series.

Linguistics and Discourse Analysis has emerged as an important component of the UoA's research strategy. **Faloppa** and **Schroeter** have produced monographs in this area: on Italian racist discourse, and on German political discourse, respectively, and have developed interdisciplinary collaborations through an AHRC-funded research networking project (2012) on comparative analyses of key words in European migration discourses. This network has led to an ongoing research collaboration with the Universities of Duisburg, Paris Descartes and Sussex with the aim to build parallel press corpora for systematic comparative analyses of migration key words in different languages and discourse communities. Since 2012, Schroeter and Faloppa have co-directed the Faculty's 'Language, Text and Power' research theme, organising two workshops and a seminar series. With the ECR **Jaworska**, they share interests in corpus-based and comparative, cross-cultural discourse analysis.

Beckett Studies: Building on the Department's long-established reputation in Beckett Studies, **Bryden's** leadership in this field was recognised by her co-directorship of the University's Beckett International Foundation (involving Special Collections, English Literature, Film Theatre and Television and Typography). Since the last RAE, she has developed a new strand of research linking Beckett Studies with contemporary debates about animality. Cross-disciplinary linkages with

the Philosophy Department have led to the organisation, in Reading, of an international conference and the edition of the proceedings (CUP, 2013).

Minority Identities, a Faculty cross-disciplinary research theme, is a central aspect of the work of several researchers in DMLES. **Waters'** work in the field of French and Francophone post-colonial literatures has led, most recently, to the award of an AHRC Fellowship on Contemporary Mauritian Literature. Waters will publish the resulting monograph in the next REF cycle. **Leavitt's** research on the reception of African-American culture in Italy will also lead to a monograph in the next REF census. Leavitt's research has strong links with **Faloppa's** work on the linguistic representation of otherness, resulting in their co-organisation of a workshop on the Representation of Blackness in Modern Italy (2013), and a research bid to further investigate the cross-disciplinary dimensions of this subject. In 2011, Faloppa was invited to join the Oxford-led Leverhulme-funded International network 'Destination Italy', and has co-edited the resulting collection of essays (2014).

European Film is represented by **Wagstaff's** work on Italian cinema, in particular a monograph on the film *Il Conformista* (BFI, 2012), as well as by **Leavitt's** work on Italian neorealism. Both Leavitt and Wagstaff are on the executive committee of the University's new Centre for Film Aesthetics and Cultures (CFAC). **Woelfel's** research on representations of the Holocaust and Nazism in East German films since 1945 builds on her directorship of CEGS and has facilitated inter-institutional and multi-disciplinary collaborations on the representation of childhood in post-war film.

Cultures of War and Conflict has always been a significant research cluster within Modern Languages at Reading. **Footitt's** and **Knapp's** research projects have produced important research outputs and impact (see REF4). The major collaborative AHRC research project on 'Languages at War' (**Footitt, Tobia**), led to the organisation of two workshops (2009 and 2010) and an international conference (2011) in London, in partnership with the Imperial War Museum, as well as the co-authored monograph *War Talk*. Footitt co-edited two books on *Languages at War* (2012) and *Languages and the Military* (2012). **Tobia** and **Footitt** organised a workshop on *Listening to the Listener* in Reading, which led to the publication of the special issue 'Europe Americanized?' of *Cold War History* (2011). **Knapp** was a co-investigator in the AHRC-funded project 'Bombing, States, and Peoples in Western Europe'. Within the project, he organised a pluri-disciplinary workshop at Reading on 'War, Bombing and Trauma' (2009) and co-authored *Forgotten Blitzes* (Continuum, 2012), a major comparative study of the Allied bombing of France and Italy. In addition to collaborative work with the Ministry of Defence and the Imperial War Museum, **Footitt** and **Knapp** have been key partners on a Leverhulme-funded project led by Prof. Cromartie, in the Department of Politics, on 'The Liberal Way of War: strategy, ideology, representations' (2008-13). This collaboration included the organisation by **Footitt** and **Knapp** of a workshop in Reading on 'Invisible Violences' which led to the publication of an edited book, *Liberal Democracies at War* (Bloomsbury, 2013). Research in **Modern European History** more generally has also been fostered by cross-disciplinary activities, and until 2013 included the work of **Duggan** (see REF4) and **Félix**.

Sustainability in Post REF2013. Our research environment in the next REF, besides completing our ongoing projects, will build upon (i) the development of new research projects and bids, and (ii) the strengthening of emerging research strands through institutional support and collaborative research.

New research projects: The Department will continue to benefit from the expertise of senior staff in leading major collaborative research projects, and in providing support to doctoral and postdoctoral students and ECRs. **Footitt** is developing new project bids on the linguistic dimension of mediating 'aid'. Building upon the workshop on 'Interrogation in war and conflict' (2011), **Tobia** is preparing a co-edited book with Christopher Andrew on *Interrogation in War and Conflict*, and is preparing a bid to research 'cultures of enhanced interrogation'. As a follow-up of his research on WW2 Bombing **Knapp** submitted to the AHRC (2013) a collaborative bid with UCL to create an interactive website on allied air raids on Continental Europe. **Schroeter, Heywood, and Woelfel** will submit larger collaborative bids to support their new projects: on the vocabulary of European Migration (Schroeter); on the *Bibliothèque Rose* (Heywood); and on the depictions of children in German war films (Woelfel). **Nasti** is preparing a bid for a research project on the impact of Trevet's commentary on Boethius's *Consolation of Philosophy*. **Le Saux** is preparing a Leverhulme bid to complete her monograph on medieval theories of human generation.

c. People, including:**i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

Policies relating to the strategy for managing and developing research are made and implemented at both School and Departmental level in line with the University's Code of Good Practice in research, including policies relating to staff development and Equal Opportunities. The UoA has conformed also to the University's new objectives concerning equality and diversity, as published in March 2012: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/humanresources/equality/humres-equality.aspx>.

Promotions and new appointments: On the basis of their individual research profiles, six members of staff entered in RAE2008 have received promotion, one to a chair and five to a senior lectureship. Three Early Career Researchers also completed their probation. Since 2008, the UoA won strategic investment through the allocation of seven ECRs: **Fabry-Tehranchi, Faloppa, Heywood, Leavitt, Martin, Paraschas** and **Tobia**. Integration of ECRs into the UoA's research culture is facilitated by the allocation of a personal mentor and supported by a reduced teaching load during probation. In addition to seminar series, the Department's workshops and work-in-progress meetings offer opportunities to engage with current research in the Department (and beyond), and to present work in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Excellence for ECRs and younger academic staff is promoted and rewarded by the annual Faculty competition: **Nasti** (2008) and **Heywood** (2011) were awarded the annual prize for best research output of the year.

Research structure and culture: As a newly-integrated Department, situated within a School of Literature and Languages, MLES has a research structure that enables it both to monitor progress internally and to coordinate its activities with its partners in the School (and beyond). The Department's Research Committee, chaired by its Departmental Director of Research (DDoR) is responsible for strategic planning of the research evaluation (panel submission plus Impact) and monitors the Department's postgraduate programmes and recruitment. The Research Committee reports on the activities of research centres and groupings, assesses current and potential research bids, examines the allocation of study leave, and receives reports on completion of study leave. MLES observes the University policy of research leave entitlement (one term in every nine), but priority has been given in this REF cycle to funded projects and to the completion of strategically important outputs. Leave has also been awarded in order to coordinate teaching alleviation supported by the University Research Endowment Trust Fund (RETF). The research of all research-active members of staff is monitored on an individual basis through bi-annual interviews. These formal interviews, conducted by two or more members of senior staff, have been welcomed by staff as an important opportunity to discuss their research plans. Particular attention is paid to supporting potential grant applications, to the progress of current research projects, and to plans regarding the publication, dissemination and impact of any completed or forthcoming work.

Facilities and support: All research-active staff benefit from unlimited inter-library loans and from a Departmental research allowance, which can be used for any legitimate research expense. In addition, non-professorial staff can apply to the University travel fund, which supports attendance at conferences when the delegate is presenting a paper. In addition to any sums assigned by an externally-funded project, every grant holder receives from the PVC for Research a percentage of the on-costs, paid into a designated Staff Development Account, to be used to assist with research costs. MLES also receives a percentage of on-costs which feeds into a 'research contingency fund' to support strategic research activities and specific demands from staff, with priority given to ECRs. The Department funds costs associated with the organisation of seminar series, and provides administrative support for the material organisation of workshops and conferences held in Reading. Postdoctoral research assistants are offered mentoring and support by both the UoA and the School, in accordance with the University's adherence via UUK to the Research Concordat, and to the University's Local Concordat, passed in agreement with UCU: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/CSTD/professionaldevelopment/principalinvestigators/legal/rl-concordats.aspx> (Botana, Ibarz and Tobia until 2012). They meet with the School Director of Research once a year, and the University holds an annual training workshop for all PIs and research staff.

ii. Research students

The UoA has actively embraced the interdisciplinary agenda fostered by the AHRC and responded in a very dynamic way to the BGP2 initiatives stemming from the South-West Consortium. In addition to the expert guidance offered within the Department, our PhD students can draw on the advice and expertise of colleagues within the School and beyond. Fruitful collaboration in this sense is established with History through co-supervision in the Medieval Studies doctoral programme, and it is likely to increase with the transfer to that unit of two former MLES colleagues (Félix and Duggan), entered in this UoA in RAE 2008. Four priorities have shaped the UoA's approach to the support and enablement of PG research: (i) recruitment (ii) inclusivity (iii) research excellence, and (iv) skills development and employability.

Recruitment: In the current REF, PG recruitment was supported by studentship awards, notably the AHRC BGP1 doctoral studentships (4 studentships awarded to Italian Literature and Culture). Also, five PG students in the Department were awarded Faculty studentships, as well as three attached to successful AHRC bids. Three Post-Docs were also employed thanks to successful AHRC and Leverhulme bids. PG recruitment has also benefited from the Department funding an MA Bursary and fees-only PhD studentships. By October 2013, 23 graduate students were supervised in the Department. The provisional figures of funded PhD students starting in 2013-14 are very encouraging. In response to University plans to increase PG students, and with School support, we are offering new funding opportunities (fees only bursaries) for PhD projects developing research based on the University's Special Collections. We are confident that in the new research assessment the Department will increase its PG figures, notably by revisiting its portfolio of MAs in an interdisciplinary direction.

Inclusivity: Co-ordination with School partners and multi-disciplinary and cross-departmental research centres, as exemplified by the GCMS, mean that our PG students are part of a wide community of scholars. Inclusivity is fostered by a mandatory Research Training and Development Programme at Faculty and University levels (the Graduate School). PG students (as well as Post-Docs) are represented on the School Research Committee. All PG students have access to excellent facilities, including computer rooms and desk space in the Graduate School. They benefit from a Departmental annual research allowance and various forms of financial support, according to specific needs (e.g. hardship, travel, etc.).

Research Excellence: PG students are enrolled on subject-specific training activities organised within the Department (most notably through attendance of research seminars followed by a debriefing session with the supervisors) and also by the national PG consortia in Italian, in French (Réseau-F), and study days in German. In all these, Reading plays a central and leading role in the organisation of work-in-progress seminars and workshops, the dual focus being on skills development and identifying emerging trends within the disciplines.

Postdoctoral researchers and MA and PhD students registered and/or supervised in the Department make extensive contributions to the research culture of the Department and Faculty: the Italian PG students run their own blog (<http://readingitaly.wordpress.com/>) which receives an average of 3,000 hits per issue, and two doctoral scholars obtained an AHRC grant to fund a series of seminars on Italian contemporary history (2009). The Department has provided support for several PhD-student-led initiatives to organise conferences: a Graduate Research Seminar Series in Modern Languages (2009-13); two Society for Italian Studies PG Colloquia (2009 and 2013), a Digital Humanities workshop (2011), a workshop on International Communism (2011), an international conference on Popular Cinema (2011), a symposium linked to the Leverhulme-funded project on bombing (2012), the Association for the Study of Modern Italy Summer School (2013); and two GCMS PG workshops (2010 and 2013).

Skills Development and Employability: As part of their professional training, Post-Docs and PhD students are advised to attend Staff Training and Development sessions. In their second and third year, they are invited to contribute to the teaching of UG modules. In terms of employability, since 2008, the Department has had four of its former PhD students secure permanent full-time academic posts in UK and the US universities, and a further four win fixed-term research and lecturing positions in the UK and Italy. Other doctoral scholars have pursued successful careers in publishing (in the UK, France, and Italy) and teaching. One Post-Doc (Botana) has obtained a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship at QMUL.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Research income: As mentioned above, the UoA's strategy to obtain research income funding has been extremely successful in the current research exercise with a total of £960,000 in external funding, including three individual research fellowships (**Bryden, Tucker and Waters**), five major research projects, and three research networking groups, all funded by the AHRC or the Leverhulme Trust. The Department has been successful with its applications to the annual Faculty competition for RETF funding (eight awards of £2k), which awards teaching buy-out to colleagues preparing research bids or completing strategic research outputs. Our researchers have also benefited from the financial support of national funding bodies abroad, an income which is not accounted for in REF2. For example, Medioli's research on Venice has been supported by a 6 month visiting fellowship from the Bourse Cité de Paris (2011-12, €18,000) and a grant from Ca' Foscari University (2012-13, €20,000). La Penna is on the advisory board of a major grant recently awarded by the *Fondo per gli Investimenti della Ricerca di Base* (FIRB) to support an international research project (2012-17, €903,789), involving several universities on the theme 'Italian and German Literature Compared (1945-1970)'.

Infrastructure: The University's nationally and internationally recognised Special Collections ensure that the UoA has important and distinctive research resources, such as the unique Samuel Beckett research collection; the CEGS East German archive; the Turner collection of French Revolutionary pamphlets; the papers of Italian author and academic Luigi Meneghello, the archive holdings on Italian anti-fascist refugees and the Republic of Salò; and the Records of British Publishing and Printing. All are attracting applications from scholars and PhD students planning projects around this material; the University is actively investing in Collections-based research and the UoA is certain to make a strong contribution. The many scholars who visit these collections each year not only ensure that the archives receive the detailed attention which their status deserves, but also foster continuing collaborative partnerships across national and international institutions.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

(i) **Subject associations:** Researchers in the UoA have a tradition of contributing to the executive leadership of key national bodies lobbying on languages. In 2013, Reading researchers are on the executives of the *University Council of Modern Languages* (**La Penna**), the *Society for Italian Studies* (**La Penna**), the *Association for German Studies in Great Britain and Ireland* (**Schroeter**), the *Association of University Professors and Heads of French* (President, **Bryden**), the *Language Alliance* (**Footitt**), and the *American Association of Language Studies* (**Leavitt**).

(ii) **Presence on Research Bodies.** Staff also actively contribute to discussion on the future of research in our disciplines through membership of the AHRC Peer-Review College (**Bryden, La Penna**), of the AHRC's 'Translating Cultures' Advisory Group, the AHRC 2011/12 PG Skills Development Assessment Panel, and PG collaborative development scheme (**Footitt**), the European Humanities Research Centre of Oxford and the *Centre de recherche Guillaume Budé* at the University Paris-IV Sorbonne (**Tucker**), the research assessment panel for the Film Department of Università di Roma Tre (**Wagstaff**), the Ministero dell' Istruzione dell' Università e della Ricerca (**La Penna, Wagstaff**). **Knapp** was a member of the *Franco-British Council* (2006-2012), **Léglu** is on the international committee of the *Association internationale d'études occitanes*. **Le Saux** is president of the British Branch of the *International Arthurian Society*, **Fabry-Tehranchi** is an associate officer of the International Medieval Society, Paris. **La Penna** is an international member of the ANVUR in Italy, and Bryden was an international member of the IRCHSS (2008-10) in Ireland.

(iii) **Refereeing.** Our researchers have also peer-reviewed research projects submitted to the AHRC (**La Penna, Léglu, Martin, Nasti, Sampson, Wagstaff, Waters**), Fulbright (**Wagstaff**), Leverhulme Trust and the Swiss Funding Council (both **Léglu**). **Martin, Knapp** and **Nasti** are respectively members of the Advisory Panel of the AHRC Project 'European Travellers to Wales

Environment template (REF5)

(Bangor/Aberystwyth/Cardiff), of the *Conseil de l'Unité* of CEVIPOF (based at the Paris *Institut d'Etudes Politiques*), and of the working group of the British Academy-supported research project 'Reviewing Dante's Theology', of the University of Leeds. Staff have peer-reviewed books for academic publishers: Notre Dame University Press (**Nasti**), Toronto University Press (**La Penna**, **Wagstaff**), MHRA-Legenda (**Léglu**), Wallflower Press (**Wagstaff**). **Léglu** has been external reviewer for 2 senior promotions in the UK and **Wagstaff** for a tenure position in Harvard.

(iv) **Examination of doctorates.** Staff in the UoA have been sought to act as examiners for doctoral awards from the Universities of Melbourne and Antwerp (**Léglu**), Naples (**La Penna**), Paris IV and K.U. Leuven (**Tucker**), and for the European doctorate of the universities of Haute Alsace/Bologna (**Tucker**). In the UK, staff were external examiners for PhDs in Oxford (twice), Cambridge and Nottingham (**Bryden**), Bath and LSE (**Leoussi**), Birkbeck (**Footitt**), Birmingham (**Faloppa**), UCL (**La Penna**), Cambridge (**Nasti**), Oxford (**Sampson**), Sheffield, Bristol, and King's College London (**Le Saux**), as well as for MA programmes at Leeds (**La Penna**), Exeter (**Léglu**), Birmingham (**Le Saux**) and Nottingham (**Waters**).

(v) **Editorial positions.** The UoA hosts and edits 4 peer-reviewed journals: *The Italianist*, *Reading Medieval Studies*, *e-France* and *the Wall*. UoA staff are also members of the **editorial and advisory boards** of *DanteLab*, *French Studies Bulletin*; *Humanistica Lovaniensia*; *Journal of War and Culture Studies*; *The Italianist*; *Annual Film Issue*; *Le Tre Corone*; *Nations and Nationalism*; *Synergies-France*; *Ticcontre-Teoria*; *Compar(a)ison*; *Samuel Beckett Today/Aujourd'hui*; *Otago French Notes*; *Deleuze Studies*; and *Les Cahiers du GRELCEF*. **Footitt** is co-editor, with Prof Kelly (Southampton), of a new book series on *Languages at War* (Palgrave Macmillan).

(vi) **External marks of esteem:** **Leoussi** is a fellow of Panteion University, Athens, and was Visiting Senior Fellow in the Government Department of LSE (2008-2012). **Tucker** held a 2-year Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship (2008-10). **Martin** has achieved her Habilitationsschrift at the MLU Halle-Wittenberg (2013). Knapp was promoted from Chevalier (2003) to Officier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques (2010). Staff in the UoA are frequently invited to give conference papers, lectures and seminars in the UK and abroad. **Footitt** has given 18 invited papers during the REF cycle, **Faloppa** 15, **Tucker** 11, **Knapp** 12, **Schroeter** 5 (including a keynote paper at UCL), **Nasti** 13, **La Penna** 5, **Le Saux** 16, **Léglu** 11, **Bryden** 7. Highlights include **Bryden's** keynote address to the annual conference of the Society for French Studies (2012), **Leoussi's** keynote papers at Toulouse, Stockholm and the British Museum, **Le Saux's** keynote papers at Rennes (2010) and Bucharest (2011), **Waters'** invited lecture at Tunis (2009), **Nasti's** public lecture in Ravenna (2009), and plenaries at Göttingen and Rome (2013).

(vii) **Significant conferences** not listed above include two annual conferences on behalf of subject associations: the Association for German Studies (2010), which included a reading by prominent author F. C. Delius, and the Society for Italian Studies (SIS) 'Transnational Italy and the World Atlas' which included the concert of singer and author Gian Maria Testa (**Faloppa**, **Nasti** and **La Penna**, 2012). **La Penna** organized an international conference on Meneghello, linked to the University's archival holdings (2008). Another Reading archives-linked event was **Bryden's** conference on Beckett and Animality (2009), mentioned above, which included an exhibition of materials, 'Touching the Archive'. **Faloppa** also organized two international workshops 'Italian Linguistics in the UK' (2010) and 'Linguistics in/for Modern Languages' (2013).

Finally, and in line with its long-established tradition of public-facing events, the UoA actively engaged with the local multilingual communities in Berkshire and beyond by organizing readings of internationally renowned European film directors, authors, and poets including: Simonetta Agnello Hornby, Susan Kreller (2008), Luciano Erba (2009), Ian Hawkins (2010), Christopher Klooble, Laura Pariani, Francesca Ferrando (2011), Anant Kumar (2012), Maurizio Cucchi, and Enrico Testa (2013).