

<p>Institution: University of Strathclyde</p> <p>Unit of Assessment: 21 (Politics and International Studies)</p> <p>a. Overview Researchers at the University of Strathclyde have pioneered the comparative analysis of politics and public policy through sophisticated theories and methods. Strathclyde was one of eight founding members of the European Consortium for Political Research in 1970. The staff of Strathclyde's School of Government and Public Policy (GPP) carry forward this tradition of scholarship. Like its predecessors, GPP's research focuses mainly on international comparisons of public policy, governance and political behaviour. It is characterised by positive, empirical research that tests the observable implications of clearly specified theoretical explanations, extensive use of quantitative methods, and an emphasis on the practical implications of its research findings, which complements the ethos of the University of Strathclyde as a "place of useful learning". This REF period has been one of restructuring, substantial institutional investment and expansion. The School of GPP was established in 2010, integrating three research centres that focus on public policy and representation with the Department of Government. Since 2008, 15 new academic members of staff, including six full professors, have been appointed. The investment has expanded the GPP's capabilities in specific areas of international politics that are relevant to its existing strengths, as well as its capabilities in qualitative methods. The new investment has brought substantially improved performance in terms of research funding and publications in high-impact journals and major presses. GPP has also led University-level initiatives to support increased inter-disciplinary collaboration across all University departments on research on major policy questions. GPP staff contribute significantly to the wider discipline through their national and international collaborations and service to academic and non-academic associations.</p> <p>b. Research strategy b.1 Aims and goals for research 2008-2013 GPP aims to advance research that is both academically strong and of practical use to policymakers and those engaged in governance. RAE2008 identified three priority research domains corresponding to the traditional research strengths of the then Department – public policy, governance, and political behaviour. These have remained the most important areas for the new School, but are also the subject of ongoing reflection. Processes of internationalisation and globalisation make it essential to devote more attention to the international dimensions of policymaking and representational processes. In addition, new ways of analysing political processes are possible using theoretical and methodological expertise in social choice theory and quantitative and qualitative techniques. The research strategy pursued since RAE 2008 has built a larger and stronger UoA, by setting the following interlinked goals: (i) increase the numbers of staff producing research recognised internationally for its excellence; (ii) expand the areas of research to include selected areas of international politics; (iii) broaden the diversity of research approaches in ways that complement GPP's existing strengths in theory-driven empirical research in comparative politics; (iv) build organisational capacity to support future research excellence and engagement with research users; and (v) achieve a substantial increase in funding from both academic and government sources.</p> <p>b.2 Developments since 2008 The above aims have been achieved through organisational change and investment in new staff. The most significant of three important organisational developments since 2008 was the establishment of the School of Government and Public Policy in 2010. This brought together the former Department of Government and the European Policies Research Centre (EPRC, directed by Bachtler and Wishlade). The EPRC specialises in interdisciplinary studies, spanning public policy, economics, geography and law. This gave the UoA a research capability and record of comparative European studies on public policy and governance, notably on economic development, and close engagement and collaboration with European institutions and national governments in 32 countries. A second noteworthy development was the establishment of the Centre for Elections and</p>
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Representation Studies (CERS, directed by Curtice) in 2008. This provided management capacity and an enabling framework to support collaborative research projects and funding applications (for example, the successful bid for ESRC funding to lead the 2011 Scottish Election Study). Externally, CERS has connected researchers more systematically with public bodies and research organisations such as the Electoral Commission and the Hansard Society.

In 2012, the internationally renowned **Centre for the Study of Public Policy (CSPP, directed by Rose)** became part of the School. The CSPP was originally founded at Strathclyde in 1976 as the first UK university public policy centre. It has a long-standing tradition of research on the growth of government, social welfare, elections and democratization, and social capital and health, and CSPP's latest research includes studies on standards of governance and corruption.

These organisational changes occurred in a period of fundamental institutional change and a reformulation of the University's strategic vision in its Strategic Plan 2011-15. A new Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) Faculty was created in 2010, providing the School with substantially enhanced and professionalised administrative support to attract research funding and research students, and to facilitate engagement with policymakers and other societal actors.

GPP has made a significant number of strategic staff appointments; 15 new full-time academic members of staff, including six Chairs, were appointed during the REF period. The six new professors are established authorities in their respective fields: **Charles** joined from Newcastle, **McGann** from California Irvine, **McGrew** from Southampton, **Rose** from Aberdeen, **Studlar** from West Virginia, and **Thomson** from Trinity College Dublin. **Thomson** became Head of School in February 2013. The nine newly appointed staff at less senior levels have demonstrated that they can produce research in prestigious international peer-reviewed journals. They are well trained in theory formation and methods, having received doctorates from a range of established Ph.D. programmes: **Borz** from the Central European University, **Brandenburg** from Trinity College Dublin, **Dellepiane Avellaneda** from Essex, **De Francesco** from Exeter, **Johnson** from California Davis, **Koga** from Emory, **Patrikios** from Strathclyde, **Riera** from the European University Institute, and **Van der Zwet** from Strathclyde. Together, their research includes GPP's traditional strengths of public policy, governance and political behaviour, but also relevant subfields in international politics. They expand the methodological skills represented in GPP in qualitative and quantitative methods, as well as theory-building skills in game theory and social choice theory. These new appointments have given GPP a more international staff with 11 nationalities represented in the School.

The effectiveness of these changes to staffing and organisation is evident in the increased research outputs of the current cohort of staff. They have published in the most prestigious discipline-wide journals, including the *American Journal of Political Science*, the *American Political Science Review*, the *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, the *European Journal of Political Research*, the *Journal of Politics*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Studies*. Their books have been published by the most prestigious presses, including CUP and OUP. A small selection of these outputs are included GPP's REF submission. Compared to RAE2008, a higher number of staff included in REF2014 are being submitted with research outputs in highly-ranked international journals. To illustrate, 30 of the research outputs submitted as part of our REF2014 submission are articles in peer-reviewed journals with an impact factor of greater than 1, compared with 10 similar research outputs submitted in RAE2008 (ISI impact factors in the year of submission).

There has also been a substantial increase in research funding, which at £6.003 million for the current REF period represents an almost fivefold increase on the period covered in Strathclyde's Politics and IR submission to RAE2008. Of particular note is the continuation of the UoA's successful record in attracting research council and charity funding combined with a very significant rise in new research funding from EU and other international government sources.

b.3 Main objectives and activities for the next 5 years

The overarching objective is to develop further research that is both academically strong and of practical use to policymakers and those engaged in governance. In line with the distinct research profile of Strathclyde, GPP will prioritise empirical research on public policy, governance and political behaviour that is theoretically and methodologically rigorous. Future research in these areas will devote more attention to processes of internationalisation and globalisation, as well as new developments in theory formation and methodology. In the next five years, GPP also plans to

use its existing staff and financial resources to increase the numbers of doctoral students from the current seven to more than 20.

Under the broad heading of **public policy and governance**, the following two research areas indicate the central themes of research underway and planned.

Improving the quality of public policymaking and governance. Research in this area conceptualises, measures and explains variation in performance in public policymaking and governance, mostly involving international comparisons. It includes **Rose's** ESRC-funded project (2012-15) on corruption. It also includes: **Studlar's** research on the links between science and policymaking; FP-7 funded research by **Ferry, Bachtler** and **Wishlade** analysing differences in growth, income and cohesion in Central and Eastern Europe; **McMaster's** research on European territorial cooperation (with **Van der Zwet** and **Vironen**); and **de Francesco's** Marie-Curie-funded research on regulatory reform. Projects led by **Eschle, Johnson, Koga, McGrew** and **Ong** are examining the international dimensions of policymaking: for example, **Johnson** is studying how defence procurement policies are influenced by domestic and international factors; and **McGrew** is developing a comparative study of Western policies in response to the rise of China.

Public policy and governance in times of austerity and post-austerity. This research area applies GPP's expertise to the challenges posed by austerity to public policymaking, the performance of public policy programmes, the legitimisation of such programmes in increasingly fragmented societies, and the prospects for a post-austerity world. As part of this programme, several EPRC researchers are analysing the impact of the crisis on national and EU regional development policies and innovation policies (**Bachtler, Charles, Wishlade, Davies, Polverari, Ferry**), and are initiating new research on the relationship between public and private sector capital in funding economic development (**Wishlade, Michie**). **Dellepiane Avellaneda** has a forthcoming (2014 OUP) co-authored book on the political economy of the European periphery. **McGann** will apply social choice theory to severely divided societies in a project that includes empirical research on the far-Right in times of austerity. **Patrikios** and **Rüdiger** will study public responses to economic crisis management, and **Brandenburg** will examine how economic crisis affects political interest in policy debates in the public and media.

Under the broad heading of **representation**, the following research areas aim to keep Strathclyde at the forefront of research on representative politics and political behaviour.

Public opinion and political behaviour. Research in this area uses the established base of **CERS**, headed by **Curtice**, to advance cross-national and national research on public opinion and political behaviour. Projects include **Curtice's** ESRC-funded project on public attitudes on Scotland's independence referendum, and on British and Scottish social attitudes. **Rose's** above-mentioned ESRC-funded project includes research on how corruption affects political participation, trust and popular support for government. **Shephard** leads an ESRC-funded (2013-14) multi-disciplinary and inter-institutional project on the impact of social media on attitudes towards Scottish independence.

Representational processes. This research area focuses on various key aspects of institutions and processes that transform policy demands into policy outputs. It involves theoretical and empirical work that develops knowledge of representation and how it is achieved. Key projects include: work on macro-models of elections and policy representation (**Dellepiane Avellaneda, McGann**); cross-national research on the fulfilment of election pledges (**Thomson**); representation in the EU (**Borz, Rose, Thomson**); work on the congruence between political elites and activists' opinions (**Rüdiger**); and a project on representation and satisfaction with democracy (**Brandenburg**).

In support of these research priorities, the School aims to improve its external engagement in the next five years. This will be enhanced with the launch of the Strathclyde International Public Policy Institute (SIPPI), which has been established with a budget of £6.2 million to draw together the breadth of policy research expertise and staff with public sector networks across the entire University. SIPPI will develop and fund new research, with the aim of playing a major role in domestic and international public policy debates on economic development and governance, health technologies, renewable energy and smart cities. GPP is a co-founder of SIPPI and has a central role in this new initiative. The School will use SIPPI to establish new links with other national and international public bodies so that our capabilities can be applied to a range of societal problems. For example, SIPPI is assisting **Davis** with innovative work on the concept of well-being in economic development policymaking, and **Thomson** in establishing a new, applied

research programme on negotiations involving public and private sector actors regarding infrastructure procurement.

Monitoring progress on each of these research priorities is one of the main tasks of the School's Research Strategy Committee, chaired by the Head of School and including three selected staff members, which meets regularly (usually three times a year). The strategy committee considers relevant indicators of ongoing activity, including staff members' working/conference papers and grant applications. The directors of the research centres also play an important role in monitoring the attainment of the strategy. Regular staff meetings, the annual review process and the mentoring system (see below) are some of the mechanisms through which progress is monitored and necessary support identified.

c. People, including:

Staffing strategy is inextricably linked with the School's research strategy and its emphasis on both developing existing strengths and traditions, and reinterpreting these in the light of new developments.

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The appointments made since 2008 expand GPP's reputation for theoretically and methodologically informed empirical research in comparative politics. Following a global search for each post, staff were selected not only for their demonstrable ability to publish in prestigious international peer-reviewed journals, but also for their fit with the tradition of positive, empirical research that has been strong at Strathclyde.

In line with the School's ambitions to develop its international profile in its priority research fields, appointments have been made since 2008 in public policy (**Charles, de Francesco, Kah, Rose, Studlar, Van der Zwet**), political behaviour (**Brandenburg, Patrikios, Riera**) and governance (**Borz, Dellepiane Avellaneda, Thomson**). The new appointments in the field of international politics (**McGrew, Johnson and Koga**) complement GPP's existing strengths. **McGrew** adds expertise on globalisation in relation to the rise of China, **Johnson** on defence procurement, and **Koga** on the politics of authoritarian regimes. These scholars fit well with GPP's existing research by adopting a comparative approach to international politics that examines the linkages between the domestic and international levels. The appointments bring new skills in formal theory (e.g. **Koga** and **McGann**) and strengthen existing skills in quantitative methods for which Strathclyde has been known (all new staff are either capable or advanced quantitative analysts). The new staff members not only strengthen areas like EU governance and policy, but also provide broader expertise that is relevant to several existing themes: for example with expertise on globalisation (**McGrew**); corruption (**Rose**); negotiations (**Thomson**), regional innovation (**Charles**); political economy, fiscal politics, austerity and regulation (**Dellepiane Avellaneda, de Francesco**); identity politics (**Patrikios**); political communication (**Brandenburg**); and qualitative methods (**Dellepiane Avellaneda**, who teaches qualitative methods at the Essex Summer School).

The new appointments introduce an appropriate balance between different levels of seniority. Of the six new professorial appointments, four were already professors in their previous institutions (**Rose, Studlar, McGrew** and **Charles**) and two were promoted to professorial level when they joined Strathclyde (**McGann** and **Thomson**). A conscious decision was also taken to rejuvenate the staff profile by appointing early career researchers (**Borz, Dellepiane Avellaneda, de Francesco, Johnson, Koga, Patrikios, Riera**).

As part of the School's strategy of internationalising its research, many of the appointments made in the REF period originate from outside the UK, for example: **Dellepiane Avellaneda** (Argentina) recruited from the University of Antwerp; **de Francesco** (Italy) from the University of Zurich; and **Patrikios** (Greece), **Studlar** (USA), **Borz** (Romania), **Brandenburg** (Germany), **Johnson** (USA) from the University of California at Davis, and **Koga** (Japan) from Emory University. RA appointments included: **Van der Zwet** (Netherlands) and **Peiffer** (USA), **Vironen** (Finland) and **Kah** (Germany). This strengthening of GPP's international profile is associated with an intensification of international research collaborations described below.

The new appointments have contributed to a net increase in the number of Category-A staff submitted to REF 2014 (21) compared to RAE 2008 (13). The appointments of **Charles, Thomson, de Francesco** and **Dellepiane Avellaneda** were made through the University's highly

competitive Strategic Appointment Schemes. These appointments added to the John Anderson Research Lectureships (JARLs) from which the School has benefited in the past. JARLs are research-intensive positions secured through a competitive University-wide process, with light teaching duties and a research development grant of £50K per post. The School's success in these competitions reflects the School's fit with the University's overall strategy, and confidence in the capacity of the School to fulfil that strategy in the post-REF2014 period.

The departure of several colleagues during this REF period (Carman, Cram, Fawcett, Johns, Karyotis and Mitchell) was used as an opportunity to reinvest in new staff who have demonstrated their ability to produce high-quality research. This has led to a stronger School, of which one of the indicators is the above-noted increase in the number of staff members submitted to REF with research outputs in prestigious journals and university presses.

Early-career staff participate in a tailored induction programmes, both at institutional and School levels. Training for new (and established) staff members is provided through Strathclyde's Researcher Development Programme, which offers a range of courses including communication skills, project management skills and media training. New recruits have light teaching commitments in their first year. Established staff members act as career mentors, with emphasis placed upon research planning. As part of the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Academic Studies, obligatory for all probationary staff, new entrants complete the module on Supervising Postgraduate Research. This allows early career staff to be fast-tracked into PGR supervisory roles as members of supervisory boards or as second supervisors. The formal process of research monitoring and review for all staff includes an annual meeting with the Research Director and Head of School to map out an individual research strategy for outputs and research income generation, and to prioritise career development opportunities including attendance of conferences.

The formal processes of induction and mentoring are nested in an ethos of research support through informal discussions and exchanges on draft publications and grant applications by colleagues. This collaborative ethos is reflected in the joint outputs between early career members (including PGRs) and more senior colleagues. **Patrikios**, for example, has joint outputs with **Curtice** and **Shephard**. He also was co-investigator with colleagues on ESRC, British Academy and AQMeN funded projects. PGRs **Convery** and **Van der Zwet** have published outputs with a former staff member. **Borz**, one of the new appointments, co-authored with **Rose Studlar** and **Thomson** regularly co-author with current or former PhD researchers from other institutions. This ethos of nurturing early-stage researchers is present throughout the University, as recognised in the short-listing of Strathclyde for the *Times Higher Education* award for outstanding support for early career researchers in 2011 and 2012.

Development opportunities for mid-career researchers are promoted by the University's Organisational and Staff Development Unit and its Strathclyde Researcher Pathways programme. As part of their mid-career development, **Polverari**, **Eschle** and **Shephard** completed the Research Leaders for Tomorrow Programme. The School also supports skills enhancement through external workshops (for example an NVivo workshop) and advanced methods training (**Rüdig**, multi-level modelling; **Shephard**, STATA, handling missing data, multi-level modelling).

At senior career level, the University's Organisational and Staff Development Unit runs 'master classes'. This initiative focuses on the key challenges faced by senior researchers and is designed to inspire, through example, and to raise the ambition of established leaders. In addition, each new professor has secured a University New Professor Grant of £25K to kick start their research. The School values the continuation of relationships with its Emeritus Professors; for example, **Judge** (given Emeritus status in September 2013) will continue to contribute to specialist courses and strategic advice to the School.

The University provides the School with an annual staff/research development budget for all staff. This budget covers advanced methods training, national and international conference attendance, and targeted research networking. This provided the financial resources to enable all staff members to attend relevant courses or conferences in their fields, including the annual conferences of the American Political Sciences Association, European Consortium for Political Research, Political Studies Association and Regional Studies Association. Seed funding is available from various sources throughout the university to support new research initiatives by staff at all levels of seniority. GPP has a sabbatical system for all Category-A staff involved in teaching, whereby they receive a sabbatical semester for every five semesters of teaching to focus on research and writing grant proposals.

The School's seminar series provides structured opportunities for development through engagement with external scholars, notably through a European Policy Seminar Series, CERS research seminars, and workshops/seminars run by visiting professors on their work or aspects of the interface between academics and research users (e.g. visiting professors **Morgan, Goudie, Hughes, Woods**) and on strategies for publishing (**Mishler** as editor of *Journal of Politics* on publishing in US top-ranked journals). More informally, a PGR-inspired IR reading group of academic staff and PGRs has operated in conjunction with a regional grouping of IR scholars in the West of Scotland. Development opportunities have also been available through the organisation and hosting of national and international conferences (see section e below).

ii. Research students

Doctoral researchers are supported intellectually and materially by their doctoral supervisors and other staff members in GPP, and by the Faculty Graduate School. The Graduate School ensures that research students are integrated into a multidisciplinary community, and provides office space and IT facilities to all research students in the Faculty in state-of-the-art premises.

The Graduate School provides Faculty-wide research training for first-year PhD students, addressing generic and transferable research skills. Specific training in quantitative and qualitative methods is provided by GPP. The above-mentioned Researcher Development Programme, followed by all research students, offers access to a range of courses, workshops, events and resources to support students' personal and professional career development beyond their disciplinary areas, including the development of employability skills. The Faculty provides studentships, which cover fees and a stipend. The Graduate School also provides an annual budget for research student career development, conference attendance or additional specialist methods training. As part of the School's goal of increasing PGR numbers over the next five years, traditional PhD funding sources will be complemented by sponsorships; one PhD is being currently co-funded by the Scottish Government, with others being negotiated with UK and EU government bodies, facilitated by a Faculty and University support programme. The Faculty is also investing to expand its doctoral training programme with a 'Postgraduate Certificate in Research Professional Development'.

Within the School, each student has a first and second supervisor. The first supervisor plays the more prominent role in providing regular advice, while the second supervisor is involved in annual reviews of the student's progress. The School's Director of Postgraduate Research Studies ensures that incoming research students are matched to staff members with appropriate levels of expertise and available time. In practice, staff members typically have small numbers of PhD students to whom they are first or second supervisors, which ensures that each student receives adequate attention. At the end of the first and second year, a formal defence of the research proposal and work in progress is held. These regular meetings and the reports on them, which are sent to the Director of Postgraduate Studies, ensure that research students' work stays on track. Research students are also encouraged to attend School seminars and informal reading groups to integrate into the intellectual life of the School.

The School recognises the importance of research students' development as teachers as well as researchers. Most research students are also involved in the delivery of the undergraduate classes as Teaching Assistants and lead small group discussion sessions. No individual student is overburdened, which means that a typical TA load consists of fewer than six hours of tutorial sessions each teaching week. PGRs are also encouraged to join networks, to present conference papers at national and international conferences and to publish in refereed academic journals. The quality of PGR research is reflected in awards from external professional bodies - PSA Walter Bagehot Prize 2009 (**Connolly**), EU Committee of the Regions Thesis Competition 2011, First Prize (**Polverari**), 2012 Nathaniel Lichfield Award for Taught Masters (**Tsagas**) - and awards for best article, **Lutton** CER-UACES Student Forum Research Article 2008.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

At £6.003 million from 95 research awards for the current REF period, GPP's research income is well above the average of comparable Schools. Among the many research grants awarded, the following are illustrative: £977,410 in 2011 from the European Commission (DG Regio) for research on the performance of Cohesion policy (**Bachtler, Charles, Polverari**); £462,274 in 2011 from ESRC for comparative research on global experiences of corruption (**Rose**); £184,018 in

2009 from the National Centre for Social Research for various projects including British Social Attitudes and Scottish Social Attitudes and a survey of English housing (**Curtice**); and £63,148 in 2013 from the Marie Curie Integration Grant for a project on global Americanisation of regulation (**de Francesco**). As well as supplying a high level of total income, GPP's funding sources are diverse, since they include both funding for fundamental academic research from research councils and funding for applied research from research users. The varied income streams promote a vibrant research environment with distinct styles of research. Also, given the pressure on research funds, a range of funding sources contributes to the sustainability of our activities.

GPP has robust strategies and procedures in place for generating grant applications. As part of the annual Accountability and Development Review process, staff are assessed on their success in obtaining research income, with targets for the submission of research grants appropriate to their research fields. Further, the EPRC has a pro-active strategy for generating grant income, reviewing weekly new calls for policy research that align with its research capabilities, and engaging continuously with a network of high-level policymakers across Europe to develop new research programmes and projects.

Part of the infrastructural support includes the University's Research and Knowledge Exchange Services office (RKES), and the Faculty's Research Knowledge Exchange Team (RaKET) that work closely together to identify and respond to funding opportunities, and managing projects and events. These units provide sustained, high quality administrative support to researchers at all levels throughout the University and Faculty. RKES and RaKET are the main administrative contact points between the University and the administration of external funding bodies. RaKET also provides support to individual researchers and teams of researchers when they are drafting grant proposals.

In support of its research, GPP has amassed a series of specialist datasets and archives that support longitudinal analysis and comparative research across countries and regions, principally in Europe, and that have facilitated many of the submitted research outputs. These datasets include the Barometer Surveys of transition countries by **Rose** (including, among many others, the New Russia Barometer with 20 surveys since 1992 and the New Europe Barometer with seven rounds since 1991). The **EPRC** houses a vast range of quantitative and qualitative data based on country surveys on the design and implementation of regional policy instruments for 30 European countries from 1978 to present. **Thomson** has assembled the 'Decision-making in the EU' dataset that is used by many researchers studying the intricacies of everyday politics in the EU.

Infrastructural support also includes University and Faculty-wide training opportunities for staff members that complement School-level activities. As noted, the Researcher Development Programme offers courses on skills relevant to each stage of the research cycle, including grant writing, project management, academic writing and presentation, and media training. More specific training opportunities in quantitative and qualitative techniques are available via the School, for instance in quantitative methods through Strathclyde's membership of the Applied Quantitative Methods Network (AQMeN), which involves eight universities. Where appropriate, staff members and doctoral researchers attend relevant courses provided by disciplinary bodies, such as the Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, and the ECPR summer school in methods and techniques at the University of Ljubljana.

The physical infrastructure available to GPP is modern, with well-equipped offices and seminar rooms. The University is currently investing £90m in upgrading its physical infrastructure, which will bring about significant improvements in the office facilities. GPP enjoys excellent library facilities with access to all relevant literature, including paper and online journals and books. The Universities of Strathclyde and Glasgow share library facilities and other infrastructure. The technical infrastructure in the form of computing facilities and IT support is of a high standard.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Most funded research projects involve researchers from different disciplines. For example, **Bachtler, Mendez and Polverari's** research on EU Cohesion policy is intrinsically interdisciplinary. A project on the impact of EU funding in 15 case study regions has been undertaken with LSE scholars on European studies and economic geography. **Rose's** research on 'The New Europe' has been undertaken with sociologists, statisticians, demographers and economists. **Curtice** is engaged in cross-disciplinary research with statisticians and sociologists. **Shephard** is working

with researchers from marketing and education on assessing social media content. **De Francesco's** Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship involves research on the diffusion of administrative and regulatory innovations in OECD and EU Member States involving engagement with economics, public management and administrative law.

This ethos of collaborative research is sustained by the key positions GPP staff members have in strong clusters of researchers from different institutions and disciplines, as well as long-term networks that connect researchers and policymakers. For example, the **EPRC (Bachtler, Wishlade, Davies, Gross, Kah)** manages research-policymaker collaboration through high-level 'policy consortia', including EoRPA consisting of government ministries responsible for regional development policies from 11 countries (running since 1978), and IQ-Net, a consortia of EU Cohesion policy managing authorities in the field of EU Cohesion policy from 15 EU Member States (running since 1996). The **CERS (Curtice)** has a longstanding collaboration with the National Centre and Scottish Centre for Social Research. The **CSPP (Rose)** has a long history of collaboration with the World Bank, OECD, the European Commission, UN agencies and non-governmental organisations such as Transparency International (for instance, under the current ESRC project on corruption).

Individual staff members play leading roles in engaging directly with research users. For example, **Bachtler** was invited by the European Commission's Director-General for Regional Policy to work during the period 2009-11 with Fabrizio Barca (Director-General in the Italian Ministry of Economy) on an independent report on the future of Cohesion policy, commissioned by the EU Commissioner for Regional Policy (described further in one of the impact case studies). **Bachtler** was also an Expert Adviser to the Czech (2010), Polish (2011), Cyprus (2012) and Lithuanian (2013) Presidencies of the Council of the EU and was an invited contributor to meetings of the Hungarian Presidency (2011). **Curtice** was President of the British Polling Council, and Vice-Chair of the UK Economic and Social Data Archive Advisory Board.

Several staff at GPP manage research groups and provide services to professional organisations. **Thomson** led international research groups, with researchers across Europe and the US, focusing on decision-making in the EU and the fulfilment of election pledges. **Thomson** also chaired the Section on the EU and Domestic Politics of the Conference of the EU Standing Group on the EU of the ECPR (2011), and was co-chair, with Professor Thomas König, University of Mannheim, of the Section on EU Institutions at the ECPR General Conference (2013). **Studlar** was programme chair of the Canadian Politics Section of APSA (2010-11) and also co-chair with Pippa Norris of the IPSA Research Committee on Elections, Citizens and Parties. **Dellepiane Avellaneda** is an instructor at the Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis. GPP also organises other conferences for national and international participants: the EPRC runs three international conferences a year (**Bachtler, Wishlade**); and CERS hosted the EPOP Annual Conference in 2009, and co-hosted a conference with the Electoral Commission in 2010 on the Scottish Election Study in 2011 (**Curtice**).

Further, GPP staff members contribute to the discipline in terms of journal editorships including: **Rose**, editor of the *Journal of Public Policy* (to 2011); **Shephard**, associate then deputy editor of the *Journal of Legislative Studies* (since 2008); **Thomson**, editor of the Research Agenda Section of the *Journal of European Public Policy* (since 2013); and **Wishlade**, editor of the Policy Review Section of *Regional Studies*. School staff are members of the editorial boards of 17 other journals as part of a wide portfolio of activities that contribute to the discipline.

These contributions have been recognised by a range of awards and distinctions. **Rose** is a Fellow of the British Academy, the American Academy for Arts and Sciences, and the Finnish Academy of Sciences and Letters. During the REF period he was also awarded: an honorary doctorate from the European University Institute, Florence; the Sir Isaiah Berlin Lifetime Achievement Prize, Political Studies Association of UK; the Dogan Foundation/ECPR Life Achievement Prize European Political Sociology; and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Council for the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems. **Bachtler** was presented with the Sir Peter Hall Award for Contribution to Regional Studies, by the Regional Studies Association. **Bachtler, Curtice** and **Rose** are Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, as is Visiting Professor **Andrew Goudie** (former Chief Economic Advisor to the Scottish Government). **Bachtler, Charles** and **Wishlade** are Academicians of the Academy of Social Sciences.