

Institution: University of Glasgow
Unit of Assessment: 28A Modern Languages and Linguistics
<p>a. Context</p> <p>Modern Languages at the University of Glasgow (UoG) uses its cultural and linguistic expertise to deliver impact focused on enhancing cultural life through public engagement with a range of stakeholders, including local and international cultural organisations, agencies and governments. UoA impact has been carried out within the context of longstanding and productive partnerships with non-academic organisations in the arts and culture scene – eg, the Scotland-Russia Forum, the Institut Ramon Llull, the Centre for Contemporary Arts in Glasgow, as well as many local theatres and cinemas. Given the inherently international nature of Modern Languages, staff also pursue and share their research via organisations such as the Alliance Française, the Goethe Institut and the Swiss Embassy, for whom we have offered arts programming and interpretation advice. Public engagement with our research expertise has been delivered via a high profile media presence and visibility, through invited appearances in the national press, television, and radio, as well as online. Impact is embedded into the UoA's research strategy, with our 'impact champion' charged to support colleagues with individual and collective impact plans, and to assist in liaising with non-academic partners. Drawing on College of Arts (CoA) and UoG research and knowledge exchange (KE) strategies, policies and resources, our 'impact champion' works with the Research Convenor of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures (SMLC) to maintain oversight of research-led impact, including advising on monitoring and evaluating strategies, archiving and documentation policies and sharing best practice amongst colleagues and doctoral researchers.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>Our impact activities demonstrate reach: geographically in Glasgow, across the UK and globally; and institutionally across a wide range of beneficiaries in the cultural and media sectors. Their significance is evidenced by the depth of engagement with prestigious collaborators and the degree to which individuals have been sought out to provide expertise. Public engagement is part and parcel of the UoA's <i>modus operandi</i>: it is a norm and an expectation. It is a key criterion at recruitment and thereafter commitment is fostered formally through mentoring, the annual Performance and Development Review (P&DR) and peer-support, ensuring that pathways to impact are imaginatively addressed in research. Engagement with a range of audiences and public bodies is integral to how we undertake our research and share our findings. This means that our work ranges from supporting the education team at the Citizens' Theatre in Glasgow in delivering events such as 'An afternoon with Dostoyevsky' (2013) to larger initiatives impacting on diverse user groups, such as our work with London's Barbican (2010). Staff contribute to seminars and workshops with festival directors, theatre practitioners and broadcasters. Effective staff support – robust mentoring, targeting resources including teaching and administration buy out, pump-priming funds, fora to share best practice – enables us to make significant interventions in two areas: <u>preserving and enhancing cultural heritage</u>; and <u>enriching cultural, educational and civic life</u>, including extending public discourse in Glasgow, Scotland, the UK and internationally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <u>Enhancing cultural heritage</u>: The UoA's long-standing work on emblem studies and visual culture has informed a recent re-hang of UoG's Hunterian Art Gallery as well as influencing its exhibition planning – eg, presenting a range of sketches and illustrations that had not previously been displayed by the Gallery. Grove's 2011 exhibition <i>Breaking the Renaissance Code</i> was awarded a 4* rating in the cultural magazine <i>The List</i> and he has appeared on BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio Scotland and Radio Courtoisie. Our researchers also supported the National Museum of Scotland's recent Catherine the Great Exhibition. Emeritus Professor Noel Peacock's research on Molière in Scotland informed theatre practitioners developing new translations and productions – eg, Liz Lochhead and Graham McLaren – and our researchers also supported participants in the Stratford World Festival of Shakespeare (2012). – <u>Enriching cultural, educational and civic life</u>, by creating and interpreting cultural capital, is central to the UoA's work. Colleagues participate in public engagement activities across the UK and the world. The UoA organised a Catalan culture day in Glasgow in November 2012 to coincide with the Celtic-FC Barcelona Champions League game, at which the Vice-President of FC Barcelona spoke and which garnered significant media attention. Syrotinski is part of rapidly expanding network of European academics, journalists, publishers, senior librarians, translators and writers working on the question of the publication, translation and reception of contemporary fiction which has already led to two successful and well attended public events in London. We

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have an ongoing relationship with the Glasgow Film Theatre, with many colleagues delivering talks for public screenings – eg, for the French Film Festival – and for education events targeted at schools audiences – eg, a series of lectures for National Schools Film Week, a talk on *A Very Long Engagement* (dir. Jeunet, 2004) to an audience of 5th and 6th year school pupils, a lecture on the Czech film director František Vlácil. Other initiatives have included: Rogatchevski's talk to the Massed Borders Choirs in Kelso who were performing Prokofiev's cantata 'Alexander Nevsky', leading to an interview on *Good Morning Scotland* (BBC Radio Scotland); work with the Storytelling Centre in Edinburgh to support readings of Polish authors, including liaison with the local Waterstones bookshop to advise on stock; and contributions to exhibition catalogues in London and Mexico City. Morris has organised several workshops, including one at the Sala del Refettorio in the Biblioteca della Casa dei Deputati, Rome, as part of her Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)-funded network on other figure stereotypes. The workshop was very well attended (60-70 members of the public, as well as academic participants) and generated press coverage by Radio RAI. Dickson's research on the history of psychology and narratives of illness has involved collaboration with hospitals and medical professionals. As part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival she organised 'The Alchemy of Illness', readings of medical case histories at the Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh (2010).

Staff contribute to local, national and international media programmes on literature, politics and culture – eg, Fotiade appears regularly on France-Culture, including a discussion of Lev Shestov following the publication of a new critical edition of his work (2012); Cramerer has been interviewed by ABC radio and television (Australia) on Catalan politics and culture and published an opinion piece on Catalan independence in *The Scotsman* (2013); and Grove wrote a feature for *The Scotsman* on the French Presidential election (2012). Other media appearances include: an interview on *Women's Hour* (BBC Radio 4) to discuss the Gender Quotas Bill introduced into the Polish Parliament (2011); an interview on Polish radio to discuss the television series *National Mythologies in Central Europe*; features on BBC World Service, including Rogachevski's appearance on *The Strand* (2012) discussing the 50th anniversary of Solzhenitsyn's *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*; and discussions of Czech politics and culture on BBC Radio Scotland and on Czech television and radio.

c. Strategy and plans

The strategy for current and future impact operates at UoG, CoA and SMLC levels. Within this, the impact strategy of the UoA remains focused on the development of local, national and international collaborations across a wide range of organisations and individuals, contributing to disciplinary agendas, enhancing cultural heritage and enriching cultural, educational and civic life. We will achieve this by:

- supporting staff and doctoral researchers to identify and achieve their impact goals. Impact is embedded into UoG's criteria for promotion and is reviewed in annual P&DRs. The doctoral experience will be enhanced by embedding internships and collaboration with non-HEIs in the BGP2 Doctoral Training Centre and impact training provided by the CoA Graduate School. The relocation into SMLC of the UoG's Language Unit – the unit that delivers TEFL and other language training – has the potential to generate more KE activities in the period ahead. It will be the task of the impact champion – currently Rogatchevski, from January 2014 Grove – to work with colleagues to identify opportunities and frame appropriate support mechanisms, including setting guidelines for documentation and evaluation.
- targeting resources to ensure that the impact potential of our work is capture and delivered. With the appointment of the SMLC impact champion, impact will be incorporated into internal research reviews from 2013-14, directing colleagues towards internal resources such as seed funding, KE grants, media training and staff appointed to promote social and new media. We will continue to provide expertise and case studies for the CoA's *Industry Days*, which provide an opportunity to share our research expertise with industry leaders. These events are industry focused with input from key partners including the city's cultural organisations and broadcasters, with whom we have strong links. Translation is a key element of the CoA's KE theme 'Writing and Publishing' and we aim to grow this significantly in the next five years – supporting Collins' leadership through training, mentoring and targeted resources. We will develop the KE potential of our investment in translation studies and play a leading role within CoA KE by supporting the internationalisation of the whole 'Writing and Publishing' theme for the wider benefit of the CoA.
- sharing best practice and ensuring knowledge and use of resources available to staff.

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Researchers in the UoA have developed a close working relationship with UoG's Communications Office, benefiting from a new media training programme for staff and postgraduates, and better targeting of public audiences for our research. The CoA KE strategy includes the appointment of a Business Development Manager with the remit of raising exposure to the knowledge base and expertise within CoA and encouraging an increase in formal engagement with private, public and third sector organisations. Launched in 2011, CoA's KE magazine *Reach* – <http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/arts/knowledge-exchange/newsletter/> – targets external research users while internally showcasing good ideas and best practice and is augmented by a KE blog – <http://www.keblog.arts.gla.ac.uk/>. UoG First Step Awards support innovative collaborative research with small and medium enterprises, whilst its KE fund aims to develop project pipelines, ensuring long term planning, effective delivery and evaluation of impact. Staff in SMLC have already had success with this fund – eg, Douglas was funded to enhance the impact potential of a project on Glasgow's Imperialist trading past being delivered in partnership with museums, including the Museum of Slavery in Liverpool, and a number of Caribbean artists. Support will be provided by ArtsLab, a specialist unit within CoA advising on research development, KE and impact.

We recognise, above all, that recent appointments to the UoA have sharpened our focus on interdisciplinary and collaborative research, specifically expanding the range of HEIs and non-HEIs with whom we can work – eg, in 2014, and in conjunction with a number of anti-racist organisations in both Scotland and France, Syrotinski will organise a series of events on the 'Human Zoo', a critical reflection on Glasgow's colonial history. We intend to exploit these new collaborations in all aspects of our research development and grant capture strategy. One priority area seeks to build on the CoA's excellent track record in AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Awards which we plan to further strengthen by expanding to include a non-UK partner.

d. Relationship to case studies

These three case studies highlight and exemplify the range of impact activity across the UoA. Grove's Popularising the BD demonstrates the creative use that is being made of UoG's rich holdings in Emblem Studies, linking it artistically and aesthetically to the more popular contemporary form of graphic novels and comic strips. This has provided the springboard for extensive public engagement, and close involvement with both local arts organisations and schools. This case study demonstrates the impact we can achieve while working in collaboration with priority partners, such as the Hunterian Art Gallery. Rogatchevski's research into Ivan Bunin (1870-1953) supported new translations of his major novels, *Dark Avenues* and *The Village*, which have allowed the works of Russia's first Nobel Prize winning writer to be made accessible to new generations of Anglophone readers. These publications (2008, 2009) contain substantial supplements on Bunin's life and work. The case study shows the economic benefit that can be derived from the right kind of publication partnership: these books have sold 2,436 copies in the UK and overseas, exceeding the publisher's target and garnering positive critical acclaim internationally. A new translation of Bunin's *Life of Arsenyev* is currently being planned by the same publisher. Together with Grove, we flag Rogatchevski's case study as an example of an ongoing impact relationship. Finally, on the basis of her research expertise in French Surrealism, Fotiade was asked to co-curate and act as consultant for a major Surrealist retrospective at the Barbican (2010). The exhibition attracted over 42,000 visitors and was accompanied by a successful educational programme. It was well reviewed in *The Independent*, *Time Out* and *The Guardian*. It demonstrates how a creative curatorial partner, such as the Barbican, can engage with our researchers to further extend the impact of their work to new audiences.