

<b>Institution: University of Wales: Trinity Saint David</b>
<b>Unit of Assessment: 31</b>
<p><b>a. Context.</b> The cluster's impact strategy aims to benefit the wider community at local, regional, national, and international levels. Its main avenues for impact are public events, exhibitions, and work with children, particularly through schools, museums, and widening access programmes. These cut across the main research themes in the cluster and where possible support each other. The first strand encompasses research into narratological concerns and a variety of narrative forms, including Greek fiction, epistolary literature, historiography and epic. Beneficiaries and partners here are primarily those working in the creative and cultural industries, notably artists and museums. This knowledge transfer is extended to forging links between museums and the public in the Ancient Near East strand which brings together those engaged in the disciplines of archaeology, ancient history and Egyptology. The flagship project, <i>Exploring a Rural Community in Late Bronze Age Cyprus</i>, is outlined in REF3b and focuses on community-based archaeology and in garnering greater collaboration between the community and the national heritage agencies of Cyprus. This approach has also been adopted with our work in Egyptology and the Cyfarthfa Castle Museum and Art Gallery. While in its early stages, the Economy and Materiality strand will follow this strategy and work with heritage agencies and museums to explore the untapped cultural tourism resources in the areas of economy, trade and materiality in the ancient world. Finally, for the Rome and the West strand, the <i>City of Rome Project</i> has organised a number of public events, is starting to develop a range of online initiatives, and is working closely with a prestigious Italian press (Edizioni Quasar). Going forward an additional strand on Roman / Celtic religion and language will be developed. The cluster's impact strategy has to date centred on broadening public engagement and understanding of important aspects of our cultural heritage. Recent new appointments and newly awarded AHRC funding will enable further work with museums and heritage agencies both in the UK and, more broadly, in the Roman and Celtic regions of Europe.</p>
<p><b>b. Approach to impact.</b></p> <p><b>1) Narrative:</b> The cluster has pursued an approach of working within the creative arts sector to advise upon the performance, use, reception and historical context of Classical literature. This approach has sought to develop the cultural capital and historical texture of artists' work and enhance understanding and appreciation for their audiences. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Asterisks and Obelisks: Classical Receptions in Children's Literature</i> conference (2009). As a practice-led conference which included both academics and authors of children's literature, this event enabled discussion between academics and authors involved in the writing of children's literature about the uses and value of the ancient world. This allowed for reflection and opened up avenues for development within the practices of both creative writing and academia.</li> <li>• The cluster has provided expertise to Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru, the Welsh Language National Theatre, on matters of Latin pronunciation and metre pertaining to the 2011 production of <i>Spring Awakening</i>.</li> <li>• Public lectures on the occasion of a performance by the School of Performing Arts of the <i>Oresteia</i> to both the students and the audience extended these approaches to both the student performers and the audience.</li> <li>• The <i>Imagines Project</i> (see REF3b case study)</li> </ul> <p><b>2) Ancient Near East:</b> This aspect of our impact strategy is embedded in the University's wider Wales Heritage Academy, a flagship initiative that seeks to support tourism and heritage within Wales for both economic and cultural benefit. A key approach is to offer training, research and practical support to the Welsh Heritage sector by supporting tourism and communities in areas such as interpretation, ancient history, Roman archaeology, built environment, the arts and culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cluster has embarked upon a project in collaboration with the Cyfarthfa Castle Museum and Art Gallery in Merthyr Tydfil which engages local communities and schools in Lampeter and Merthyr Tydfil. The cluster is currently curating the museum's <i>Major Southey's Collection</i>, an excellent collection of Egyptian artefacts which was given to the museum by the family of the late Major Harry Hartley Southey. On the basis of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the museum and the University, artefacts from the collection were loaned to the University for a public exhibition in the Roderic Bowen Library and Archives.</li> </ul>

- This exhibition formed the basis of an outreach programme with local schools. This programme included a series of workshops which led to the development of teaching resources for the schools in the vicinity of the museum. This project will soon be expanded to include a web-presence which will make the teaching resources as well as the objects themselves available to an even wider audience.

**3) Rome and the West:** The cluster has a long history of engagement with the wider community. Within this research strand, strategies for impact have focused on public exhibitions of work and increasing audiences for our research outside of academia. For example:

- *The City of Rome Project* has established an annual public lecture series which is hosted on the Lampeter campus (2012, 2013, 2014).
- Through collaboration with students, particularly those enrolled in the Classics module, *The City of Rome: People, Power and Politics*, the project has also organised successful public exhibitions of materials from the University's special collection, the Roderic Bowen Library and Archives. These exhibitions have been timed to coincide with the University's graduation ceremonies and are also publicly available on the University's website. The project is looking to develop its own website further, so that it can become a platform for making the project's work widely and freely available, and for a number of knowledge transfer activities.

**4) Engagement with schools:** A key priority for the cluster is widening access to the Classical world which cuts across all of our research strands. This is particularly significant in a region where Classics is not taught in schools. Examples include:

- Classical Association lectures and talks: Members of the cluster regularly deliver public talks to local school children of A-Level age in order to excite them about the ancient world and promote higher aspirations for learning and personal betterment in local communities.
- Summer Schools: Members also contribute a popular module, *From Homer to Harry Potter*, to the University Summer School. This University-organised initiative builds partnerships with secondary schools in South and West Wales, to develop arrangements which support progression from secondary school to Higher Education, and particularly emphasises subjects such as Classics which are not taught in Welsh secondary schools. Members of the cluster participated in the Reaching Wider Summer University in Aberystwyth, a widening-access scheme which runs courses for non-traditional students, and offers modules linked to research in the cluster on Myth and reception. In addition, the Lampeter Summer University both offered research-based modules and provided a subsidy which enabled low income participants to engage in learning about the ancient world.
- Latin in the Park: Public lectures as part of the Latin in the Park project run by the IRIS project and the South West Wales Classical Association in Swansea.
- Greek and Latin Summer Workshop: This workshop teaches Greek and Latin to a diverse group of participants, ranging from teenagers to the long retired. It also provides public lectures and workshops.

### c. Strategy and plans

**1) Joint working with Museums.** The cluster's capacity to work with heritage and tourist organisations is being enhanced by funding won from the EU Rural Development Plan in association with Ceredigion County Council and the Welsh Assembly Government. Working in partnership with the regional tourism partnership and historical society, the University is converting a building on Lampeter's high street into a museum, exhibition space and tourist visitor centre. This space will develop further integration of research in the cluster into the wider community. This will allow for further projects dedicated to the local area, particularly the developing partnerships with the Dolaucothi gold mines and the National Botanic Gardens of Wales and will further develop the links with Cyfarthfa Castle Museum and Art Gallery. This will be focused on the following projects.

**i) Weaving.** Öhrman and Draycott are establishing links with the National Wool Museum in Drefach Felindre and are assisting in the delivery of public workshops on practical aspects of modern and historical wool-working, in order to further supplement the theoretical research of wool-working techniques in antiquity. This will build upon a planned collaboration with the Centre for Textile Research (Copenhagen) and research which will explore the material and literary aspects of the process of weaving in antiquity. **ii) Cyfarthfa Castle Museum and Art Gallery.** This

on-going collaborative project develops the models of impact within the cluster and engages local communities both in Lampeter and Merthyr Tydfil. This project will expand its outreach programme with local schools based on a series of workshops which will continue the development of teaching resources for schools and the museum.

**2) Mining Heritage.** Building upon Bissa's and Steel's work in this area, staff from the cluster will be exploring local and international mining landscapes (the Dolaucothi gold mines and the Roman landscapes of West Wales and the silver mines of Laurion near Athens). **i) Dolaucothi.** The University has had a long association with the Dolaucothi gold mines and important partners in the project have been identified, including local schools, businesses and the National Trust. The recent re-opening of a local pub, which has a mosaic (currently buried) on its premises, and the opening of a series of Roman tours, along with new developments in landscape survey make collaboration between the cluster and local community a viable project. **ii) Laurion.** Using the method of local partnerships which has proved successful in the cluster's *Arediou Vouppes* project, this project will work with the municipal tourism office in Greece with the aim of generating increased tourist interest in the mines, other archaeological remains in the Thorikos region and the National park which has a marina which will help to attract tourists. In spite of its proximity to Athens the tourist potential of the Thorikos region remains underdeveloped. In response, the proposed project aims to increase local ownership of this resource and to share and develop the region's sense of heritage as distinctive from its larger neighbour. This project will be able to exploit the experience of projects from within the cluster, but also the expertise of other parts of the University, in particular those submitted in UoA17.

**3) Health and Environment.** Building on recent appointments in the cluster, new areas of expertise including health, gardens and food consumption will form the basis of future research and impact projects. These are centred on the following research themes: **i) Health.** The cluster will undertake a project of digitisation of manuscripts from the Roderic Bowen Library and Archives' collection of over 22,000 books donated by prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century surgeon Thomas Phillips. The significant medical texts within this corpus will underpin exhibitions, grant applications and research on the understanding of the development of medicine from antiquity to the modern day, within a local context. We will pursue funding support from the Wellcome Trust's Medical Humanities programme. **ii) Gardens.** A project on the changing connotations of gardens from antiquity to the present is being developed in conjunction with the local farming community as well as the National Botanic Gardens and the Roman Gardens in Wales. This project will engage the local community through the development of garden space on the campus and educational material on the changing uses of garden plants. **iii) Foodstuffs.** The cluster will explore opportunities for collaborative research and impact with those members currently submitted to UoA17, in particular on the embodied foodstuffs and consumption project. This project has secured support from the University's EU funded Rural Alliances project (a €10 million collaboration with ten public sector organisations across northwest Europe and Philipps-Marburg University, Germany). Impact will focus on exhibitions and talks aimed at local stakeholders, as well as collaboration with tourist businesses and rural development agencies on experimental archaeology (bread, beer and yeast) and Roman food stuffs (Roman dining practices).

**d. Relationship to case studies.** Our funding plans and research impact strategies build upon the best practice developed through the *Arediou Vouppes* project by embedding impact into the key research aims and design of our projects. This practice centres on the identification of, and development of relationships with, local stakeholders (communities, schools and businesses) to facilitate joint working with heritage organisations and custodians. This model has been taken up with Cyfarthfa Castle and is being explored with the National Trust, the National Botanic Gardens, the National Wool Museum, and heritage organisations in Europe and Greece. Likewise, the successful involvement with the local community and schools, developed through a series of interactive workshops with schools and supported by successful funding applications, has now helped to identify and lay the ground work for the development of a locally-based exhibition space which will increase the accessibility and understanding of the community's heritage which forms a key aspect of our impact strategy.