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| <p>Institution: Anglia Ruskin University</p> |
| <p>Unit of Assessment: 36 Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, Library and Information Management</p> |
| <p>a. Overview</p> <p>The submitting unit includes staff from two departments: (1) English, Communication, Film and Media (ECFM) and (2) Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) in the Faculty of Arts, Law and Social Sciences (ALSS). All staff in the unit are members of the Anglia Research Centre in Media and Culture (ARC Media), and some members are part of the institutional Cultures of the Digital Economy (CoDE) research institute and the Research Unit for Intercultural and Transcultural Studies (RUIITS). The submitting unit spans diverse research interests, coalescing on work on film theory and film philosophy; 'race', ethnicity and migration; and the politics and philosophy of media. We have accrued a strong international profile since 2008 via the publication of cutting-edge research, the hosting of major conferences, and public engagement activities. This development enables our submission to Communication, Cultural and Media Studies as a discrete unit: we did not submit to RAE 2008, although six members of the unit were part of other submissions (four in European Studies and two in English).</p> |
| <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Building on the future strategies set out in our RAE 2008 submissions to English and European Studies, the unit has used its QR income to develop its research quality and capacity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointing research-active early career staff; • Providing sabbaticals to support research and publication; • Funding participation in external conferences and research networks; • Expanding research student numbers supported by University Research Studentships; • Developing a sustainable, collaborative research culture. <p>These activities have noticeably increased staff publication, research funding and research student activity over the past five years. We are now able to make a coherent submission comprising 10 staff, compared to six submitted with other units in 2008. We have generated research income of nearly £100,000, and have developed strength in supervision of doctoral students, some of whom benefit from full bursaries. We have awarded six research degrees over the period.</p> <p>Our plans and aspirations for 2014-2019 are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand our research active staff base; • Increase the amount of external income generated by 10% a year, and increase the range of sources of that income; • Develop our early career researchers' publications and external bidding; • Expand our supervisory capacity by developing early career researchers into first supervisors; • Recruit larger numbers of doctoral students; • Support and consolidate research units established during the REF period, such as ARC Media; • Maintain and enhance our reputation for running successful conferences; • Complete contracted scholarly monographs and editions, especially through support from the university sabbatical programme. <p>We will benefit from full faculty and institutional support towards these aims. At university level, specific objectives and processes are in place to stimulate and enhance research, including training for research supervisors and research students, access to internal grants and sabbaticals in support of research projects, assistance with external funding applications, circulating regular research bulletins, and organising an annual research conference. Early career researchers at Anglia Ruskin have bespoke funding streams for conference travel and international collaboration offered by our University's Research, Development and Commercial Services (RDCS) office. RDCS support all stages of the external funding application process and offer annual bid-writing training for researchers. Research units at Anglia Ruskin retain 100% of QR funding, and we will continue to deploy that funding towards research events, conference travel and PhD studentships.</p> |

The university's research culture fosters interdisciplinary and collaborative research through various mechanisms. The university's emphasis on collaboration both within the university and between HEI organisations is evidenced through new schemes in training, mentoring and refereeing for grant proposals and bids, particularly those that create international networks. The Staff Research Conference encourages colleagues to share ideas and projects across faculties and disciplines. Regular meetings of the University-wide Professors and Readers Group facilitate exchanges between different discipline areas. The Anglia Ruskin research institute, CoDE, draws together colleagues from different disciplines, and ARC Media also facilitates engagement with broader research interests and encourages networking within and outside the institution (<http://www.anglia.ac.uk/ruskin/en/home/microsites/arc.html>). Departmentally, ECFM holds regular Research Seminars (co-convened by unit members Campbell [2008-2013] and Hands [2013-present]) at which papers are presented by staff, postgraduates and visiting speakers. There is also a Faculty Research Seminar (co-convened by Rings [2008-present]), which meets at least seven times per year, with up to fifty attendees.

c. People

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

In line with university policy, the unit has made research excellence a priority for staff at every level, and it is now a standard expectation that newly appointed staff hold a doctorate or are close to completion. Three members of the unit have been appointed since 2008 (Tiainen, Rosbrook-Thompson, Long), reflecting our research-focused recruitment policy, and three have been promoted to Reader since 2008 (MacCormack, Campbell, Hands), reflecting Anglia Ruskin's commitment to encouraging staff progression and retention.

The research performance and potential of all staff is also monitored and encouraged through a faculty-level compulsory annual Research Activity Survey and the University Appraisal Programme. All members of staff are appraised on an annual basis by their line manager or another senior colleague. Topics covered in appraisal include evidence of research productivity: publications, grant application and success, conference attendance, impact activities, and research supervision. Setting research goals is an integrated part of the appraisal process.

All staff go through a one-year probation period after they are first appointed, with a focus on research as well as learning and teaching. All colleagues are expected to engage in Continuing Professional Development in order to help them acquire or develop skills and proficiencies. Courses are offered on topics such as project management and applying for promotion. The university also funds regular writing retreats to encourage submission to peer-reviewed publications. There are also regular training sessions on applying for external income and bid writing; the department expects all members of staff, at whatever career stage, to seek funding appropriate to their research. Both training and other research related activities (such as conferences) are factored in when assessing staff workloads. All members of staff are eligible to apply for centrally funded sabbaticals, and are strongly encouraged to take full advantage of this opportunity as part of our commitment to research and staff development. Since 2008 all staff in the unit (except Rosbrook-Thompson and Long, who were appointed in 2012-13) have benefitted from the University Sabbatical Scheme.

We make special efforts to support and integrate early career researchers (ECRs). A new ECR training bursary was piloted in 2012 in order to support the professional development of early career staff on both permanent and fixed-term posts. Eight grants of £500 are available each year to support career goals. A research staff mailing list is in place to encourage communication between postdoctoral and other early career and research staff. ECRs can apply for an annual award to recognize excellence in research. ECRs have their research mentored by the Research Convenor and the Head of Department, with whom they meet regularly. Following mandatory formal training, ECRs are encouraged to supervise PhD students as mentored members of supervisory teams. Two members of this submission (Long, Rosbrook-Thompson) are ECRs. Long commenced with us in September 2013 and has already begun to work with cross-faculty researchers interested in sex, gender, and the body. Rosbrook-Thompson started in June 2012

and has been supported in applying for an ESRC Future Research Leaders grant (Oct. 2013) for £132,263.

Staff at all levels enjoy support towards their career development and progression. Colleagues without a doctorate are encouraged to enrol for a PhD or gain a PhD by Published Work, and their studies are generously supported through fee bursaries and workload remission. Newly appointed staff, including senior appointments, have a mentor, and we also encourage staff to make use of mentoring when applying for promotion to Reader or Professor, for which training is also available. Our institution subscribes to the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers*, in recognition of which we gained the European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award in May 2013, demonstrating our robust strategies.

Equality training is mandatory for all staff. At minimum there is an online training module that covers all aspects of diversity including gender, race/ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion/belief, age, and the characteristics given protection by the Equality Act 2010. Further training is required for staff involved in, for example, recruitment and selection.

Feedback from staff who participated in the Careers in Research Online Survey (CROS) 2013 showed that Anglia Ruskin staff feel their contribution to a variety of research activities is more highly valued and recognised than the sector average, and that they were better integrated into their research community. Similarly, Anglia Ruskin staff felt better informed about key research strategy and policy in the national environment, such as the REF, the RCUK's 'Pathways to Impact' expectations, the three Concordats on Research Integrity, Public Engagement and Research Career Development, as well as the HR Excellence in Research Award.

Exchanges between academia and business, industry and third sector

Anglia Ruskin's Corporate Plan, 2012-14, prioritises the growth of third-stream activities, including research income (goal 4) and knowledge transfer (goal 12). In this context, the CoDE research institute has successfully implemented a number of knowledge transfer programmes with local and international commercial partners as well as collaborating on funded projects for developing and evaluating digital technologies in art and culture.

Anglia Ruskin is actively supportive of initiatives that encourage knowledge transfer between researchers and external organisations. The Enterprising Academics programme (run by RDCS) supports academics who wish to build long-term relationships with external organisations and explore opportunities for collaboration, for example research projects, training, consultancy and knowledge transfer partnerships. The Enterprising Academics programme provides a £3,000 grant for an academic to spend up to four days within the organisation (in one block or over weeks or months). Staff in this unit have engaged in a range of such exchanges, including:

- Campbell acted as Series Advisor on *Guth: Musical Sons of the Irish Diaspora*, a television documentary series broadcast on TG4 (Ireland) in 2013. He was Expert Advisor for ProQuest on their *Entertainment Industry Magazine Archive* (2008-9), a major new digital archive of popular-cultural newspapers and magazines from the twentieth-century.
- MacCormack was commissioned by the Whitechapel Gallery to act as script consultant on the *Gonda* project (2009). She completed writing the script for the second part of the Gonda trilogy project, *Pheres*, filmed in October 2012. She is an onscreen contributor and has interviewed a number of directors on various DVDs, including the 13 DVDs of the films of Jean Rollin, the 2009 edition of *Suspiria*, many DVDs released by Redemption Films such as *Burke and Hare* (2010), and *Daughter of Darkness* (2010), and the documentary *Video Nasties: The Definitive Guide* (2009). She was interviewed on the BFI release of *Maitresse* and wrote the booklet notes for the 2012 BFI releases of *Maitresse* and *Sick: The Life and Death of Bob Flanagan*.
- Rings advised the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the EU (EACEA) in the selection of projects suitable for the 'Culture Programme 2007-2013, Cooperation with third countries', Brussels (May 2011). As consultant, he also supported Routledge and Cambridge University Press in achieving their aim to develop new teaching

and learning course books in intercultural communication.

- The unit has hosted numerous seminars and workshops with industry speakers, including Charlie Courtauld (Al Jazeera), Ant Neely and Sloane U'Ren (independent filmmakers), Catherine Wheatley (film critic for *Sight and Sound*), artist and filmmaker Guy Sherwin, Dr. Petra Vogel (manager of intercultural training at Bosch in India and Germany), and Vinita Balasubramanian (intercultural trainer and consultant for global companies).

ii. Research students

Since 2008, 6 students have completed PhDs and 1 has completed an MPhil. We currently have 16 research students in the unit. All PhD students take the mandatory three-stage research skills training course operated centrally by RDCS, which covers writing a research proposal, ethics, intellectual property, academic presentations and writing, and preparing for the viva. In addition, access to Epigeum's online suite of skills courses is available and students can benefit from events arranged by the faculty, focussing on subject-related professional development (such as applying for jobs and writing small grant applications), and subject specific workshops at departmental level. All training provision is mapped onto the Vitae Researcher Development Framework, which is used as the basis for guiding students on the best way to identify skills to be developed.

Research students play a full part in departmental and faculty life. They are expected to participate in the ALSS Faculty Research seminars, and the ECFM departmental seminars, where attendance is taken. These seminars give students a forum within which to present their research and receive constructive feedback. We also hold postgraduate colloquia within the Faculty that offer students a chance to share ideas within a more informal setting. Students also have an annual conference at Anglia Ruskin where they are strongly encouraged to present posters and work-in-progress papers. Two of our research students (Ziolkowski-Trzak and Harvey-Davitt) hosted a postgraduate conference, supported by the MeCCSA Postgraduate Network, in April 2013. This focused on the theme of 'Participation'. Another conference (co-organised by research student Harvey-Davitt) on Chilean cinema was held at Cambridge University in November 2013. Students can apply for funding to support travel and conference fees. We also offer a special postgraduate bursary in support of conference organisation.

Of the PhD students supervised by staff in this unit since 2008, six have received full time bursaries (Brunby, Harvey-Davitt, Henry, Horrocks, Land, Waugh). We currently have two students on such bursaries. The latter are equivalent to a full AHRC award and are advertised nationally. Our Faculty was successful in securing an AHRC Block Grant Partnership Capacity Building award for 2011-13. Those who are on full studentships teach for up to six hours per week, and other research students, where possible, are given the opportunity to undertake some paid teaching. Such students are allocated a teaching mentor and also have to attend an intensive Learning and Teaching in Practice course before undertaking any teaching. Research students have a dedicated study room adjoining the Department, with suites of networked computers and access to research software such as NVivo.

The monitoring of research student progress has been enhanced since 2008, with a new system of annual monitoring involving a meeting with an independent chair and the supervisory team to monitor progress against time scales, completion of training, concerns and achievements. Goals for the year are also set. The reports generated then form the basis of an action plan, which is drawn up at faculty level. Our Confirmation of Candidature procedure, which normally takes place after two years of full-time study, evaluates whether students are working at doctoral level. It requires students to submit two substantial pieces of work and a reflective commentary on their entire project. This work is reviewed by two assessors (independent of the supervisory team) who submit a detailed report. Students are allowed one further submission if they fail on the first attempt. A second failure means they may only submit their thesis as an MPhil. Student progress is also monitored at the ALSS Faculty Research Degrees Sub Committee meeting and by the institutional Research Degrees Sub Committee.

Feedback from students participating in the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (2009, 2011, 2013) has shown that the student experience has improved significantly from 2008-2013. In

both PRES 2011 and 2013 our respondents rated their overall experience of their research programme at Anglia Ruskin more highly than the sector average.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The submitting unit has a two-fold approach to funding and income generation. The first is the fostering of independent and innovative scholarship at the individual level toward the development of strong REF items. The second exhibits the integral interrelation this scholarship has with wider interactive and networking collaborations between unit members, other departments and other universities, both within Europe and globally. Evidence of our success over the period includes:

- Hands (with Jussi Parikka, who was based in the submitting unit until 2011): awarded £36,000 by the AHRC networking scheme for 'New Configurations in Network Politics' (2009);
- Tiainen: awarded €86,000 by the Academy of Finland for a team project entitled 'Deleuzian Music Research' (2012) (Total grant value: €535,000);
- MacCormack: awarded a Leverhulme International Visiting Fellowship (£15,216) for a three-month exchange at University of California Santa Barbara (2013-14);
- Walter: awarded £6,550 by British Academy for 'Citizenship and genealogy: multi generational Irish identities in New Zealand, Newfoundland and England' (2010-12);
- Kendall: awarded £3,460 by British Academy/Leverhulme for 'An Aesthetics of Boredom in Contemporary Cinema' (2012).

In 2008, the university set up a Research Enhancement Fund in order to develop research capability. Each year £1,000,000 has been made available to support research institutes, PhD studentships, an undergraduate researcher scheme, and the enhancement of staff qualifications and capabilities. In 2012 the annual sum was increased to £1,250,000 and is guaranteed to continue for at least four further years. A European Preparatory Grants Fund has been set up in order to facilitate links with potential partners for EU Horizon 2020 projects.

Institutionally, our Corporate Plan and Research & Scholarship Strategy (both 2012-2014) guide and set priorities and targets for Anglia Ruskin's research activities. These are complemented by Faculty and Departmental equivalents. Organisationally, the centrally-based RDCS support service underpins our research and third stream activity, training, infrastructure and culture. Its UK Research Funding Manager and the European & International Funding Manager help support applications for research funding. A comprehensive website gives full details of current funding opportunities and guidance in bid writing. RDCS runs regular workshops to support those applying for funding, and also offers one-to-one assistance with sourcing funding and costing projects. Staff receive full and proactive support not only from RDCS, but also from Fellows based in CoDE, on applying for external income. CoDE Fellows have included media researchers Seb Franklin (based in the submitting unit in 2009-11), now a lecturer at King's College, London, and Frauke Berendt (based in the submitting unit in 2008-10), now a lecturer at Brighton University. The institute therefore not only supports our unit's research endeavours, but also offers early career opportunities to recent PhD graduates in our field.

Faculty support for research is managed by a Director of Research and a Director of Research Students, and ALSS benefits from a full-time research administrator who supports both staff and student research. Research at departmental level is co-ordinated by the Research Convenor (Campbell) and the Head of Department. The framework for this is set by the Departmental Research Strategy, which is periodically revised to accommodate new projects and income streams. Together, they coordinate research policy and manage staff sabbaticals, postgraduate bursaries, and other forms of research support. New projects, requests for research leave, conference attendance and research assistance are assessed by the Head of Department in consultation with the Convenor who reports directly to the Faculty Research Committee.

Our research is also supported by the Anglia Ruskin Library, which subscribes to a range of online research resources including EEBO and JSTOR, and colleagues also have access to Cambridge University Library. Anglia Ruskin Research Online (ARRO), our Institutional Repository highlights

and preserves our research work.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Within the submitting unit, there has been active collaboration between staff. For example, Horeck and Kendall collaborated on research on the 'new extremism', resulting in a joint book (returned in REF2), a conference and other public events (see REF3a). Staff have also been active in collaborating with researchers in other units and at other universities. For instance, MacCormack's work on the concept of 'the animal', which forms the basis of her *Animal Catalyst* project, connects this unit with the Cambridge School of Art (also in the ALSS faculty) and their work on animals in children's illustration, and furthers connection with Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) and the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB). This project, which deals with the concept of the animal from aesthetic, philosophical and ethical perspectives, was launched at a panel (comprising MacCormack, Felicity Colman [MMU] and Colin Gardner [UCSB]) at the *Human-Animal/Humain-Animal: MLA Annual French and Francophone Studies Conference* (University of San Francisco, April 2011), and has produced a contracted book for Bloomsbury (2014). In 2013, MacCormack was awarded £15,216 for a Leverhulme International Visiting Fellowship to further the work of the project, which involved her visiting UCSB to work with students in the UCSB MFA programme, many of whom deal with the concept of the animal in their practice. Gardner and MacCormack have procured two further book contracts on this topic, *Deleuze and The Animal* (for Edinburgh University Press) and *Ecosophy and Aesthetics* (for Bloomsbury).

Staff in the submitting unit have been actively involved in contributing to the discipline, as evidenced by the following:

Research council and advisory panels

- Campbell: Member of the AHRC Peer Review College
- MacCormack: Member of the American Council of Learned Societies, and reviews AHRC grant applications
- Rings: Member of the AHRC Peer Review College, the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, the Qatar National Research Fund and the HEA

Professional subject associations, learned societies, editorial positions

- Campbell: On editorial board of *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*
- Hands: Series editor of Pluto book series, 'Digital Barricades: Interventions in Digital Culture and Politics'
- MacCormack: On editorial advisory board of *Theory, Culture and Society, Body and Society, Deleuze Studies, Angelaki, Journal for Cultural Research*. Commissioning editor for 'Film Philosophy at the Margins' series for Ashgate
- Rings: On editorial board of *German as a Foreign Language (GFL)* and *Interdisciplinary Mexico (iMex)*
- Tiainen: On editorial board of *Journal of European Popular Culture*
- Walter: On editorial board of *National Identities*

Examination of doctorates

- Campbell: Cambridge (2011), Winchester (2008)
- Horeck: Manchester (2013), Monash (2010)
- MacCormack: Edith Cowan University (2011), Trinity College Dublin (2009)
- Rings: Nantes (2012), Málaga (2011), Eastern Finland (2009)
- Walter: Warwick (2013), London Metropolitan (2011)

Organising conferences etc

- The New Extremism: Contemporary European Cinema (Horeck and Kendall; Anglia Ruskin, 24-25 April 2009)
- Extreme: Visual Representation and the Body (Horeck; Anglia Ruskin, 25-26 June 2009)
- Thinking Network Politics: Methods, Epistemology, Process (Hands; Anglia Ruskin, 25-26 March 2010)

- New Materialisms and Digital Culture: An International Symposium on Contemporary Arts, Media and Cultural Theory (Tiainen; Anglia Ruskin, 21 June 2010)
- Network Politics: Objects, Subjects and New Political Affects (Hands; Ryerson University, Toronto, 22-23 October 2010)
- Platform Politics (Hands; Anglia Ruskin, 12-13 May 2011)
- Rethinking Revolutionary Processes: What is the Digital Difference? (Hands; Anglia Ruskin, 24 November 2011)
- Fast/Slow: Intensifications of Cinematic Speed (Kendall; Anglia Ruskin, 4-5 April 2013)

Refereeing academic publications and proposals

- Campbell: *Popular Music, Irish Studies Review, IASPM@Journal*; Sage, Irish Academic Press
- Hands: Routledge, Sage, Pluto, *Information, Communication & Society, Communication, Culture and Critique*
- Horeck: *Theory, Culture and Society; Limina; African American Review*
- Kendall: *Theory, Culture and Society, Film-Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Film Studies*
- MacCormack: Ashgate, Edinburgh University Press, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Palgrave
- Rings: *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*
- Tiainen: *Body & Society, Journal of Women and Social Work, NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research*
- Walter: *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism, Area, Qualitative research in Psychology, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Irish Geography, Irish Studies Review, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Journal of Australasian Irish Studies, University of Toronto Quarterly*

Invited keynotes and lectures

- Campbell: Keynote speaker at 'Masculinity and Irish Popular Culture' (NUI Galway 2011) and 'Irish Popular Music in Britain' (Northumbria 2012)
- Horeck: Keynote speaker at 'Feminism and the Question of Rape' (Salford 2009).
- Kendall: Keynote speaker at 'The Cultural Mythology of the Snuff Movie'
- MacCormack: Keynote speaker at the Second Biennial Meeting of the Babel Working Group (Northeastern University 2012); *Deleuze and Cinema* (Lancaster 2012); *Gilles Deleuze: Philosophy and Aesthetics* (Manchester Metropolitan University 2012); *Venus as Muse* (Cologne 2012); *Bodies in Movement* (Edinburgh 2011); *Carnal Aesthetics* conference (Utrecht 2011); *Body, Theory, Media* (Mainz, Germany 2010); 'FutureSex: Queer Future Film Theory' (British Film Institute 2012), 'Schizoanalysis and Visual Culture' (Cardiff 2010); *Visual Culture Reconsidered* (Limerick 2009); *Ranci re Symposium* (Roehampton 2008); *Close Encounters of the Animal Kind* (Tate Britain 2008), 'NOISE' conference on feminist manifestation (Bologna 2007)
- Rings: Keynote speaker at SOCNET (M laga 2010); 'Immigraci n, discurso, alteridad' (M laga 2008); 'Goya im Dialog der Kulturen, Medien und Disziplinen' (Bielefeld University, Germany 2011); 'Im genes de otro M xico' (Goethe Museum D sseldorf, 2010). Held the prestigious DAAD Visiting Professorship at D sseldorf University (April-August 2010) and was invited as Visiting Professor by Bayreuth University (2012) and the University of Seoul (Korea) (2013)
- Tiainen: Keynote speaker at 'New Materialism: Naturecultures' (Utrecht 2011)
- Walter: Keynote speaker at the 'Irish in Britain: Issues, Evidence and Future Trends' Symposium (Sheffield Hallam, 2008), and at the New Perspectives on Women and the Irish Diaspora conference (Bath Spa, 2012), and at the Irish-American Link Conference (Tuam, Co. Galway 2012)