

Institution: University of Lincoln
Unit of Assessment: 36: Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, Library and Information Management
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>Research in Media and Cultural Studies at Lincoln centres around five areas: European Cultural Studies including policy (Gray, Winston, Smejkalova, Voase); Film and Television Studies (Barrow, Elliot, Winston, Morris); Media Ecologies and Digital Cultures (McSherry, Coley, Mitchell, Lockwood); Media Histories (Chapman, Gray) and Diasporic and Investigative Journalism (Keeble, Ogenyemu, Tulloch, Sahin). Two Research Centres, the Centre for Research in Journalism (formally the Centre for Media Policy Regulation and Ethics) and the Centre for European Cultural Studies, house researchers from the Schools of Journalism and Media. The centres combine staff research interests and promote interdisciplinary engagement: a number of high-profile funded research projects such as 'Televising History' and 'Comics and the World Wars' combine cross-disciplinary approaches and methodologies. Practice as research is an emerging area within the UoA and underpins research across our identified areas. The UoA also benefits from the presence of a growing number of significant archival collections such as the Media Archive for Central England (MACE), the John Pilger Archive and the Lincolnshire Echo archive that enhance research activity (see below).</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>2008-2013: Building a vibrant research environment</p> <p>The Unit's Research and Enterprise Strategy is aligned with the University's strategic research objectives. These are to improve the research environment; to invest in the building of key research capabilities and resources; to underpin the continued professional development of researchers; to raise the impact of research outputs; and to strengthen the postgraduate offering. Our activities and achievements in relation to these since the 2008 RAE submission are summarised below and addressed in more detail in the relevant subsequent sections. One key challenge in the census period involved building on the momentum achieved in the 2001-2007 period to develop a sustainable research culture. Further recruitment of staff and the formulation and implementation of a succession plan was put in place, leading to the recruitment of eight new staff. This includes four early career researchers in film, digital technologies and journalism (Elliott, Palmieri, Coley and Sahin) whose research will be central to the UoA's development in the next cycle. 2008 to 2013 saw further significant developments in the research culture of the Unit. These included internationalisation, research into new media forms and technologies and practice as research. There has been a concerted effort to share research on Europe, in particular with post-socialist countries, as widely as possible through the Centre for European Cultural Studies. This particular strand of work (Sjmejalova, Gray) has attracted visiting scholars from the Charles University, Prague, the University of Oslo and Mongolian State University of Education (Open Society funded Junior Fellow). Cultural policy is an emerging area offering exciting links with heritage industries (Voase). The Centre has developed European links through Erasmus, and Gray continues her editorship of the <i>European Journal of Cultural Studies</i>.</p> <p>Film and Television Studies remains a strength of the unit, as demonstrated by the appointment of Barrow (Latin American cinemas) and Elliott (historical film) who joined established specialists Gray, Winston and Morris (auteur studies).</p> <p>The theme of Media History continues to link a number of individual and collective research activities. Chapman's work takes a historical and international perspective on the press and comics in the projects 'Women, Press & Protest in France & India' (BA and ESRC) and 'Comics and the World Wars' (AHRC); Gray examines television as public history in the interdisciplinary project 'Televising History, 1995-2010' (AHRC); Elliott works on representations of the medieval past on film and television; Winston continues to publish on documentary history and has written and co-produced a documentary on the work of Robert Flaherty, <i>A Boatload of Wild Irishmen</i>. Members of the Unit have collaborated with MACE in the research and production of <i>Midlands on Film</i>, a series of nine documentaries seeking to engage the public with the screen heritage of the Midlands.</p>

The **Centre for Research in Journalism** now encompasses a wide range of research themes, including ethics, peace journalism, literary journalism and diasporic journalism (**Winston, Keeble, Tulloch, Sahin and Ogunyemi**). **Keeble** works on communication ethics and with Tulloch (sadly deceased in September 2013) continued to deliver outputs on peace journalism. **Keeble** and Tulloch devised an interdisciplinary approach, using a literary framework to understand forms of journalism. Sahin's appointment has made human rights a developing area for research.

International links have extended via India, leading to a greater focus on South Asian journalism (**Chapman**). **Ogunyemi's** research focuses on the media produced by and for Britain's African diaspora (BA) and he has established an international diasporic research group that includes journalists and academics. The developing research of ECR Sahin will extend international journalistic research into the Turkish Cypriot media in the next five years.

A research group on **Critical Issues in Digital Culture**, consisting of **Gray, Lockwood, Vickers, Coley** (PGR student within the period) and PGR student Thayne was established in 2009 to examine, through critical theory and critical practice, the growing significance of the digital revolution in media forms and ecologies. The appointment of Mitchell (2011) underlined our commitment to establishing expertise in this increasingly important field of research, and several members of staff, including Lockwood, Coley, Vickers and Richards, published related work between 2008 and 2013 which included Lockwood and Coley's book on cloud computing, *Cloud Time* (2012). Thayne's expertise in this area led to his invitation to participate in a European Science Foundation conference 'Paying Attention: Digital Media Cultures and Generational Responsibility' in 2010. Along with O'Meara and Kearns, and colleagues from English and History, Coley participated in a £37,000 AHRC-funded inter-disciplinary project 'Telling our Stories' (PI Leslie Hicks submitted under UoA 22) that worked with marginalised social groups in recording their life histories.

Regular Faculty and School research seminars continued throughout the period. Guest speakers included Helen Wood, Jussi Parrika, Joss Hands, Alex Graham (Wall to Wall) and David Hendy. Faculty Research Conferences were held in 2008, 2009 and 2011 to hear presentations from staff and research students, identify potential research collaborations, and offer information on research funding and support.

2014-2019: Maintaining momentum

The establishment of the new College of Arts in 2011 offered colleagues in the UoA exciting opportunities for further cross-disciplinary research. We intend to increase our cohort of researchers by continuing to support our practitioner colleagues to engage in practice as research through collaborations with more experienced researchers. A strong cohort of junior and early career researchers is emerging in the UoA who will form the nucleus of research plans for the next five years. Efforts to enhance activity will be supported by financial incentives. A central Research Investment Fund of £500,000 open to all staff prioritises collaborative and pump-priming initiatives to good effect. For example Elliott (ECR) has recently secured an award of £45,000 for collaborative research with computing scientists and local museums exploring crowd curation of local histories. College support is offered through the Research Resources Investment Fund, which provides financial assistance for fieldwork and conference presentation as well as impact generation. Succession plans for the continuation of research leadership and vision as the demographic profile of the team shifts are now well established. Strong emerging research themes, which include critical theory and practice modes of research will be encouraged and supported. The Unit's distinctive and interdisciplinary approach to history and historical representation (**Chapman, Elliott**) will continue, and new dimensions of film and television studies, e.g. international and transnational (**Barrow**) and the emerging field of children's media are currently in development. The conceptualisation of new formations of 'media ecologies' is an important underpinning of the revised MA offerings and provides an umbrella for collaborative research and practice activity across photography, digital media, film and television, encouraging further doctoral research in these areas. Themes include rethinking visual culture (Coley), the politics of affect and the sensorium (Lockwood), digital installations and performativity (Vickers, Field). New postgraduate researchers are now working on digital activism and digital communities and Lockwood and Coley are members of the University's interdisciplinary 21st Century research group with colleagues from English, History, Art and Design and Architecture. Research within

journalism will continue with its distinctive themes of ethics, peace, history and literary journalism (**Chapman, Keeble, Sahin**) whilst developing and expanding its international range and scope (**Ogunyemi, Sahin**). The development of work within and on European Cultural Studies through existing and new research networks will continue, extending its reach into cultural policy (Smejkalova, **Voase**).

The Unit will continue to build its PGR student cohort as more staff gain experience as supervisors. The successful policy of encouraging less experienced staff to shadow senior supervisors (Directors of Study) will continue. The suite of MA taught programmes attract PG students, three of whom proceeded to PGR status during the census period. Careful use of university bursaries is proving successful in securing students to completion and employment (Coley).

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Staff in the UoA have a strong infrastructure at School, College and University level, supporting our key aim to produce internationally-recognised research; the ongoing enrichment and expansion of the research themes outlined above through careful recruitment reflects a successful staffing strategy that aims to enhance the quality and quantity of media and cultural studies research at Lincoln. All staff have at least one day a week free from teaching and administrative duties. They are also eligible to apply to a competitive research leave scheme, piloted in the School of Humanities in 2007 and rolled out into other Schools in the College from 2011. Eight staff have so far received leave under this scheme, supporting the production of a range of outputs including monographs from **Gray** and Smejkalova.

The UoA is supported by the University's People Strategy, a comprehensive range of policies around employment, equal opportunities, research management and ethics, each with an element designed to facilitate and support research activity among staff and students.

The University has signed up to principles of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. It has introduced minimum academic standards regarding research productivity within its annual appraisal system for those seeking career advancement. All staff are assigned to a research mentor as part of the research element of the Continuing Professional and Personal Development Framework, and have access to a Further Study Fund, which can be applied to cover all or part of fees for further study. A number of staff in both Schools have benefitted from this scheme.

All new academic staff, including ECRs, are guaranteed a lower-than-average teaching load and no administrative duties in their first academic year, and receive advice and guidance from a dedicated senior member of staff. As part of this process they receive detailed support in setting and achieving individual research targets including help with funding and publishing proposals. Established staff undergo annual appraisals to set and monitor career aims, including research plans, with summaries forwarded to the appropriate Head of School for use in planning resource and developmental needs. Other support is available at institutional level, for example through regular bid-writing workshops, or through more targeted initiatives such as the University's Women into Research Forum. Regular sandpit events are aimed at enhancing collaborations for interdisciplinary research; Elliot's successful Research Investment Fund bid came through this route.

Support for staff seeking to engage in research beyond an immediate academic context comes from a variety of sources including the College Business Development Manager, the University Research and Income Generation Team and the College Arts Development Officer. A number of projects have developed from this route including the highly successful biennial *Frequency* event, a multi-platform festival of digital cultures funded by with the Arts Council of England, and a number of Knowledge Transfer Partnership projects (KTPs) with Lincolnshire Co-Operative Society, Interflora UK, Lincolnshire NHS and Mortons Media Group, connecting the UoA's research with a wider public audience.

ii. Research students

Lincoln is a relatively young university. This was reflected in the RAE submission, which

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highlighted the importance of the postgraduate programme as key to growth and development. Between 2008 and 2013 there were four completions, and it is a measure of the growing success of the programme that Postgraduate Research Student numbers have increased to 16. The Unit is fully committed to integrating students within a vibrant and sustainable research culture. PGR students join existing research groups, participate in School Research seminars and, where appropriate, co-publish with academic staff (e.g. Lockwood/Coley and **Keeble/Zollman**). They are also supported in developing their own work for publication.

Every research student is a member of the University's Graduate School, founded in 2011 to foster the development of postgraduate research and champion the interests of research students at the University (see section d). The Unit now has 16 registered PGR students, thanks to efforts including successful bids for internal PhD bursaries (full fees plus research-council-level stipends), and the inclusion of PhD students on funded projects, such as 'Comics and the World Wars'. In addition to the successful completion of their doctoral theses, PhD students are supported in developing themselves as independent researchers through:

Financial support – A proportion of the College Research Resources Fund is ring-fenced to support postgraduates in delivering papers at conferences (including international events). Supervisors alert their students to further funding opportunities and advise on bid writing.

Presentation skills – PhD students are expected to deliver research papers in the Schools' research seminars. The Graduate School provides generic training on presentation.

Training for PhD students – This is managed via the Personal Development Profile (PDP) introduced at induction. This contains a Training Needs Analysis (TNA) and Log that address skills identified by the Research Councils and QAA Code of Practice. Training is delivered via the Graduate School. These cannot be entered for examination until students are able to demonstrate that the skills identified in the TNA have been attained.

Employability and career development – These are integral to the TNA. Postgraduate students are encouraged to teach on both the BA and MA programmes and are supported in this through training courses delivered by the Graduate School. Students who are teaching are invited to attend appropriate staff meetings and committees to support their professional development. Two candidates who completed during the census period have already secured full-time academic jobs.

Monitoring and support – All PhD students have at least two supervisors. Written records are kept of the regular meetings between students and supervisors, agreed by both parties and kept on student files, and these feed into annual progress records that are monitored through the College Research Degrees Board.

Facilities – Postgraduate students enjoy generous facilities, with a dedicated room and ample IT resources. They have regular informal meetings, seminars and discussion groups for sharing research and best practice.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Timely research into media histories, diasporic media consumption and Latin American cinemas, along with critically informed practice work has secured external funding whilst investment in film, print and digital archives has provided an important resource for present and future scholars in the Unit.

Research income

The College has a Director of Research with a dedicated administrative support colleague to lead and encourage a strong research culture. Both work closely with the College Business Development Manager to help identify opportunities for funding and collaborative ventures and to develop effectively written grant applications. This combination of staff working at University and College level ensures that approaches are structured, co-ordinated and effective. The Unit's bidding rate has increased significantly over the period under review, and our recent successful bids underline the growing status and capacity of the Schools' research activities. We now regularly bid for and are winning funding for significant sums – sometimes running well into six figures – to carry out major research projects. Successes include:

AHRC, 2011-2015: Comics and the World Wars – A Cultural Record – £539,000 (PI: **Chapman**)
 AHRC, 2006-2010: Televising History, 1995-2010 – £385,000 (PI: **Gray**) (see impact case study II)
 Irish Film Board, TG4 and EM Media, 2009: A Boatload of Wild Irishmen (documentary) – £330,000 (writer/co-producer: **Winston**)
 ESRC, 2009-2012: Women, Press and Protest in British and French India, 1928-1948 – £71,000

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(PI: **Chapman**) (see impact case study 1)

British Academy Small Research Grant, 2007-2009: *Feminising Influences on Mass Circulation: A Comparative Study of *Le Petit Journal* and the *Daily Mail** – £6,900 (PI: **Chapman**)

British Academy Small Research Grant, 2011: *Bridging the Gulf Between Mainstream and Diasporic Public Spheres: An Analysis of Channel 4's Digital Project* – £4,200 (PI: **Ogunyemi**)

Funding from East Midlands Media and the UK Film Council for *The Midlands on Film* documentary series (£54,000).

Funding from Society of Latin American Studies and Joint Initiative for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean to support symposium on Latin American Cinemas Today, held at Lincoln with international participants, 2012 – £3,000

Scholarly infrastructure supporting research

The University hosts a number of important archives. Representative of a broad range of media and drawing on local, national and international sources, they assist research activities and are also available as a valuable resource to external stakeholders.

The Media Archive for Central England (MACE) was moved to Lincoln in 2011 after the Unit won £0.5 million from the Film Council/BFI to help construct a purpose-built facility to store this collection and to enable it to be accessed and used by research students and staff across the university. The expertise demonstrated and developed during this project means we are now being asked to store (or advise on the storage of) similar collections. MACE has underpinned a number of research projects, including the *Midlands on Film*, a series of 9 DVDs which profile the people places, history and culture of some of the cities and counties of the Midlands; one of these, *Nottingham on Film*, was shortlisted for a FOCAL International Award 2013. A further HLF-funded DVD exploring the value of home movies to historians for *History Today* involved research by Cowman (submitted under UoA 30).

The archive of renowned investigative journalist John Pilger, including notes and memoirs from five decades of reporting for TV and national newspapers, is housed by the School of Journalism. The Centre for Research in Journalism has deployed a PGR to work with Pilger on the development of his website and to begin work on the creation of a comprehensive digital archive of his journalism from the 1960s onwards. The John Pilger Archive represents a rich source for the study of the history of investigative journalism, underpinning the work of Tulloch, Keeble and Sahin. The commitment to preserving important media archives and opening them to access is demonstrated by the forthcoming Televising History archive, the acceptance of a recent donation of a substantial collection of 20th-century British Children's comics, and The Lincolnshire Echo archive dating from the late 19th century. These unique collections will underpin new research in the next five years.

Organisational infrastructure supporting research

The University of Lincoln has made step-change investment in facilities benefitting their research community during the census period and this process continues with a £500,000 per annum Research Investment Fund and PhD Bursaries scheduled for investment in the next five years. The resulting infrastructure has created an environment that is attracting first-class students and researchers and playing an important part in building the University's future research capacity.

The Graduate School, set up in 2011, offers research education and career development programmes and a support network for all research students. Research students receive support to present their work at seminars and at an annual Postgraduate Student Conference, to get work published, to identify potential research funding and to learn skills transferrable to the workplace. This is in addition to the extensive online and physical library facilities and IT support available for all students.

Operational infrastructure supporting research

Beyond the institution-wide expenditure and the investment in the archives, there has been substantial investment in facilities in the Schools. Investment continues in upgrading the media facilities, including two TV studios (one of which was upgraded in 2012 with investment of almost £0.5 million), three radio studios, extensive video and audio editing equipment, a sound mixing theatre, digital photography suite, multimedia production suites and software. This supports our emerging practice-led research strand, e.g. **Winston** (documentary film); McKay *et al* (MACE DVDs); Vickers (on-line interactive documentary); Forster (screen writing); McSherry (audio production), and is important in attracting students and academics who seek to keep abreast of a rapidly changing industry and need a practical familiarity with the technology underpinning it.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

The Research Centres continue to be significant drivers for interdisciplinary research and collaboration both internally and externally. They play a key role in the development of the research base both locally and nationally by actively supporting the development of staff as researchers. Staff have continued to serve the broader research and professional community in a number of ways including:

Collaboration: Key collaborations have taken place in all of the main research areas. Notable examples include:

European Cultural Studies

Gray Advisory board, Centre for Culture Identity and Education, University of British Columbia, Vancouver Smejkalova – Honorary Research Fellow, Department of History, University of Nottingham; Visiting Research Fellow, University of Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic; Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic, and HEIs in Slovenia, Czech Republic, Austria on cultural studies.

Film and Television

Winston – with HKBU and Victoria (Melbourne) on Commonwealth documentary. **Gray** with Universities of Warwick (Midlands TV Research Group); Edinburgh ‘Staging the Scottish Renaissance’ Universities of Sorbonne and Bologna ‘Towards A European History for Television’. **Barrow** – with Universities of Portsmouth, Leeds, America, Massachusetts, Georgia State and Southern Illinois on Latin American cinemas; Anglia Ruskin and Cornell on world cinemas; Glasgow and Warwick on children’s film and TV culture, 1950-1985. Elliott – with University of Coimbra, Portugal, on Video Games and History project.

Media Histories

Chapman – with Macquarie University, Sydney (Indian Press), Manhattan Marymount College, NY, on comics; Cambridge University Library, Rare Books Department, on archive digitalisation; Loyola College, Baltimore, as co-author.

Journalism

Keeble – with Coventry and Hull on contemporary media issues. **Ogunyemi** – established Media Diaspora Research Group in 2010, working with HEIs in Nigeria, Australia, USA, Belgium, South Africa, France, Russia, Finland, Germany, Turkey and Canada.

Digital Cultures

Mitchell – with Portsmouth, Kings College, West of Scotland, Cologne, Freiburg and V&A on digital transformations. Vickers – with HEIs in Finland, Latvia, Netherlands and Spain on Erasmus Intensive Programme, Media Cultures 2020.

Peer reviewing: Staff have worked with Research Councils as peer reviewers on a number of proposals. Mitchell and **Winston** are members of the AHRC Peer Review College, **Chapman** is a member of the ESRC Peer Review College. A number of colleagues have also refereed research proposals, including **Barrow** (AHRC) and **Gray** (ESRC).

Involvement with a number of key professional associations has expanded to include:

Chapman – Convenor, Wolfson College Cambridge Humanities Society; founder member of French Media Research Group (part of Association for Study of Modern and Contemporary France). **Keeble** – Director, Institute of Communication Ethics; Advisory Board Member, UK Chapter of International Communications Forum and International Association for Literary Journalism Studies; Member, Media Research Committee, Centre for Global Nonkilling, Hawaii. Vickers – Chair, European Academy of Digital Media Academic Network, Austria. **Winston** – Chair, British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies.

Staff serve on the **editorial boards** of a number of publications. **Gray** is editor of the *European*

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Journal of Cultural Studies; **Keeble** is joint editor of *Ethical Space* and series editor for *Media Skills* (Routledge) and *Communication Ethics* (Troubador). **Winston** is joint editor, *Fusion* (e-journal) and **Barrow** serves on its EAB and on the EAB of *Modern Languages Online*.

PhD examining has taken place in a number of universities in the UK and abroad, including **Chapman** – Cardiff and Glamorgan. **Keeble** – Leeds Metropolitan. **Gray** – Loughborough, East London, Cardiff. **Winston** – Dublin City, Central St Martins, Utrecht.

HEI consultancies: Chapman has offered research advice on selecting archives for conservation at Cambridge University Library War Reserve Collection. **Gray** is a steering committee member for the AHRC-funded 'Staging and Representing the Scottish Renaissance Court' (University of Edinburgh) and for the Leverhulme projects 'Media of Remembering' and 'Socialism on Screen' (University of Loughborough).

Research has been showcased through a variety of **conference organisation** during the census period at Lincoln and other national and international venues such as: **Barrow** Latin American Cinemas Today, Lincoln, 2012. **Chapman** – Women in French Media, Newcastle, 2011; India Past, Present and Abroad, Sydney, 2011, **Gray** – Televising History Symposium, Lincoln, 2008; Televising History Conference, Lincoln, 2009; **Keeble** –Rebellious Media, Lincoln, 2011; George Orwell, Lincoln, 2011; **Ogunyemi** – Media of Diaspora Research Group symposium, Lincoln, 2012. Smejkalova –New Trends in Czech Studies III for Czech Ambassador to UK; **Winston** – Visible Evidence XV, Lincoln, 2008; BAFTSS Annual Conference, Lincoln, 2013.

Book proposal reviewing: **Chapman** – Bloomsbury, Routledge, Polity; **Gray** – Edinburgh University Press, Routledge, Palgrave, University of Illinois Press; **Barrow** – Routledge, Polity, Palgrave, Bloomsbury.

Awards and Fellowships: **Chapman** – Visiting Fellow, Department of History, University College, Dublin, 2008-2009; Visiting Fellow, Wolfson College Cambridge, Centre of South Asian Studies, 2009-present; Visiting Fellow, Centre for Media History, Macquarie University, 2009-2011, and Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University, 2011-2015. **Gray** – Honorary Associate, Centre for Media History, Macquarie University, Sydney. International CARTI Scholar, Open Society Foundations Higher Education Support Programme.

Keynote presentations during the census period include: **Chapman** – Open, Cambridge and Sheffield Universities. **Gray** – Czech-Polish-Slovak Communication Conference, Brno-Telc, Czech Republic, 2009; Beijing University of Culture and Language, 2009; University of Limerick, 2011; University of Beira, Portugal and Charles University Prague, 2013. **Keeble** – Bowling Green State University, 2009; Chicago, 2009; Sydney, 2011; Oxford 2011. Mitchell – Goldsmiths College. **Sjmejalova** – Prague and Ottawa. **Winston** – London, Berlin, Netherlands, Jerusalem, Beijing and Canberra, 2012; Liverpool Hope University, 2013.