

<p>Institution: City University London</p> <p>Unit of Assessment: 21 Politics and International Studies</p> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>The Department of International Politics is an active community of students, academic staff and researchers dedicated to applying expert knowledge of global politics and international relations to current issues and crises.</p> <p>Through investment under the University's Strategic Plan 2012-2016, the Department has expanded well beyond its establishment in 2007 (four full-time academic staff). In RAE 2008 International Politics was included in the University's Sociology submission. The Department is now submitting 13.2 FTE academics including four professorial staff. The University is committed to further expansion of the Department commensurate with student numbers and grant income growth.</p> <p>The Department has identified areas of contemporary challenge in Politics and International Studies and has recruited to these areas. As a result, three research clusters are now in place in the sub-fields of (a) International Political Economy; (b) International Social and Political Justice; and (c) Foreign Policy, Conflict and Diplomacy. Research is further enhanced through two research centres, the City Political Economy Research Centre (CITYPERC) for cluster (a) and the Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS) for clusters (b) and (c). The Centres capitalise on City's strong links with UK government and international policy-makers, NGOs, business and the media and seek to deepen this engagement in the discussion of research and the dissemination of findings.</p> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>The overall ambition of the Department has been to establish a reputation for internationally excellent research in the three areas of International Relations mentioned above. This ambition has guided the selection and appointment of ten new members of staff since 2012, thereby expanding capacity while capitalising on the research strengths of continuing staff. This strategy has received direct encouragement and the required investment from the University.</p> <p>The Department's research strategy is intended to facilitate the production of research that shapes the research agenda in fields of international politics; advances interdisciplinary approaches and methodologies in social science research; and demonstrably informs understanding of contemporary issues and problems confronting decision-makers in the contemporary global setting.</p> <p>At the time of RAE 2008, the Department of International Politics gave priority to research on the issues, actors and institutions bracketed under the broad heading of 'Globalisation'. The research strategy for the period of REF 2014 gives priority to three research clusters in areas identified as being of contemporary importance: (a) International Political Economy; (b) International Social and Political Justice; and (c) Foreign Policy, Conflict and Diplomacy.</p> <p>All staff and research students are encouraged to affiliate with at least one of these three clusters, enabling them to pursue their research with the benefit of collegial support and engage with others who share their research interests, while also pooling their efforts to mutual benefit. The structure creates a stimulating and vibrant environment. Interdisciplinary approaches are also welcomed and all academic and research staff are encouraged to collaborate with colleagues across the School of Arts & Social Sciences, The City Law School and Cass Business School, as well as with staff and students at other universities working on related topics.</p> <p>Specific research projects in development, for which funding will be sought over the coming five years, include: the political economy of financial innovation, shadow banking and international financial governance; the linkages between fertility, pensions and securitisation; futurity and economic performance; post-globalisation crises and the rise of large political economic entities;</p>
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corporations, civil society and governance, the case of Kyrgyzstan; gender and multiculturalism; the character and consequences of contrasting narratives on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict among different faith groups in the UK; the contested idea of universal human rights; evolution of non-governmental organisations; Israeli foreign policy from the end of the Cold War; the notion of 'strategic peace' with special reference to the Jordanian and Egyptian peace treaties with Israel; and the 'drone' phenomenon and human rights concerns.

Our strategy for delivery of our research agenda encompasses the following components:

Generous sabbatical leave. A generous University sabbatical system is in place. A member of academic staff may apply for sabbatical leave for a period of time up to a maximum of one-seventh of University service. By September 2012, all staff members in International Politics recruited before December 2011 had received sabbatical leave in order to support their research work and facilitate their contribution to REF 2014. In addition, staff with heavy administrative loads, such as the Head of Department, were granted longer sabbatical periods to support their contribution.

Synergies between teaching and research. The Department seeks to sustain research excellence through the allocation of teaching responsibilities, both undergraduate and postgraduate, commensurate with staff research interests and the sharing of responsibilities where synergies exist. A system of co-teaching and weighted teaching is in place to give staff who prefer to alternate between heavy and light teaching terms the opportunity to do so. This allows colleagues to pursue research more intensively during the light teaching term. As a result, the majority of staff benefit from one teaching term of no more than two direct contact hours per week.

Research Centres. To ensure and sustain a dynamic and supportive environment for research, in 2012 we established two research centres: the City Political Economy Research Centre (CITYPERC), under the directorship of Nesvetailova, and the Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), under the directorship of Hollis. These centres create opportunities for collaborative work with other units at City, as well as with commensurate units in other universities. CITYPERC staff run conferences and workshops with colleagues at the Cass Business School and the Centre serves as a vehicle for collaborative publishing and planning funding applications with colleagues at Cass. CIPS is comprised of four research areas: in addition to the International Social and Political Justice cluster (led by McDowell), the Foreign Policy, Conflict and Diplomacy cluster encompasses the areas of Understanding Conflict in Complex Societies (led by Hollis), American Power in a Changing World (led by Parmar) and Global Future Worlds (research designed to help business leaders meet the challenges presented by the emergence of a new multipolar world order, led by Davies of Cass Business School). During the next REF period a series of workshops will enable academic staff to discuss and develop their research projects and proposals with other academics, including those in The City Law School and City's Department of Journalism, to ensure that their approaches take cognisance of the latest theoretical developments and research findings in other fields.

Developing a strong community of research students. The University provides a competitive studentship system for PhD applicants. These are allocated on the basis of the excellence of applicant profiles; the extent to which proposed projects have strong affinity with the disciplinary vision of the Department; and the potential to enhance the research of staff members. Since 2007, the Department obtained 15 prestigious University PhD studentships (each equivalent in value to an ESRC bursary). Our students run their own research meetings and attend the Department seminar series and the various activities of the two research centres. PhD students and staff also collaborate with research students from other universities who join City for short visits of up to six months (we have on average five visitors per year).

Research seminars and research culture. In addition to bi-weekly Department research seminars, research clusters run 'brown bag' meetings on a regular basis. One Departmental meeting per term is dedicated to the discussion and promotion of research culture and research environment.

Support from the School. The School of Arts & Social Sciences provides support through the

School Research Office. The School operates a peer-review process for research funding applications in line with the UK Research Councils' demand management policy, provides help and guidance with targeting funding from Research Councils and specific programmes and takes a lead role in initiating interdisciplinary and cross-School research collaborations.

Monitoring Process. The Department's research strategy is developed by a research committee chaired by the Department's research director, followed by discussion at Departmental meetings. The research centres and our seminar series provide all academic staff and research students with opportunities to discuss research in progress and obtain feedback from peers. Our staff appraisal system ensures that each member of staff sets targets in consultation with academic line-managers and appraises their progress towards meeting these on a regular basis. There is a University Annual Research Quality Monitoring process which reviews the quality of research publications.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Our staff recruitment policy is informed by our research strategy and supported by the University's Strategic Plan 2012-16. This has led to enhancing academic strength in research fields identified as being of contemporary importance. The University is committed to further expansion of the Department commensurate with student numbers.

We have built a community of scholars that are interested in shaping agendas in the study of international politics and beyond. We seek to attract staff and research students prepared to challenge conventional thinking, ask 'big questions' and entertain unconventional theories and methodologies. To achieve those aims, up to four publications of long-listed job candidates are read by the entire Department and each member comments on the quality of the written work and its future potential. Only candidates that are deemed to have produced work that is internationally excellent are invited for interview. Our ability to attract high-calibre ECRs is evidence of success of this policy. Junior faculty have been recruited from institutions including Harvard, LSE, Oxford, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds.

The demographics of the Department show a broad gender balance and spread across senior staff and ECRs and an equitable distribution of administrative roles. The staff profile is as follows:

McDowell, Head of Department. Joined from City's Department of Sociology in 2007, promoted to Reader in 2008.

Palan, Professor of International Political Economy, Research Director. Joined from the University of Birmingham in 2012.

Parmar, Professor of International Politics. Joined in 2012 from the University of Manchester.

Hollis, Professor of Middle East Policy Studies. Joined in 2012 from City's Olive Tree Programme.

Schwartz, 0.2 FTE Professor of International Political Economy. Joined in 2013 from the University of Virginia.

Nesvetailova, Reader and director of CITYPERC. Joined in 2007, promoted to Reader in 2010.

Aran, Senior Lecturer, appointed 2009, promoted from Lecturer in 2011.

Silvestri, Senior Lecturer and Director of PhD Programme. Joined in 2006, promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2009.

Davies, Lecturer and Undergraduate Course Director. Joined in 2007.

Collantes-Celador, Lecturer and Course Director, MA in International Politics. Joined in 2008.

Hirst, Lecturer and Undergraduate Admissions Tutor. Joined in 2012.

Samman, Lecturer. Joined in 2013.

Hoover, Lecturer and Course Director, MA in Human Rights and International Politics. Joined in 2013.

Pagliari, Lecturer. Joined in 2013.

Kapadia, Lecturer. Joined in 2013.

Rossdale, Teaching Fellow in International Relations (fixed term position). Joined in 2013.

As a result of recent appointments, the departure of three members of staff in 2011/12 (Drolet, Harman and Williams) has not affected our research strategy and strengths.

Senior academic staff are responsible for the establishment of collaborative research networks in City that include ECRs, PhD students and Visiting Fellows. Research project teams within our two research centres are led by Palan, Schwartz and Nesvetailova (International Political Economy); and by McDowell (International Social and Political Justice); Hollis (Understanding Conflict in Complex Societies); Parmar (American Power in a Changing World); and Aran (Foreign Policy Analysis).

Department ECRs have won competitive pump-priming grants offered by the University in support of research projects which align with the areas of the research clusters. Five grants (£1,700 to £5,000) have been awarded in the REF period: to Nesvetailova (2008) and Davies (2009) for the preparation of their book manuscripts; Aran (2012) for a book manuscript to be published by Cambridge University Press in the next REF period and Hoover and Pagliari (2013) also to work on their book manuscripts.

The Department has established a mentoring system that aims to help ECRs with advice on research and publication strategy and to offer peer review and other supporting guidance.

City has been fully committed to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers since its original publication in 1996 and re-launch in 2008. The University received the European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award in May 2012 on the basis of its Concordat implementation plan. A key component was the introduction of new terms and conditions of employment for research staff from August 2012. These have made continuing contracts the norm for research staff in place of fixed-term contracts and introduced parity with academic staff on pay progression, annual leave and sickness entitlement and access to promotion opportunities. The appraisal process for research staff also requires consideration of career development needs alongside project performance. City was mentioned in the May 2013 Vitae review of HR Excellence in Research implementation plans as an example of good practice.

The continued enhancement of researcher development is another key element of the Concordat implementation plan. The Research Councils UK "Roberts" funding was used to establish a University-wide Research and Enterprise Development Programme. Since 2010/11 this has been enhanced to provide an annual budget of up to £100,000 as an integral part of the support provided for academic staff. The programme supports staff at all levels from PhD to professorial and includes individual tailoring for academic staff at an early stage in their research career. Training covers supervision of research students, enterprise and commercialisation skills, workshops on applying for funding, writing proposals, writing for publication, impact of research and use of social media.

ii. Research students

In the current REF period, the Department has embarked on the development of a PhD Programme that produces excellent researchers ready to take up faculty posts in academia and research positions beyond academia. The provision of studentships is regarded as an important factor in attracting top-calibre students. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their research plans with academic staff before formally applying. All who meet the basic qualification standards are reviewed by two or more faculty to assess their academic potential and alignment with staff research expertise. Successful applicants are assigned two supervisors and encouraged to affiliate to a Research Centre or cluster. Students have access to the University training programme for research students (including events run by City's Research and Enterprise support staff). At the end of Year 1, students prepare a full proposal and present in a Departmental colloquium for evaluation by a transfer panel that consists of the majority of faculty members, including their supervisors, to determine progression to PhD status. Subsequent progress is monitored through the annual supervisor report and annual presentations at the Departmental colloquium.

All of these processes are overseen by the Director of the PhD Programme. The School provides a research studies handbook to all students at induction documenting all aspects of the programme, University regulations and support available. An on-line 'Research and Progress' system is used to

support and monitor PhD students. Annual reports on students' progress are prepared by supervisors and monitored by the Programme Directors and Research Committee. Completion rates are monitored by the School's Board of Studies and at the University level. The first cohort of five PhD students graduated between 2011 and 2013.

A major recent development has been the formation of the City Graduate School in 2012, led by a Dean and linked to all Schools. This has been created to support the implementation of the University's strategic objectives including an improvement in the projected learning outcomes from postgraduate research degrees. A key task of the Graduate School is to provide appropriate research methods and skills training working in conjunction with the academic Schools. A framework that aims to support students to acquire a range of research and enterprise skills is being expanded to offer and help co-ordinate skills training to complement the provision delivered within the Department. This will enhance the student experience and prepare research students for the workplace.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

In support of its strategic aims, the University has invested heavily in academic staff recruitment. The University sought the assistance of a headhunting firm in hiring a senior member of academic staff in the field of International Political Economy (IPE), with associated funding provided for an additional ECR and two fully-funded PhDs in the same field. This has led to the recruitment of Palan and Pagliari. The University further enhanced the strength in IPE through the recruitment of Schwartz. In addition, the University recruited a senior academic in the area of Foreign Policy, Conflict and Diplomacy (Parmar) and brought the Director of the Olive Tree Programme, Hollis, to the Department. The Department's staffing strategy since the launch of the University's Strategic Plan 2012-16 brought in five specialists in IPE (Palan, Schwartz, Samman, Pagliari, Kapadia), three in Foreign Policy, Conflict and Diplomacy (Parmar, Hollis, Rossdale) and one in International Social and Political Justice (Hoover).

Excellent facilities are in place to support research activity. City is investing £1.5M per year in new resources for the Library including e-journals. This is in addition to £165M support the expansion of infrastructure, estate and research. The Department is fully committed to supporting open access to the research produced by its staff. In October 2011, the University launched City Research Online, a digital repository which incorporates bibliographic data and the full text of outputs which are automatically Google indexed. Two members of professional staff provide full support to academic and research staff for uploading texts and copyright checking. The University requires the deposit of full texts of all research articles published since January 2013. Public dissemination of research benefits from the University hosting The Conversation UK (<http://theconversation.com/uk>), where UK academics write about their research for a lay audience.

All academic staff and research fellows have individual offices and there are hot-desk facilities for visiting researchers and PhD students. Generous funds for conference attendance and workshops are provided to all members of staff, averaging between £1,400 and £2,000 per year. Further funds are allocated annually at a Department and School level for conference attendance and for workshop organisation at City.

The Department's strategy for generating grant income over the next five years is informed by our research strategy (section b). Each research cluster in our two Research Centres engages in the development of collaborative research project proposals in response to calls for applications from funding bodies. Staff members work in close cooperation with the University's Research Office, capitalising on networks of contacts with fellow academics in the UK and beyond working in related areas; and incorporating PhD researchers as appropriate. A list of project plans we have in train is provided in section b above.

This strategy for income generation creates a coordinated approach to maximise the opportunity provided by the expansion of our research expertise and the associated development of our research environment. Grants previously awarded to academic staff in the Department (not including the internal 'pump-priming' grants listed above) include:

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Silvestri, ESRC/LMU, £44,422 (01.10.08 to 31.3.10) 'Comparative Study of the Representations of Suspect Communities'; Nesvetailova, Leverhulme Trust, £17,850 (1.4.10 to 30.6.10) 'Financial Innovation and Crisis'; Parmar, AHRC, £8,000 for the Obama Research Network; and Harman, EGSR, £15,962 (1.1.11 to 30.6.12) 'African Agency International Politics'. Our PhD student Luigi Russi's research on the financialisation of the food system has won him competitive funding from the Bank of Italy and the Italian Banking Association.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Demonstration of the ways in which our academic and research staff are contributing to the advancement of the discipline of International Political Studies and related research bases includes:

Visiting Fellowships: Staff members have strengthened research and international collaboration through Visiting Fellowships. These include the following: **Parmar**: Visiting Fellow at Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, USA, 2013/14. **Schwartz**: American Council of Learned Societies Fellow and programme co-chair of the ISA Annual Conference, San Francisco, 2013. **Nesvetailova**: Senior Visiting Fellow at the Danish Institute for International Affairs (DIIS), Denmark, 2012/13. During that period she was awarded a grant for her work on international banking regulation and the BRIC countries. Visiting Fellow at the Levy Institute of Bard College, USA, May-June 2012. **McDowell**: Visiting Professor at the American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan, 2011/12. **Pagliari**: Visiting Scholar at Columbia University before joining City. **Samman**: Visiting Fellow at the Copenhagen Business School, Denmark, 2013.

Academic Journal editorships: **Hollis** is co-editor of *Contemporary Arab Affairs*. **Samman** is a co-editor of *Critical Globalization Studies* (a partner journal of the Global Studies Association). **McDowell** is on the editorial board of the *Journal of South Asian Diasporas*. **Parmar** co-edits the series *Routledge Studies in US Foreign Policy*. **Palan** is on the editorial board of *Alternatives Internationales*. **Hoover** is the co-founder of a political blog, 'The Disorder of Things', which since October 2010 has over 250,000 site visits. His own work was viewed over 20,000 times during the period.

Learned Societies: **Parmar** was chair and president of BISA during this REF period. **McDowell** is a Life Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute. **Palan** and **Nesvetailova** are members of a global shadow banking group network. **Hollis** serves on the Middle East Area Studies Advisory Panel of the British Academy. **Kapadia** is a member of the Institute for New Economic Thinking, NY, and held a research assistantship to Professor Joseph Stiglitz on the 'Committee on Global Thought' at Columbia University.

Awards/Commendations: **McDowell's** co-authored book, *Displaced: The Human Cost of Development and Resettlement* was the winner of the 2013 Edgar Graham Prize for publications in Development Studies and was awarded the Cecil B Currey award, Association of Third World Studies, 2012. **Palan's** co-authored study, *Tax Havens: How Globalization Really Works* (Cornell, 2010) has established itself as a pioneering reference work in the field with sales in excess of 30,000 copies worldwide so far and current (November 2013) Google Scholar citations of 108. The book has been translated to Chinese simple characters (Beijin), Chinese complex character (Taiwan), Korean and Japanese and has been republished under permission by Supernova publishing for the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation countries. A second edition will be published after the REF period. **Palan's** 2010 article 'Financial Centers: The British Empire, City-States and Commercially-Oriented Politics', published in *Theoretical Inquiries in Law* was selected by the History and Policy network to represent its work and as a result has been the subject of a dedicated piece published in the BBC History magazine). It also featured in *The Economist* Special Issue (February 2013), *Vanity Fair* (April 2013) and in 'The UK Gold', a documentary premiered at the East London Film Festival in May 2013 and the Copenhagen International Film Festival in November 2013. **Palan** is a Co-Principal Investigator with Halperin of Royal Holloway, University of London on a British Academy and International Studies Association-funded research workshop on Legacies of Empires. **Palan** also participates in a four-year research project supported by the Norwegian Council (NORAD) to study tax evasion and Money Laundering

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(STEAL) coordinated by the Norwegian Institute for International Affairs (NUPI), Norway and Copenhagen Business School, Denmark. **Nesvetailova's** research on liquidity illusion and financial instability was referenced in the Committee of Global Financial System study (the BIS, Basle) and a special report on liquidity published by the Bank of France in a key discussion of central banking policy formulation by Thorvald Grung Moe of the Bank of Norway. Her book, *Financial Alchemy in Crisis* (Pluto, 2010) has been continuously in the top 100 best-selling titles in political economy on www.amazon.co.uk. **Schwartz'** book, *Subprime Nation* (2009, Cornell University Press) was translated into Chinese and has received 99 Google Scholar citations (November 2013). 'Housing, Global Finance and American Hegemony' (2008, *Comparative European Politics*) has received 31 citations and 44 invitations for lectures since January 2009. **Pagliari's** co-authored piece in *International Organization* was the third most downloaded article on international organizations during 2012. His overall Google Scholar citations stand at 227 (October 2013). **Parmar's** study, *Foundations of the American Century* (Columbia University Press, 2012) was widely reviewed, including in *Foreign Affairs*. He was invited to deliver talks on the book at Princeton, Chicago, Brown and the Hudson and Wilson Institutes. **Hirst** was commended by Professor Larry N George of California State University, a leading expert on Levi Strauss, for 'a commendable job coming to grips with a set of difficult and demanding texts by way of working through a vexing but politically important and topical theme: the ethical and political challenges and dilemmas raised by the acknowledgement of the ungroundedness and aporetic limits of western metaphysics and ontology'.

Additional research links with other Universities: **CITYPERC** has established formal links with Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute (SPERI) and the Higher School of Economics (HSE), Russia. In addition, the Department hosts on average five visiting scholars per year. We have had visitors from Germany, Korea, Slovakia, Norway, Kazakhstan, Switzerland, Turkey and Finland. With the support of the School of Arts & Social Sciences, visitors are granted office space, have access to University facilities and are welcome to attend, organise and co-host research events that benefit their work. Such international collaborations have resulted in published outputs, funding applications or new research networks, such as the COST Action group on the financial crisis funded by the EU (www.worldfinancialcrisis.eu) and the international research network on shadow banking joint ORA research grant application on the Boundaries of Banking in Europe (UK, France, Netherlands and Germany; results expected December 2013). **Nesvetailova** is the European coordinator of the global shadow banking group and Co-Chair of the Finance Research sub-group of the European Association of Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE). **Hollis** has served on the advisory panel (2010-13) of the AHRC/ESRC funded project on *Conflict in Cities* undertaken by the University of Cambridge, Queen's University, Belfast and Durham University.