

<p>Institution: University of Ulster</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 30 History</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>History is a subject group within the School of English and History. All submitted staff members have contributed during this cycle to our single honours degrees in History and Irish History, and joint programmes with major, main and minor offerings in diverse subjects. We also have strong MA, MRes and PhDs degrees. The School is located within the Faculty of Arts—a highly research-intensive grouping Faculty that returned 80% of staff to RAE 2008. The Faculty has robust, supportive structures for research including the Arts and Humanities Research Institute (AHRI), of which all research active historians are members. History also includes two research centres—the Centre for the Study of Medicine in Ireland (CHOMI; http://www.arts.ulster.ac.uk/chomi) and the Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies (CISS; http://www.arts.ulster.ac.uk/ulsterscots)—that facilitate collaboration, grant applications, stakeholder links, seminar series and postgraduate recruitment. By 2014, we will have completed a process of reorganization at Faculty level that consolidates all History provision in Coleraine after decades teaching across three campuses. This change will facilitate more intensive partnerships, in research and teaching at all levels, between the formerly split Irish and international History groups.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Historians at Ulster engage in research that produces original findings of international significance in their areas of expertise. Outputs, grant funding, doctoral recruitment, and our particular impact beyond the academy in the sphere of Irish history, each point to this conclusion. Our areas of specialism range temporally across the early and modern periods, and spatially from Ireland, the UK and Europe to Asia and America. New investment has bolstered international history in the Asian area, where we have traditional strengths. Support for Asian history also now logically connects us to the university's founding of Northern Ireland's Confucius Institute, to foster NI-China relations, at Ulster. Further investment has also invigorated deep commitments to Irish and British history.</p> <p>Our strategy overall has been to maintain these core strengths. Consequently, international history, which has been a long-standing area of research activity at Ulster, continues to cluster strongly in the 19th and 20th centuries and within four distinct areas where we have long-standing commitments and excellent resources: Russia, and Central and Eastern Europe (Thatcher), Western Europe (McNamara, Railton and Wright), post-war US history in the Cold War (Kirby), and Asia (De Angeli). Irish and British history has a particularly strong group of researchers centred around Blackstock, Crooke, Hughes, Kennedy, Loughlin, McCormick, MacRaid, Ó Ciardha and O'Connor. The themes of social, gender and cultural history are most prominently focused on our research centres (CHOMI and CISS) and through individuals, particularly Guarino, McCormick, MacRaid, Ó Ciardha, and Sneddon. Within these fields, our research particularly engages with the methodologies of political, social, cultural, labour, and gender history, and these approaches offer connections for colleagues ranging across European, British and Irish history, both early modern and modern.</p> <p>Strategic decisions have ensured that the promise evinced in the 2008 submission was realized in several notable outputs. Guarino and Crooke completed major books, Blackstock delivered an edited collection to Boydell and Brewer, in 2013, based on his Loyalism network. The increasingly well-qualified nature of our doctoral candidates—supported principally by our MRes—has resulted in better completion rates from slightly smaller enrolments. The result is the maintenance of numbers graduating in what have been difficult times.</p> <p>Our strategic goal to develop core strengths is underscored by standard benchmarks of excellence: publishing in high quality peer-reviewed journals; publishing monographs of distinction; generating far more external funding for research; maintaining postgraduate doctoral enrolments whilst increasing MA and MRes numbers; and catalysing new research via conferences and networking. Grant proposals, monograph and other productions listed as forthcoming in 2008 that have come to fruition speak of a vibrant and consistent research culture and strategy at Ulster. The period 2008-2013 is notable for the following highlights:</p>

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- A 58% increase in research funding from £972,730 to nearly £1.7m, including almost a six-fold increase in Research Council funding from £185k to £1.17m
- The organisation of highly prestigious and influential AHRC- and BA-funded international conferences around the anniversaries of the Flight of the Earls and the Plantation of Ulster that brought together stakeholders in academia, public policy, business, and the media, under the auspices of the London Companies at the Guildhall.
- The delivery of two special issues of *Labour History Review* from the transnational labour history conference (2008), and an edited book from **McNamara's** 'Churchill's in Ireland' conference (2011).

In the period 2014-2020 our research strategy will be composed of four main strands, all of which align with the University's own research plan.

Firstly, we will endeavour to increase the amount of externally funded projects. RCUK sources, and international funds, will be sought, particularly be to consolidate and expand our two research centres. Individuals will attempt to develop further funding streams too. **MacRaid** will build on his AHRC-funded 'Locating the Hidden Diaspora' project, which resulted in important revelations about Anglo-American cooperation at an individual and associational level, with a new bid to explore the origins of the Anglo-world in non-elite public diplomacy in the early 20th century. **Sneddon** will be supported to pursue Wellcome funding for a book-length study of magical healing in Ireland, 1550-1950. **McCormick** will seek AHRC support to a new project of women and alcohol in 19th century Belfast. **McNamara** will complete BA- and Irish Research Council (IRC)-funded collaborative work (with Filipe Riberio de Meneses, Maynooth) on the white states in Southern Africa in the 1960s and 1970s.

Secondly, to continue to promote research output in peer-reviewed journals and monographs. By REF2020 new monographs submitted to publishers will include for example, **Thatcher** (Russian Provisional Government 1917), **Ó Ciardha** (the Irish Outlaw); **O'Connor** (a biography of Jim Larkin, and a study of labour in Derry, 1889-1923); **Hughes & MacRaid** (Ribbon Societies In Nineteenth-Century Ireland and Britain, contracted Liverpool UP book); **MacRaid** (on English associational culture in North America); **Sneddon** (contracted Palgrave Macmillan book on Irish witchcraft); **Guarino** (study of Habsburg and Bourbon Courts of 18th century Naples); **McNamara** ('Defying the Winds of Change', from his white southern Africa project); and **Loughlin** (Ulster/Northern Ireland and the British Extreme Right).

Thirdly, to increase postgraduate recruitment via new MA programmes and to diversify the funding of doctoral students and to ensure our research continues to accord with the University's strategic aims to provide high-quality training and enrich the teaching experience at all levels. CISS and CHOMI will continue to expand via in-house publications and conferences, which will benefit students. As part of our targeting intention of developing our postgraduate culture, we will support staff and Centres to attract their own external doctoral students and associated streams of funding. We are currently also developing plans for partnership funding for doctoral work, for example with regional and Canadian funders. The overarching ambition is a larger, deeper, and more connected research culture at the postgraduate level.

Fourthly, to exploit through impact projects our research on Ireland, Ulster, and particularly the northwest. **Ó Ciardha** and **Kelly** are advisors for a 'Plantation of Ulster' museum, and several members of the team will edit and contribute to a major edited work (for 2019) on Derry/Londonderry in Liverpool UP's city history series, for which a contract is being negotiated. Additionally, CISS is planning an international conference on Derry's maritime history that links to our support of the city's fund-raising efforts for a maritime museum. **Crooke**, as a specialist in museums and heritage, is closely involved with numerous non-academic partners and will be supported to develop those links, not least in connection with centennial commemorations of World War I, for which an AHRC bid has been submitted with Queen's University, Belfast (QUB). Finally, the two universities in Northern Ireland recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the

independent Armagh Public Library (APL) to develop the research potential of one of the island's most significant repositories of books and manuscripts. At this point we are developing, with QUB, three elements with APL: an annual lecture programme for the library; a research project and exhibition on the Book of Common Prayer, in Ireland and the Anglophone World, which fits with **MacRaid's** work on the English Diaspora; and also training and placement opportunities for our postgraduate students. In 2014, we will seek external funding for collaborative doctoral training within the library.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Ulster has remained committed to research excellence in History, replacing retiring or departing academics with new colleagues of similar standing. Our academics include members at various stages of their academic career. We include two professors and two readers, while the university has supported us with four promotions (**Crooke, Kirby, McNamara** and **Ó Ciardha**) during the current cycle. Professors take the lead in research administration, working with the RI and research centres, individual staff, and in distributing funds to support scholarly endeavour. Staff research programmes are discussed on a continual basis as well as at formal annual and bi-annual meetings. Normally this takes the form of one-to-one sessions between staff member and one of the professors, in the role of Head of the History Research Cluster within the AHRI. Advice and support is offered on grant applications, researching and writing monographs and articles, for conference support, and for relief from teaching duties. All research bids are read by a Peer Review Team, which is managed by the AHRI Director. Our intention is to guarantee that research time is built into a normal working week. Research plans and objectives form a key element of annual probation meetings for ECRs in the three years following appointment. These are attended by the Head of School so that management of administrative and teaching duties can be co-ordinated with research needs and plans. In the period of this REF, 50% of staff took up their first full-time academic appointment at Ulster and have gone through probation or are benefitting from the emphasis upon research in the probation period.

Potential for new synergies is discussed in the context of staffing strategy. Thus, the establishment of the Confucius Institute increases the potential impact of our new Asian specialist, **De Angeli**. For example, she will develop programmes with **Thatcher** (an expert in Soviet and Russian history) to exploit Eurasian connections. Further investment in British history included the appointment of a professor (**MacRaid**) and a lecturer (**Hughes**) who will produce joint bids for funding, joint publications, and joint supervision of research students. The emphasis on early career researchers extends to temporary appointments. During a one-year appointment, Andrew Struan received full research support and **Wright** (who replaces **Thatcher** for a year 2013-14) will be similarly supported.

Our faculty recognises the importance of time in humanities research. We are thus able to apply for a semester of study leave after each six completed semesters of service, which is governed at faculty level with a clear, transparent application process. In the period of this REF all eligible research-active staff have benefited from study leave that has enabled research projects to be brought to completion. Among many works, short and long, research leave enabled completion of **O'Connor's** *A Labour History of Ireland, 1824-2000*, **Blackstock's** *Science, Politics and Society*, and **Sneddon's** second monograph, *Possessed by the Devil*, a significant reappraisal of the Islandmagee witch trials (all entered here).

The AHRI devolves a budget to the Head of the History Research Cluster and this supports conference presentation, archive trips, colloquia, etc. Cluster funds have been used to support major archival trips to America, Canada, South Africa, continental Europe and the UK. For example, **McNamara's** research in South Africa and the United States, which built on his BA award, was supported by further trips that were vital to the successful submission of two joint-authored articles to the prestigious *International History Review* (one entered here). Beyond publications, funds also supported networking events that have raised our profile, for example,

Kirby's Witness seminar series on 'The Cold War challenge to the Christian Churches'.

We have also secured prestigious fellowships with the university providing clear support to enable colleagues to take them up. **Ó Ciardha** was granted additional leave to take up the EU-funded position of Gastprofessor Europaicum at the Universitat des Saarlandes. **Thatcher** also was granted additional leave to take up a Research Professorship at the Collegium of Advanced Study, University of Helsinki running from September 2012 to September 2014. Moreover, his winning of this prestigious fellowship enabled the appointment of **Wright** to a temporary post. **MacRaid** was a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University, 2010-11. Finally, **De Angeli** joined us from Newcastle having previously been an ESRC research assistant at Bristol.

ii. Research students

The aim of building a broader research culture has been achieved through the development of the MRes History programme, which we announced as a new innovation in RAE2008. Since then this stand-alone research degree, which focuses on the development of advanced historical research skills, has become an important training ground for doctoral work. The main unit of assessment for the MRes is a thesis. The programme leads students through the process of how to formulate a PhD application and how to progress to doctoral study. The MRes has been an extremely successful route for undergraduates to move to advanced postgraduate research study, supported by units such as CHOMI, which has been particularly successful in mentoring students through MRes to PhD. Overall, the MRes programme provides an annual flow of students capable of winning DEL award or a Vice-Chancellor's Research Scholarship (VCRS) for doctoral study. The MRes programme also contributes generally to our research culture by, for example, facilitating interaction between staff and students in the production and dissemination of research. Staff members present research papers in the History Research seminar strand of the MRes, which encourages close interaction between academic and student interests. The forum also provides an opportunity for in-house peer feedback, as well as a genuine insight into the on-going research activities of History staff for the students.

History has had notable success in attracting numbers of doctoral students in the period of this REF to maintain our cohort in a testing national environment. Doctoral candidates cover the range of staff expertise, particularly Irish history. Current doctoral projects include The Catholic Church and Communism in the Republic of Ireland, Cholera in Belfast, and Witchcraft and Magic in Britain and Ireland. It has also considerably improved completion rates. We have a rigorous doctoral supervision and support programme that includes scheduled presentations. These events ensure research is progressing as expected. In year 1 of a PhD, for example, a doctoral student will have to present a 100-day viva to a panel. The panel consists of three members (the supervisor, the Chair of the Research Graduate School (RGS), the Head of the History Research Cluster). After successful progression from the 100-day viva, the student will face an end of year viva, with the same panel members, and involving a paper submission (draft chapter) and an oral presentation. The end of year viva rigorously tests the robustness of the PhD, and the panel can recommend resubmission; transfer to MPhil; or continuation with the PhD. Progress is further monitored by annual review carried out by the Head of RGS and supervisors throughout the duration of the doctoral programme.

The strength of the postgraduate research culture is reflected by the quality of graduates we produce, evidenced in subsequent publication and employment. In 2012, for example, Dr Adrian Grant's doctorate on Irish Socialist Republicanism 1909-1936 (2011) was published by Four Courts. Grant subsequently went on to a post-doctoral project funded by NUI Galway. In 2010, Dr John Sherry won a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Guelph, Canada. And in 2012, Dr Dawn-Marie Gibson's PhD on the Nation of Islam (2010) was published by Praeger. While Gibson also now has a full-time lecturing position at Royal Holloway.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Staff members are expected to make applications to various bodies for financial support for

research. The extent of our success is clear from the increase in the amount of funding raised since RAE2008. From the Research Councils, **Guarino** has received competitive funding from the BA Small Research Grant scheme and **Ó Ciardha** from the BA Major Conference Grant. **Sneddon** and **McCormick** have won competitive funding from the Wellcome Trust. Most recently, **McCormick** led on a successful application for a Wellcome-funded three-year postdoctoral fellowship to examine the ethics of hunger strike management in 20th century Britain. **MacRaid**, who re-joined the university in 2013, was recipient of major AHRC funding (total value £280k), as well as smaller support from the Marc Fitch Fund. From government/public bodies, **Ó Ciardha** secured regular research funding from a diversity of outside sources, including Ireland's Department of the Taoiseach and the Department of Culture, Arts and Tourism. From foreign universities, **Thatcher's** competitive Research Professorship at the University of Helsinki is worth €200,000. From non-governmental public bodies **McCormick** received funds from the Irish Temperance League to employ a research assistant to work on the organisation's archive.

This university recognises that high quality research is underpinned by a strong infrastructure and good facilities. Research Institutes (RIs) are a long-standing feature of Ulster's commitment to a strong, strategic and consistent research culture. Since 2008, the Faculty has streamlined the two RIs affecting historians into one: the AHRI. Led by a Director, who is a professor in a core subject in the Faculty, the AHRI promotes work of the highest quality by ensuring the best scholars, and the most prestigious projects, are granted funds and time. Enabling younger staff to develop their potential is also a requirement at Ulster; consequently, new, junior recruits are protected from administration and from heavy teaching loads, and are supported by mentoring and an institutional probation system. Research Institutes allocate dedicated recurrent budgets to Heads of disciplinary Research Clusters and the AHRI Director and Cluster Head is a member of the Faculty Executive. Moreover, RIs inform the allocation of library expenditure and organize speaker programmes. Oversight of research student activity is provided through faculty-wide Research Graduate Schools (RGS), to which we refer later. Within the overall structure the Cluster Head for History liaises with the AHRI Director to support all staff research.

History furthers the University's commitment to high-quality research by providing both staff and students with clear, structured support. Each tier—subject cluster, RI, and Faculty—connect to larger, institutional research structures. Senate supports the VC and his executive team to formulate policy. Once agreed, research policy is dispensed and monitored by the Research and Innovation Committee (RIC), a principal committee of the Senate. The membership of the RIC is representative of the research community and is chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation), who has overall management responsibility for the work of the Research Office (RO). The RO manages research funding applications and monitors research performance, including that of research students, and in particular provides higher-level strategic and practical guidance on the national funding environment, supporting bids, networks, and planning. The overall structure ensures that individual researchers enjoy a level of autonomy within the discipline as well as visibility to, and support from, the institution centrally. The RIs foster research in various ways, including the provision of financial support for research trips and teaching relief through the Cluster Head. RIs also support larger group initiatives, such as continuing seminar programmes, visiting lectureships and cross-disciplinary colloquia. The RIs maintain a system of research planning, for both individual and subject research, which adds rigour and focus to the work we do. The RIs thus provide an additional layer of supportive peer review and feedback, for example in the formulation of research applications.

Each staff member has a well-equipped, individual office with up-to-date networked computer equipment enjoying easy access to electronic research resources. The university also maintains a buying policy designed to support hard-copy research holdings and fully funds research requests via Document Supply. Primary research holdings include such materials as parliamentary papers, national and provincial newspapers, and microfilmed documents. There is a fine early-modern Irish collection at Magee on our Derry Campus. Equipment is also bought to meet the needs of particular research programmes. Digital cameras and laptops have been provided for archival research and digital audio and visual recorders for oral history. **Kirby's** Witness Seminar, for example, was supported by the purchase of audio and visual recording equipment.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Historians at Ulster collaborate and contribute nationally and internationally to research in the discipline in a variety of ways and contexts. These include conferences and collaborative publications; through their dissemination of others' research; in cooperative funding bids (e.g. to Wellcome); through the examination of other universities' research degrees; and via service as members of historical associations or as editors of journals.

History is home to the Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies (CISS) and the Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland (CHOMI)—the latter in collaboration with University College Dublin (UCD). Both of these centres promote engagement beyond the immediate discipline, faculty and university. **Kelly, Sneddon** and latterly **MacRaid** collaborate with colleagues from English and Irish through CISS, and have organized research partnerships with colleagues at the Centre for Scottish and Irish Studies at Strathclyde and Edinburgh; the Celtic Studies Centre, St. Michael's College, University of Toronto; Department of History, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada; Virginia Tech, USA; University of Victoria, NZ; Canterbury University, NZ; and Lock Haven College, PA, USA. **McCormick** is Director of CHOMI and organises regular research events that promote scholarly collaboration. The Wellcome Trust provided financial support for the Medical Humanities Symposium organised through CHOMI and held at Ulster in 2009. This was an innovative interdisciplinary event around work in the medical humanities. A CHOMI Early Modern History of Medicine Workshop held at Ulster in 2010 was aimed principally at post-graduate and early career scholars to facilitate exchange of ideas and networking; and the Centre's fifth year was celebrated with a large two-day conference in 2011. CHOMI will also host the bi-annual History of Medicine in Ireland Essay Prize with the Ulster Society for the History of Medicine and will soon be home to a Wellcome-funded postdoctoral scholar. Several project grant and pilot study applications are planned for the next cycle in order to enhance the centre's reach and significance.

Staff members organise and chair national and international conferences to promote collaboration in cutting-edge research. From 2009-2012 **Guarino**, for example, co-organised with scholars based in the USA, Serbia, and Malta multi-panel sessions for the Annual Conference of the Renaissance Society of America. **Ó Ciardha** organised two major British Academy and IRCHSS funded conferences to mark the 400th anniversary of the Ulster plantation. Held over June-July 2009 at Goldsmiths, University of London and TCD these events provided the forum in which scholars from Ireland, Britain, Europe and the USA reassessed the plantation and its disputed histories and heritages in its various local, national, international and global contexts.

In November 2012 **Kirby** organised a Witness Seminar held at London Metropolitan University at which Christian activists of the 1960s onwards spoke of their experiences of Cold War activism around East-West relations. This seminar received external funding from the Lipman-Miliband Trust and Philips Price Trust and is part of an on-going and larger project. **Kirby's** reach extends to Geneva School of Diplomacy and IR, Copenhagen's Centre for Modern European Studies, and Bratislava's Comenius University, each of which invited her as key speaker in 2010-11. Similarly she was invited, in April 2013, to contribute to a seminar series on the 'US in World Affairs', at Chapel Hill. **Guarino** is strongly involved with the Neapolitan Research Network (Universities of Cambridge and York), the Society for European Festival Research (Warwick), and has recently organized a research network revolving around the theme of Courts without Kings: The Viceroyalties of the Early Modern World. In 2013, **Ó Ciardha** collaborated with German colleagues in hosting a major international conference, 'Bridging Division: Derry/Mostar: the Literatures of Partition, Unification and Reconciliation', September 2013. Bridging staff and postgraduate research, **Sneddon** organized a conference on witchcraft, magic and the devil at PRONI, October 2013.

As well as organising conferences, staff members present research papers at national and international conferences as a means of contributing to the development of the study of History. **Crooke** has been invited to give papers at LSE, Newcastle, UCD and York; and internationally at Tartu and Tallinn (2011), and Antwerp (2010). **O'Connor** gave the keynote address to the joint conference of the British Society for the Study of Labour History and the Institut du Monde Anglophone held at the University of Paris in 2011. Over 2008-2011 **McCormick** and Sneddon

both delivered invited research presentations at QUB Institute of Irish Studies, the 16th Irish Historians in Britain Conference (Warwick), and Hertford College, Oxford. **Kirby** was invited to speak at Cambridge, and at the IHR, and gave an invited plenary lecture 'Britain and the Religious Cold War' at the ICBH annual summer conference, University of London in 2009. **MacRaid** gave the annual Reunion Lecture, Centre for Migration Studies, Omagh, January 2008; a Moore Institute lecture, April 2009; the Embassy of Ireland Annual Lecture in Athens, April 2013; and was invited speaker at the Local Population Studies conference, Lancaster University, November 2013. **Sneddon** has given numerous invited public lectures around Ireland on the theme of witchcraft.

Historians at Ulster sit on national and international committees that disburse funds for research projects and activities. **Crooke** chaired an AHRC, Research Studentship Commissioning Panel (2010), was member the Museums, Archives and Libraries Large Grants Commissioning Panel (2008), is a member of the Peer-Review College. **MacRaid** also is a member of the AHRC Peer Review College and an AHRC strategic reviewer. In 2013, the Australian Research Council appointed him to its assessor panel. **MacRaid** and **Ó Ciardha** have served as inner panel members for the Irish Research Council. **Thatcher** is a serving member of the Research Council of Norway's peer review committee for research grant applications pertaining to Russia. **McCormick**, **Thatcher**, and **Ó Ciardha** have worked as external assessors for research applications to IRC/IRCHSS and has served on research award committees at NUI and for the Humanities Institute of Ireland. **McCormick** is a reviewer of research grant applications for the Wellcome Trust. In this cycle, **MacRaid** has reviewed grant applications for the National Research Foundation, South Africa, the ESRC, the AHRC, and Leverhulme. **Ó Ciardha** and **MacRaid** are Fellows of the Royal Historical Society.

Our historians work actively as editors of national and international collaborative research projects. This involves membership of national and international editorial boards. **Kelly** is Principal Editor (with collaboration from **Ó Ciardha**) of the translation, digitisation, and publication of the *Commentarius Rinnuccianus*. This has involved wider collaboration with colleagues at NUI Maynooth, Trinity College Dublin (TCD), UCS, University of Cambridge, University of Cork, Howard Community College, and Oxford University. **McNamara** is an editor of Ireland's leading history journal, *Irish Historical Studies* (HIS). **MacRaid** co-edited *Labour History Review* (2006-2010) and is co-editor of the long-standing journal *Immigrants and Minorities* (2009-) and edits Palgrave Macmillan's 'History and Theory' series.). **Ó Ciardha** is on the Editorial Board of *History Ireland* and is volume editor of the *Oxford History of the Irish Book*. **Kelly** is a series editor with Four Courts Press for monographs on Ulster and Scotland. Thatcher serves on the Editorial Board of *Studies in Marxism*, of which he was co-founding editor, and on the editorial collective of the e-journal *collegium* (2012). **Guarino** is on the scientific committee of the on-line peer-reviewed journal based in Italy, *Icononrazia: Il potere delle immagini/le immagini del potere*.

The group's contribution also includes leadership of large research editorial projects. **Kelly**, for example, is series editor of the translation, digitisation, and publication of the *Commentarius Rinnuccianus*. This has involved wider collaboration with colleagues at NUI Maynooth, TCD, UCD, University of Cambridge, University College Cork, Howard Community College, and Oxford University. Editorial leadership of collaborative research projects is further evidenced by **Ó Ciardha's** co-editorship of the volume to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the 'Flight of the earls' and his co-edited collection on the Plantation of Ulster (with Ó Siochru, TCD). **O'Connor** has forged an editorial partnership with Cunningham at NUI Galway for a research volume: *Lives on the Left: Studies in Irish Radical Leadership*. **Blackstock** and O'Gorman (Manchester) led an international group of scholars in a symposium that led to a volume, *Loyalism and the Formation of the British World* (forthcoming, 2014).

Members of staff regularly act as referees for book proposals, and journal article and monograph submissions. For example, **Thatcher** assessed monograph submissions to Routledge and Yale, and has refereed for *Slavonic and East European Review*, *Revolutionary Russia*, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, *International History Review*, *Europe-Asia Studies*, *Capital and Class* and *Melbourne Historical Journal*. **Sneddon** has refereed for *Historical Journal*, *IHS*, *Irish Economic and Social History* (IESH), *Journal of Social History* and *Ashgate*. **Kirby** has reviewed for *JAH*, *Diplomatic*

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History, *Journal of American History*, among others; **McCormick** for *Social History of Medicine*, *IHS*, *IESH*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality* and Queen's-McGill UP. **Loughlin** has reviewed for *EHR*, CUP, OUP and Liverpool UP; **Guarino** likewise for MUP. **MacRaid** has reviewed for *EcHistR*, *EHR*, *Historical Research*, *Urban History*, Palgrave-Macmillan and numerous others.

To disseminate and promote the further discussion of the research of others staff undertake book reviews and review articles to highlight the significance of individual works or works produced within a larger historiographical topic. Among the highlights, **Thatcher** has reviewed for *History*, *Slavonic and East European Review*, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, *European History Quarterly*, and published a refereed review article on leaders in Soviet history published in *Contemporary European History*. Similarly, **MacRaid** regularly reviews for *THES* and was invited to write a long review essay on recent works of historiography for *Journal of Contemporary History* (published January 2008). While **Blackstock** was invited to write a review essay on new works on Freemasonry by *LHR* (2010).

Our historians act as external monitors of on-going funded research projects. McCormick, for example, is a member of the Advisory Committee of the AHRC funded project 'Welfare and Public Health in Belfast and the North of Ireland 1800-1973' at QUB. **Ó Ciardha** was external academic advisor to Mark Caball's IRCHSS funded research project on 'Protestants, print and Gaelic Culture in Ireland, 1567-1722'. **Sneddon** sits on the Advisory Board of the Wellcome Trust funded, 'The Medical World of England, Ireland, and Wales c. 1500-1715' headed by Professor Jonathan Barry (Exeter).

Our staff participate in the quality management and examination processes for research degrees across the UK and internationally. **O'Connor** has served as external examiner for Master's programmes at NUI Galway and NUI Maynooth and as external examiner for PhDs at TCD. **Thatcher** was external examiner for several PhDs at the University of Glasgow. **MacRaid** has examined PhDs at QUB, Salford, Huddersfield, TCD, Maynooth, and in Australia (twice) and NZ. **Kirby** also examined in Australia, for Victoria University.

Finally, we offer service to the discipline. **Ó Ciardha** is a trustee of the Jacobite Studies Trust. From 2002-10, **MacRaid** was a trustee and executive committee member of the SSLH. **Thatcher** is a member of the Study Group on the Russian Revolution and of the American Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies; **Sneddon** is Business Secretary for the Irish Social and Economic History Society; and **Blackstock** is a member of the Committee for *IHS*.