

# Institution: The University of Edinburgh

# Unit of Assessment: 24 Anthropology & Development Studies

#### a. Overview

Since 2008, Social Anthropology has grown significantly in Edinburgh, while International Development has been a key strategic area for expansion within the **School of Social and Political Science (SPS)**, and across the wider University. This submission brings together staff from the two units in SPS - **Social Anthropology (SA)** and the **Centre for African Studies (CAS)** – which have been central to this expansion. It includes outputs from 37 staff (34.45 FTE), an increase of 16.45 FTE from the RAE 2008 submission to UoA42 in Anthropology. We did not submit to Development Studies in 2008.

The submission covers the broad spectrum of Social Anthropology and Development Studies. The bulk of the work submitted from CAS falls within the remit of International Development, while most of the SA outputs match the descriptors for Anthropology. But as will become evident, there is considerable thematic overlap between the two units and a long history of close collaboration at every level, from shared MSc teaching to joint PhD supervision and, increasingly, high levels of research collaboration.

### b. Research strategy

**A new generation.** This submission presents work dominated by a new generation of researchers. Of the 37 colleagues in the submission, all but 6 are still within 10 years of completing their PhD. Between them, the 31 researchers in this new generation have published 172 articles, 29 edited collections and 17 monographs, and have been PI or Co-I on 25 external research grants worth a total of £6.3 million. The bulk of that activity falls within this REF period, and the submission presents evidence of the quality and impact of their research.

Increased postgraduate recruitment, success with external research bids, and the launch of successful new MSc programmes, have allowed us to increase core staff (in SA from 16 to 24.5, in CAS from 1.5 to 7). Our research activity has expanded even faster than our staffing. We have more than doubled the rate of PhDs successfully completing in this assessment period (from an average of 4 p.a. in the previous assessment period to 9 p.a. in the period covered here). And our annual research income spend increased by over 400%. In the period of this REF we have also transformed our accommodation, investing £14.3 million to completely refurbish the Chrystal Macmillan Building, bringing together the activities returned here in one shared space.

**Priorities.** Our research strategy has struck a balance between the strategic promotion of specific areas of research, and creation of an environment in which research can flourish in an organic, yet supported manner. We have closely focused on the provision of appropriate and flexible support for individual researchers, combined with a major strategic expansion in International Development. Where interests coalesce we are more interested in open-ended networks rather than the construction of fixed (and potentially exclusive) research groups. The success of this approach can be seen in our many internal collaborations, especially those linking more junior and more senior colleagues within the UoA. More generally, our medium-term strategy is shaped by 5 key priorities: continued recruitment of the very best researchers, especially at early career stages, with robust support to plan for bigger research projects from more diverse funding streams; creation of an academic community in which teaching, research, and engagement in the world beyond the academy, are integrated in all academic careers; expansion of administrative and infrastructural support for researchers at all levels; consolidation and broadening of active collaborations, bringing ever more of our researchers into engagement in international, interdisciplinary, and practitioner settings; and use of targeted income sources (MSc teaching, external research funding) to support the other strands of activity. These strategies have been reflected in the concrete achievements outlined below.

**Expanded staffing.** One development, highlighted in our RAE 2008 strategy, made our growth in the lead-up to this exercise possible: this was the then-new School of Social and Political Science. In 2008, SA and CAS moved into a new building with the rest of SPS. Shared space and frequent conversations across disciplinary boundaries facilitated the development of new MSc programmes in International Development, which in turn enabled us to expand staffing and research, at first in



CAS, and subsequently in SA. The first of these programmes was launched in 2009, and altogether 9 colleagues included in this submission have been employed as a direct result (Anders, Bompani, Cross, Furniss, Long, Muñoz, Pradhan, Sharma, Spiegel). SA's long history of teaching and research in this area made it the obvious partner for CAS in the expansion. Moreover, SA's work on health and illness, already a central strand in its 2008 plans for growth, overlaps heavily with the new development-related activity.

Increased external research income, increased PhD numbers, and strong MSc recruitment, have also underpinned an increase in Social Anthropology staffing, both in areas of prior strength like medical anthropology (Copeman, Edmonds and Street, joining Ecks, Harper, and Marsland). political violence (Anders, Edmonds, C. High, Long, Marks, and Sharma, joining Fontein, Kelly and Spencer), legal anthropology (Munoz and Anders, joining Kelly and Good), and in new areas like religion and public action (Bialecki, Furniss, Haynes, Mayblin, Oustinova-Stjepanovic, and Street, joining Baxstrom, Bompani and Spencer). Within this, an especially strong new group shares a focus on the anthropology of Christianity, making significant contributions to the international emergence of this new subfield (Bialecki, Furniss, Haynes, Mayblin, Street). The anthropology of the Americas has emerged as a major strength, in line with major University investment in its Centre for Contemporary Latin American Studies (Bialecki, Edmonds, C. High, M. High, Havnes and Mayblin, joining Course), and in parallel with the further consolidation of our outstanding concentration of South Asia and Africa researchers. The University has recently received royal assent to appoint to the Regius Chair of South Asian Language, Culture and Society and this appointment will be made in early 2014. Other new clusters of researchers link mainstream anthropology with development themes like technology, energy and environment (Cross, M. High, Jeffery, Pradhan, and Street, joining Bray, Jeffery, and Smith) and resource extraction (Furniss, M. High, Hussain, Spiegel, Zeller). Edmonds' arrival strengthens our burgeoning interest in visual media and collaborations with visual practitioners (Furniss, Hoek, Mayblin, and with their new ESRC award, Cross and Street, joining Baxstrom and Fontein). The anthropology of kinship and relatedness was in large part reshaped by the work of Edinburgh anthropologists in the 1990s; our new work on bodies, substances and relationships - bones and blood, in particular - promises to be every bit as influential (Copeman, Edmonds, Mayblin, and Street joining Carsten, Course, Ecks, Fontein and Good). Our Health and Illness cluster goes from strength to strength, with growing success both in PhD recruitment and in attracting external research funding. Collaboration between Harper and Smith, initially on health-related issues, was the original basis from which we grew our suite of programmes and projects in the field of International Development. Finally, alongside our fluid and overlapping clusters and networks, we continue to make room for outstanding individuals who need the space to pursue their unique intellectual vision: Thin's decade of work on happiness and well-being, and Barnard's wide-ranging enguiry into the origins of language and symbolism, fall into this category

**International Development.** The expansion in both CAS and SA has been the product of a strategy encouraged and supported both by the School and by the University as a whole. The field of International Development has been identified as a central part of the University's internationalisation strategy, not least because of its capacity to make creative use of the University's outstanding international research talent in science and medicine, as well as social science and humanities. University strategy in this field is co-ordinated by the Global Development Academy (of which Smith is the Director, and Bompani and Cross Deputy Directors), which was launched in 2010, and the Global Justice Academy (of which Kelly is Deputy Director), launched in 2013. Within SPS, International Development has been identified as a key area for investment, because of its ability to bring together our strengths in area studies with the School's broader commitment to public policy engagement.

**Strategic Continuity**. Our 2008 strategy emphasized support for new fieldwork at all career stages, a concern with building research careers as a single process from PhD to full academic position, and a desire to invest in new collaborative projects. This submission shows the fruit of some of the initiatives described in 2008. In some cases, development has been more or less linear, with an expansion of scope with each new project. In 2008, the ESRC/DfID Global Pharmaceuticals project was our biggest yet external research award: as well as the outputs in Ecks' and Harper's entries in REF2, the collaborative relationships established in the first project led to Harper's role in the ESRC/DfID Biomedical and Health Experimentation follow-up grant. His



£800k Wellcome Senior Investigator Award acknowledges Harper's contribution to the earlier projects, but this time he is leading his own team of researchers and PhD students to examine the ethics and practice of TB control across four countries.

In other cases, new arrivals have enriched work that was already in progress. Carsten's Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship provided for new fieldwork in Scotland and Malaysia, but also created the space for collaborative work with Copeman, expanding discussions about the social meaning of blood, both geographically and into fertile inter-disciplinary fields. All of this is captured in Carsten's 2012 JRAI Special Issue, which extends the argument well beyond the immediate ethnographic focus of the Leverhulme project. Copeman meanwhile also joined forces with our then postdoctoral fellow lkegame; their reflections on the changing world of the Indian guru have borne fruit in a state-of-the-art edited collection on the topic which effortlessly crosses disciplinary boundaries. Bompani and Spencer received funding in the same round of the ESRC Non-Governmental Public Action programme, both for work on the role of religious organizations in the public sphere (in South Africa and Sri Lanka respectively). The conversation which started then has expanded rapidly with the arrival of Bialecki - whose US fieldwork throws into doubt easy assumptions about the political effects of American evangelicalism - and Furniss, whose Egyptian fieldwork is the platform for a more systematic assessment of the role of religious actors in the field of humanitarian action in his edited Special Issue. To this, we have also added Haynes and Mayblin, who contribute more examples of the fragile but productive interface between the religious and the political in Zambia and Brazil, and Street with further critical reflections on the public effects of Chistianity in PNG. The fruits of this rich collaborative environment are reflected in REF2.

New Projects. As we are a youthful unit (in terms of academic career progression) a central priority in this funding cycle has been to foster a middle generation of strong research leaders who will increasingly set the agenda for future developments. Researchers who were submitted to their first RAE in 2008, have been encouraged to take on major new projects which at once develop their own position as potential research leaders, while bringing other younger researchers into our community. We have been awarded 17 competitive external research fellowships within the REF period. In some cases these have allowed researchers to develop new trajectories that take them beyond their original PhD fieldwork. Kelly's 3-year ESRC Fellowship involved fieldwork with UN bodies and leading anti-torture NGOs, and has produced a monograph and a number of spin-offs, including a highly original volume on traitors (co-edited with another former postdoctoral fellow. Thiranagama) and the beginnings of a new, much bigger collaborative project on the social life of "conscience." Jeffery's ESRC Fellowship has broadened her research focus by examining the interaction between migration and resettlement on the one hand, and environmental activism on the other. Hoek's ESRC Future Leaders project retains her interest in Bangladesh and in visual culture, but her focus will move from film to modernist art and architecture. Cross's Leverhulme fellowship on solar energy in India, has been the basis for a rapidly expanding network of new initiatives, including interdisciplinary work with EPSRC support, a further ESRC project with Street (below), and a new ESRC seminar series on capitalism, humanitarianism and international development. Slightly further along the research career path, Edmonds' 5-year ERC project on excombatants and the institutionalization of trauma will involve research in both Israel and the US, Smith's £1.5m ERC Senior Investigator Award examines the evolution of medical and veterinary research surrounding trypanosomiasis across Africa, and Spencer's £1.2m 4-year ESRC project (with colleagues in Oxford) systematically compares youth politics in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Kelly and Harper are also building on previous work with their two new ESRC/DfID projects, one on the documentation of torture among the urban poor in Nepal, Bangladesh and India, and the other on brokering of development aid in Nepal, both starting in early 2014.

## c. People, including:

# i. Staffing strategy and staff development

This submission is the work of a young and rapidly expanding group with an excellent record in retaining and supporting the development of our best researchers. 20 colleagues listed (over 50%) in this submission were not submitted to RAE 2008. Our challenge has been to provide both support and encouragement to allow excellent researchers to flourish and develop in the directions most appropriate to their career stage.



**Recruitment.** Our recruitment strategy has been to identify and recruit outstanding talent at the earliest career stages and then encourage that talent to grow and blossom, resulting in very high levels of retention. We have deliberately sought to attract the very best young researchers, at the start of their careers. 17 of our 18 new appointments to open-ended/tenure track appointments since 2008, have been at a junior level (Anders, Bialecki, Bompani, Copeman, Cross, Fontein, Furniss, Haynes, Hoek, Jeffery, Long, Marks, Mayblin, Munoz, Sharma, Spiegel, Street) and over 30% of submitted staff are ECRs. All of the 18 staff on open-ended/tenure track contracts appointed since 2008 are still in post, and only one colleague submitted in 2008 (Kwon) has left the University for a post at another institution. In the same period we have been host to 19 postdoctoral fellows, of whom 8 (Bompani, Course, Cross, Haynes, Jeffery, Marks, Mayblin, Street), are now with us as members of academic staff on open-ended contracts. We are committed to a vision which links research to teaching, and builds rounded academic careers: we have made extremely limited use of teaching fellows and have sought to create a single intellectual community in which all colleagues are supported in their research as well as their teaching.

Postdoctoral fellows. In the first part of the assessment period we were especially successful with ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowships; more recently we have enjoyed significant success with Leverhulme (Bischhoff, Cross, Haig, M. High, Jeffery, and Joseph) and British Academy (High, Hoehn, Mayblin). Maunaguru is one of only 2 anthropologists to have been awarded one of the Royal Society/British Academy Newton International Fellowships: although the terms of his Fellowship ruled him out of this submission, the Newton scheme will provide seedcorn funding for a further decade of collaboration (Baxstrom, Carsten, Spencer) with his new department at National University of Singapore. As central funds for postdoctoral fellowships have reduced, the University has stepped in, awarding 100 Chancellor's Fellowships to outstanding young researchers in 2012, and another 100 in 2013. A third tranche of 50 will take up their Fellowships in 2014 as the scheme continues after this REF cycle. The Fellowships are designed to convert into open-ended positions at the end of their 5-year span and offer scope at the beginning of the Fellowship for the development of the Fellow's research career. Three of these (Haynes, Marks, Street) are included in this submission. In 2013 the School created a further 11 Chrystal Macmillan Fellowships for outstanding social scientists who have recently completed their PhDs: of this cohort 2 (Hussain and Oustinova-Stjepanovic) are included in this submission.

**Researcher development.** We seek to support the research of colleagues at all career stages. All incoming researchers, regardless of contractual status, have mentors who provide regular meetings for advice on publishing, career planning, and external funding bids. We run a system of annual appraisals for all staff. All staff have access to the suite of short professional development courses co-ordinated by the University's recently restructured Institute for Academic Development. The School of Social and Political Science runs its own accelerated research leave system, guaranteeing all academic staff a semester of sabbatical leave within two-and-a-half years of their arrival. Where there are compelling cases (for publication or fieldwork purposes for example) leave can be made available even earlier. The School also operates a workload allocation model with a 50% additional weighting for new teaching, which is of particular benefit for new staff.

Mentoring, sabbaticals and research support are geared to encouraging fieldwork. All but 2 of the colleagues returned in this submission conducted primary field research at some point in the assessment period for this REF. Together they made a total of 117 fieldtrips, varying from a few weeks to over a year in length. This commitment to original, primary field research is evidenced by the long-term field engagements and new funding for projects from senior colleagues such as Barnard (on language and kinship in the Kalahari ESRC), Carsten (Leverhulme), Smith (on treatment of *African Trypanosomiasis*, with regard to both livestock and humans in Africa, ERC), and Spencer (ESRC), and from more junior colleagues like Bompani (on sexualities and the Church in Uganda, Leverhulme), Ecks and Harper (ESRC/DfID), Hoek (ESRC), Jeffery (ESRC), and Kelly (ESRC). Where possible we try to include junior colleagues on larger grants, for example, Sharma's role as a Co-I on Kelly and Harper's two ESRC/DfiD projects. Particular emphasis is placed on ensuring that fieldwork and external funding generate high-quality research outputs. Examples in REF2 include Kelly's book on torture, a product of his ESRC Fellowship, Carsten's special issue of the *JRAI*, a product of her Leverhulme Fellowship, and Ecks' *Eating Drugs*, which reflects his contribution to the ESRC/DfID pharmaceuticals project.



**Equality of opportunity.** The UoA has a relatively high proportion of women, and of early career staff, and thus a high number of maternity and paternity leaves and a need for flexible working. We have maintained a near 50:50 gender balance in our post-2008 appointments and try to leave sufficient flexibility in our workload distribution to accommodate both long-term and short-term caring responsibilities. We are working actively to develop creative career plans for our more junior colleagues, which would allow them to remain research active whatever their familial responsibilities. Self-assessment teams for the ECU Gender Equality Charter Mark were established in every School between 2012 and 2013, annual staff and student gender equality surveys have been implemented, and statistical analysis of the results commenced in 2013 and will be on-going throughout 2014.

# ii. Research students

The figures in our submission to RAE 2008 showed a substantial increase in PhD researcher numbers, reflecting focused efforts to improve recruitment. These numbers are this time reflected in much improved PhD completion numbers – 9 p.a. on average compared to 4 p.a. in 2008. Students have received support from the Aga Khan Foundation, Canon Collins Trust, Carnegie Trust, Commonwealth Scholarships, DfID, ERC, ESRC, Microsoft Foundation, RAI, Rothschild Foundation, Scottish Government, Stapley Trust, Wellcome Foundation, Wenner-Gren, and the governments of Chile, Estonia, Finland and Norway. Within the University, students bid for an extensive pool of awards granted by the College of Humanities and Social Science and by the School itself. Increasingly we are able to supplement this through the inclusion of PhD studentships in our more ambitious research projects (Smith and Edmonds with ERC, Harper with Wellcome).

All research students work with two supervisors, very often straddling disciplinary boundaries. Further support is available from a dedicated postgraduate advisor in both CAS and SA. Training is provided at subject level in CAS and SA, supplemented by a broad range of both generic and advanced courses provided by the SPS Graduate School. This is now further supplemented by provision from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC)-funded Scottish Graduate School in Social Science (SGS), which is co-ordinated from SPS in Edinburgh and is the home to the ESRC's biggest Doctoral Training Centre.

In CAS, students are part of the African Studies and International Development pathway of the SGS. Experts from across Scotland contribute to pathway training in the form of cross-institutional supervision and access to specialised courses (for example, Edinburgh's newly instituted Swahili language training courses and 'Researching Africa' programme). SA students participate in the Scottish Training in Anthropological Research (STAR) Programme. The STAR Programme was founded in 2007 with support from the ESRC Researcher Development Initiative and received ESRC Recognition and its first quota studentships in 2008. In 2010 it provided the template for the successful bid to ESRC and SFC for the new Scottish Graduate School in Social Science (SGS). SGS is underwritten by a £2m grant from the Scottish Funding Council, which provides for a coordinating secretariat, access to cross-Scotland advanced training for all students, and the use of new information technology for research training. SGS hosts a very successful annual 2-week summer school of advanced research training in which we are enthusiastic participants.

The STAR programme draws directly on ESRC-funded research on post-PhD anthropological careers. A typical advanced residential week has involved a half-day on publishing, led by an experienced specialist publisher (Jane Huber formerly of *American Ethnologist* and Blackwell; Richard Fisher from CUP; Matei Candea from *JRAI*); a full day on building a career as an anthropologist, with recent PhDs working in different fields (academic, non-academic, government social research, health research, design ethnography); and master-classes with world-leading anthropologists (J. Borneman, V. Das, T. Eriksen, S. Howell, M. Jackson, M. Lambek, and J. de Pina-Cabral among others).

Research students also organise their own student-run training sessions and workshops. CAS students working in areas of overlap with anthropology routinely participate in STAR events, and Africanist researchers from SA join CAS students in events such as the regular CAS residential workshops and writing retreats. SA students took the lead in organizing the 2012 meetings of the South Asia Anthropologists Group (SAAG) in Edinburgh, and launched their own peer-reviewed



online journal (The South Asianist) at the meetings.

Evidence of the success of our PhD students includes the fact that in this period over 37 have won competitive postdoctoral fellowships, (including 7 in South Africa alone in 2013), and 12 from the post-2008 cohort are already in open-ended academic positions. Their many publications within the period of this exercise include monographs by Hughes (Routledge), Ikegame (Routledge), Retsikas (Anthem), Smith (Manchester), Thiranagama (Penn), Walker (Manchester), and Webster (Palgrave-MacMillan) amongst others.

### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

**Income.** The research work reported here was underpinned by 33 new research grants with a research income over the assessment period of £882k p.a., an increase of 419% on the equivalent figure (£170k) for RAE 2008.

In winning research funding we draw heavily on the skills of Edinburgh Research and Innovation (ERI). ERI provides the same kind of service as its equivalents at other universities (costing proposals, highlighting relevant funding opportunities, advising on funder terms and conditions, and curating an extensive 'bank' of successful proposals), with outstanding efficiency: e.g. the turn-around time to cost proposals is normally no more than four hours. Through its Knowledge Exchange office, ERI also offers advice on impact, knowledge exchange, and commercialisation issues such as consultancy. We also run our own 'in-house' seminars on grant-getting, publication, and research management. Our School Research Office now has 6.8 FTE members of staff, and the School has established a panel of highly experienced researchers for internal peer review of all new draft applications. Because European sources are crucial to diversifying funding, we employ a 0.8 FTE European-grant administrator, who advises both on applications and on the very specific reporting requirements of European projects. One indicator of the success of these measures is that 70% (26) of the staff in this submission (with its substantial proportion of early-career researchers) have already won external peer-reviewed grants.

The mainstay of our research income has been and remains the ESRC. Our priority, however, is to diversify our sources of funding, continuing to combine support for individual fieldwork projects with moves towards more complex collaborations. Our mentoring and internal peer review process (see below) proactively match researchers to funding sources. Amongst early successes in this respect are Smith's €1.7m ERC grant, Harper's £800k Wellcome Trust award; the £4.6 million DfID/ESRC PISCES project and the €5 million ESF-funded ABORNE Network. All of these exemplify our commitment to strong research and capacity-building partnerships, especially in Africa and South Asia.

**Research support.** Support for individuals and groups of researchers can simply take the form of accelerated leave entitlement for colleagues completing individual writing tasks, or more complex administrative support for those preparing large funding bids. In every case, our priority is to enable individual researchers to move up to another level wherever possible, and to support projects throughout their life cycle, from inception to publication and where appropriate further public engagement and impact.

Research integrity is a high priority, and all projects are subjected to the School's three-stage ethical review policy. All research council funding applications receive preliminary peer-review from a team of experienced colleagues drawn from across SPS. This involves at least two senior researchers, often more, giving close reading of all applications at an early stage and providing constructive feedback. As well as a subject level research advisor, all colleagues, at whatever stage of career, also have an experienced research mentor, who provides feedback on grant applications and publication strategy. The success of this strategy can again be seen in our REF2 outputs as much as in our figures for external income.

Most, if not all of the research in Anthropology and International Development within this UoA is qualitative in nature, which is time expensive, but financially relatively cheap. In some cases short field trips are likely to fall beneath the radar of the big research funders. Alongside our success in obtaining large grants, there are therefore a large number of flexible internal small grants, such as the School Strategic Research fund, as well as the Tweedie, Hayter and Munro endowments, to which researchers at all levels can apply for short fieldtrip support (approximately 9 grants a year



### of around £1500).

**Infrastructure and facilities**. In 2008, SA and CAS, along with most of the School of Social and Political Science, moved into the Chrystal Macmillan Building, entirely restructured and refurbished for the School at a cost of £14.3 million, of which £10.6 million came from SRIF as a result of research performance. The building was redesigned to our specification, with a particular focus on architectural aspects intended to promote interaction amongst staff and doctoral researchers: generous public spaces with tables and chairs, break-out rooms, and an electronically-bookable meeting 'pod' on each floor.

Facilities for doctoral researchers include a postgraduate common room, reading room, computer room, computer-user support and access to photocopiers and printers. Doctoral researchers are loaned laptops, which connect to Edinburgh's extensive wi-fi system, enabling them to tap into electronic resources in many places on campus. To accommodate the increase in the numbers of our doctoral researchers, we have created a new hot-desking area in an adjacent (and internally connected) building for use by 1<sup>st</sup> years. From their 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> years, doctoral researchers in residence have access to a desk and laptop in a shared office. Six meeting 'pods' with large interactive SMART Boards to facilitate group work are available for booking by doctoral researchers, and we plan to create a further four such pods.

Since RAE 2008, Edinburgh University has made heavy investments in administrative and information-technology support in our School. The three senior administrators in 2008 have now become seven, one of whom works exclusively on research administration, and another of whom devotes 60% of her time to it (including heading our newly-created research office). The four computer support staff in the School in 2008 are now a team of 11.3 FTE IT and web-development specialists. We are also able to draw upon the University's superb strengths in informatics, including e.g. Edinburgh's Data Library and EDINA, a UK national academic data centre, designated by JISC on behalf of the UK HE funding bodies and Research Councils, which delivers access to a wide range of online data services ranging from census statistics to the Digimap and other geographic information systems.

Within a five-minute walk of the Chrystal Macmillan Building are two world-class research libraries: Edinburgh University Library and the National Library of Scotland. The former, an A-listed modernist building which has just been remodelled for the 21<sup>st</sup> century at a cost of £58 million, holds over 3.5 million printed items and around 0.5 million e-books, and subscribes to around 20,000 serials, mostly received as e-journals. The National Library is one of the UK's six Legal Deposit Libraries, and runs the legal deposit scheme. Founded in 1689 as the Library of the Faculty of Advocates, it has had legal deposit status since the 1710 Copyright Act, permitting the accumulation of an almost unrivalled collection of 15 million printed items.

## e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

This assessment period has seen the blossoming of the Scottish Training for Anthropological Research (STAR) consortium, which brings together anthropologists from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and St Andrews. Initially funded by an ESRC Research Development Initiative grant, it has successfully made the transition to being a sustainable and robust institutional alliance, hosting the 2013 RAI Film Festival and the 2014 ASA Decennial Conference on Anthropology and Enlightenment (both in Edinburgh) as well as frequent events for postgraduate and undergraduate researchers.

**Contributions to the disciplines.** Members of the UoA have made significant contributions to professional associations and the wider social sciences. These include: Carsten and Barnard as Fellows of the British Academy; Smith as member of the BA's Africa committee; Hoek's and Harper's roles on the ASA Committee; Spencer as Vice-President of the American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies; Smith's position as a strategic advisor, and Bompani and Harper as members of the peer-review panel for, the ESRC/DfID joint research scheme on International Development; Carsten, Kelly, Smith, and Spencer at the Royal Society of Edinburgh; Spencer on the ESRC PG Framework Implementation Group and as a fieldwork grant assessor for Wenner-Gren; Jeffery, Kelly, Smith, Spencer, Street as members of the ESRC Peer Review College; Kelly on the Council for British Research in the Levant; Barnard on the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission; Bray as Vice President of the Society for the History of Technology, on the International Scientific



Advisory Board for the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, and the Chinese Academy of Science, Institute for the History of Natural Science, Beijing, amongst others.

The UoA is heavily involved in collaborative arrangements for PGR training. As noted above, SPS hosts the Scottish Graduate School and its ESRC Doctoral Training Centre. The UoA works with four of the latter's pathways: Social Anthropology; African Studies and International Development; Socio-legal Studies; and Language-based Area Studies. These Scotland-wide collaborative arrangements are supplemented where appropriate by international training collaborations such as Fontein's and Spencer's ESRC/British Academy International Partnership awards for joint research and training in Southern Africa and Sri Lanka respectively.

**Interdisciplinarity.** Collaborations and joint grants are fostered by Edinburgh University's research strengths in the wider social sciences and humanities. As well as many close links with the five other subject areas in the School (Sociology, Politics, Science and Technology Studies, Social Policy and Social Work), arrangements to support interdisciplinary research include six interdisciplinary research units – CAS, South Asian Studies, the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships, the Institute of Governance, and Innogen (ESRC Genomics Network). We also have strong links with other Colleges and Schools across the University: for example, Smith with Veterinary Medicine; Smith and Cross with the Centre for Energy Systems in Engineering; Baxstrom, Cross, Hoek and Street with Edinburgh College of Art; Anders, Kelly, and Munoz with the School of Law; Harper and Smith as members of Edinburgh Infectious Diseases (a new coordinating entity across the university); and Bialecki and Haynes with the Divinity School.

**Collaboration.** Research collaborations with the third sector are discussed in detail in REF3a and 3b, and many of the results can be found in individual submissions in REF2 (e.g., Kelly, Smith, Spencer). For many members of the UoA this kind of collaboration is second nature: we seek to enrich practitioners' cultures, and their input enriches our research. Five indicative examples are: (i) Spencer's work with NGOs, peace activists, and religious leaders in Sri Lanka; (ii) Hoek and Baxstrom's work with film-makers and art practitioners, in the UK, Bangladesh, Malaysia, and the US; (iii) Cross's role in the Good Solar Network of NGOs and activists groups working to widen access to solar power, which directly feeds into both his research questions and methods; (iv) Jeffery's close engagement with Chagossian activists in the on-going campaign for restitution of their losses from the creation of the military base in Diego Garcia; (v) Smith and Thin's long relationship as trustees with Practical Action, including Smith's 6-year DfID PISCES project.

International collaborations are crucial to our research, and involve both 'user' organisations and fellow academics, and are strongly supported as part of the University's International strategy (which has included the establishment of dedicated offices to support collaboration in Mumbai and Sao Paulo). Various forms of collaboration (formal memoranda of understanding; extended visits; exchange of staff; joint research and/or funding applications; co-authorship) link the UoA to over 33 international universities and research centres.

One particular highlight is Smith's Investigating Networks of Zoonosis Innovation (INZI), a five-year ERC project that aims to analyse the complex interplay of actors, policies and projects that have shaped research into, control, and treatment of African Trypanosomiasis (AT). The project engages with institutions ranging from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the WHO and DFID, through national control programmes in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan and Nigeria, research institutions like the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, product development partnerships such as GALVmed, DNDi and FIND, and INGOs such as Médecins Sans Frontières, END7 and Sightsavers.

The INZI project is just one example of a broader culture of collaboration. Other notable examples include: Barnard's ESRC EuroBABEL project, where he has worked with colleagues from Alaska, Aarhuus, Leiden, Leipzig, Tokyo, Russian Academy of Sciences, Zurich, Oregon, and Austin, on the documentation of endangered languages; Bompani's project on sexuality and politics in Uganda, where she collaborates with academics at Makerere University as well as activists; Harper's new Wellcome project on TB control, where he is working with academics and NGOs including Health Research and Social Development Forum- Nepal, the National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Nepal, Thribhuvan University- Kathmandu, JNU-Delhi, and the University of Arizona; Smith's ESRC/DfID PISCES project, a clean energy research project



involving the University of Dar-es-Salaam, the African Centre for Technology Studies (Nairobi); Practical Action and the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (India); and Spencer's ESRCfunded Conflict, Community and Faith: The Politics of Public Action in Sri Lanka, on which he worked with colleagues from SOAS, Zurich, Eastern, Southeastern and Peradeniya Universities.

**Networks.** Members of the UoA have also played a central part in establishing and running a number of national and international research networks. Bompani co-launched the University's Religion & Society Edinburgh Network (RASEN); the Bones Collective set up by Fontein is a network with over 30 researchers from anthropology, political science, history, archaeology, and forensic science; Good is part of the JUST-INDIA seminar series based in France; Thin is co-convener of the new UK Development Studies Association working group on Psychosocial Wellbeing; Zeller co-ordinates the ESF-funded ABORNE African Borderlands Research Network, bringing together 8 universities from across Europe and Africa, and over 250 individual members, most of them researchers but with a growing number of policy-makers alongside.

**Research seminars, workshops and conferences.** We organise a portfolio of research events, which now goes far beyond our traditional weekly departmental seminars in Social Anthropology and CAS, ranging from Social Anthropology's twice-yearly Munro Lectures (recent speakers have included John Borneman, Didier Fassin, Jane Guyer, Birgit Meyer, Annelise Riles, Joel Robbins, and many others); and the CAS annual conference, which is a major yearly event in British and European African studies; through to the ABORNE annual conference and summer school. These are supplemented by the fortnightly seminars and other periodic events hosted by the Global Development Academy, the annual Charles Jedrej lecture, co-hosted by CAS and SA, and the weekly seminars organized by the Centre for South Asian Studies.

Staff and research students have organized over 80 workshops and conference panels (over 20 in Edinburgh itself), as well as national and international conferences such as the 2013 RAI film festival, the DSA Scotland Annual Conference, meetings of the South Asian Anthropologists' Group, and the STAR Annual Postgraduate conference. Workshops have included Bray's Global History of Rice; Carsten's The Multiple Meanings and Symbolic Resonances of Blood; Course's Fluent Selves: Personhood and Autobiography in Lowland South America, Fontein's What Lies Beneath; Hoek's Experiencing the South Asian City; Jeffery's Return and Onward Migration; Kelly's Are Human Rights for Migrants?; and Kelly and Harper's The Clinic and the Court. So far these have resulted in 29 edited collections or special editions of journals, including Bompani's path-breaking collection on religion and development with Palgrave; Course's forthcoming book with Arizona; Hoek's special issue of Ethnography on the South Asian city, Jeffery's special issue of Population, Space and Place, Kelly's co-edited book on Traitors, Harper and Kelly's forthcoming book with Cambridge. The work of the Bones Collective (led by Fontein with J. Harries and J. Cannizzo) exemplifies the growth of an especially fruitful collaboration, starting with a seminar series in 2008, followed by an Edinburgh workshop (with archaeologists and museum professionals as well as anthropologists), then a panel at an ASA conference, and finally a special Issue of the Journal of Material Culture.

**Other contributions.** Colleagues involved in this submission have been invited as external examiners for over 50 PhDs, including 14 outside the UK (from the US to Australia and across Europe). Members of the UoA have given over 200 plenaries and invited international talks in 33 countries. These have included especially notable invitations for rising stars (Fontein's Curl Lecture, Kelly's Malinowski Lecture), and for distinguished senior scholars (Carsten's Morgan Lecture). They have also taken up 36 journal and book series editorial roles. These include Bray as contributing editor of *Technology and Culture*; Carsten and Kelly on the *JRAI* editorial board; Copeman and Course on the editorial board of *HAU*; Fontein as editor of the *Journal of Southern African Studies*; Fontein, Jeffery and Zeller as the founding editors of *Critical African Studies*; Harper as an editor of the *International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*; Kelly as editor of Pennsylvania's *Ethnography of Political Violence series*; Spencer as editor of the Cambridge *New Directions in Anthropology* and Stanford's *Contemporary Issues in Asia and the Pacific*; Thin as Director of Practical Action Publications (including Oxfam Publications); Zeller as editor of the Palgrave series in *African Borderland Studies*.