

Institution: Kingston University

Unit of Assessment: 29, English Language and Literature

a. Overview

The English Language and Literature Unit at Kingston University consists of 29 staff members (22.61 FTE) who contribute to research in three broadly-conceived areas: theory (London Graduate School), practice (Kingston Writing School) and history (Cultural Histories at Kingston). It joins staff members from several departments engaged in disciplinary and interdisciplinary research across numerous fields, most prominently cultural and textual history; critical and cultural analysis; creative writing and practice; early modern studies; postcolonial studies; women's writing; and film, performance and media.

The Unit has seen significant growth in external income, relative to RAE2008, generating four times the amount reported there. PGR completions have more than tripled since 2008, and the Unit's engagement with external partners has produced wide research impact. The Unit has taken advantage of its location in a global capital, forging research partnerships with cultural and heritage institutions including the Natural History Museum, the British Film Institute and Historic Royal Palaces.

During the assessment period, the 29 staff members returned have collectively published: 69 books (31 monographs, three scholarly editions, 11 novels, five collections of poetry and 21 edited collections and special issues); 136 book chapters; 104 articles in refereed journals; 30 short stories and pieces of journalism; and more than 50 poems in anthologies and magazines. Research has appeared in leading presses (including Yale, Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh and Manchester university presses) and peer-reviewed academic journals. The Unit's creative writers have won 22 awards, most prominently the CBE for services to literature (**Kureishi**) and the Chevalier des l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (**Kureishi** and **Shafak**).

b. Research strategy

1. Organisation of research

Since RAE 2008, the Unit has shifted its focus from thematic centres to research groups based on shared methodologies of staff. This has provided a responsive, flexible framework for individual and collective activities across disciplinary specialisms. The University invests annually in each research platform to support conferences, seminars and invited lectures, recruit postgraduate students and advance research. The three research platforms are closely linked in pursuing scholarly excellence that is open to and seeks out collaborative exchange. Rather than dividing interests and initiatives, these areas are inclusive: most staff members contribute to more than one group and most programmes in the Unit are co-sponsored.

a. The London Graduate School (LGS)

Founded in 2010 as a London-based network to support the doctoral programme by hosting a series of research initiatives and events in contemporary critical theory, LGS is already recognised for its innovative engagement with theoretical and philosophical issues that range across disciplinary and national borders. LGS has emerged as a vital centre of exchange in theory and cultural analysis through the interaction of its international and London-based fellows and graduate students. The School is characterised by active collaboration between staff and PGRs: students organise events and participate in the LGS Summer Academy in the Critical Humanities, an intensive, week-long residency programme offered annually to 30 postgraduate students from around the world.

Under the umbrella of the LGS, **Botting** (Professor, Humanities) works in cultural and critical theory, uncanny media, and horror. **Chanter** (Professor, Humanities) publishes on feminist theory, film, and Continental Philosophy. **Ikoniadou** (Lecturer, Media) explores encounters between technology, art and media theory. **McQuillan** (Professor, Literary Theory) writes on the work of



Jacques Derrida, Hélène Cixous and Paul de Man. **Morgan Wortham** (Professor, English Literature) pursues research in literary and cultural theory. **Mullarkey** (Professor, Film) examines variations of non-standard-philosophy at the crossroads of film theory and continental philosophy. **Quinlivan** (Lecturer, Performance and Screen Studies) works in the areas of film studies and corporeality. **Weber** (Anniversary Chair, Performance and Screen Studies) writes on media studies, performance, psychoanalysis, literature and critical theory. **Weslati** (Senior Lecturer, Media and Cultural Studies) works in critical theory and American studies, with an interest in neoliberal politics. **S. Wilson** (Professor, Film, Media and Television) pursues research that encompasses cultural and critical theory, psychoanalysis and the legacy of Georges Bataille.

b. Kingston Writing School (KWS)

This research group is home to practice-based research and publication in creative writing and journalism, and encourages the craft of writing in diverse communities and constituencies within and beyond the University. It comprises distinguished creative writers across a range of media and genres, practicing journalists, and a thriving graduate community.

Within the KWS, **Bailey** (Distinguished Writer) is an award-winning author of 12 novels, two biographies and a memoir. **Campbell** (Principal Lecturer, Creative Writing) is a poet working in the tradition of Anglo-Irish literature with a research interest in the uses of writing in trauma and conflict. **Cusk** (Professor, Creative Writing) is an award-winning author of 11 novels and memoirs whose explorations of motherhood and marriage have been serialised in the national media. **Goldsworthy** (Professor, English Literature and Creative Writing) publishes poetry, memoirs and essays. **Hoffman** (Distinguished Writer) is an award-winning author of novels and six non-fiction books. **Kureishi** (Professor) is an internationally acclaimed author of six novels, five collections of short stories and essays and 15 plays and screenplays. **Miller** (Senior Lecturer, Creative Writing) explores contemporary American and British culture in novels and essays. **Shafak** (Distinguished Writer) is the author of eight novels and four books of cultural criticism, and an advocate in international forums for the rights of women and minorities. **Walsh** (Senior Lecturer, Journalism) brings his experience as a BBC broadcast journalist to works on contemporary Irish politics and culture.

c. Cultural Histories at Kingston (CHK)

Researchers in the CHK group pursue the interdisciplinary study of literary and cultural texts (including writing in print and manuscript, archival records, and material texts and artefacts) as embedded in historical periods from the early modern to the contemporary. CHK carries on a programme of interdisciplinary events in fields including English and foreign literatures, music, history, art history, journalism, film, drama and media studies. CHK is the home of the university's four archival collections, some acquired during the assessment period (Iris Murdoch, Orange Prize, Stephen Sondheim and Sheridan Morley).

Within CHK, **Agnew** (Lecturer, English Literature) studies women's travel writing in colonial India. **Brooker** (Professor, Film and Television) researches popular culture in film and television. **Carey** (Professor, English Literature) works on eighteenth-century America, with emphases on Quakerism, slavery, and environmentalism. **Chambers** (Professor, Drama) brings his experience as a journalist and theatre critic to the study of theatre history and biography. **Dines** (Senior Lecturer, English Literature) pursues research into the place of the suburbs in Anglo-American writing and gay and lesbian culture and politics. **Phillippy** (Professor, English Literature) works in the areas of early modern literary and cultural studies with emphases on gender, material culture and women's writing. **Teverson** (Senior Lecturer, English Literature) pursues research in two areas: fairy tales and contemporary postcolonial literature. **Van Elferen** (Professor, Performance and Screen Studies) publishes on film and TV music, Gothic theory and subcultures, and baroque sacred music. **Upstone** (Principal Lecturer, English Literature) works in contemporary postcolonial and global literature with an emphasis on race and gender. **R. Wilson** (Sir Peter Hall Professor of Shakespeare Studies) writes on French cultural theory, Shakespeare, and performance.



2. Research objectives, 2014-2019

- The Unit will continue to foster and support scholarly excellence across the three research
 areas, especially attending to the ongoing achievement of early career researchers.
 Enhanced funding for staff development and targeted teaching relief for research-active
 staff will continue to underpin the Unit's future plans.
- The Unit comes to the end of the present assessment period with recent success in funded programmes of research, including a Leverhulme Research Fellowship awarded to Carey (2013) 'Slavery and the Idea of Nature: Writing and Environment in the British Colonial World, 1660–1840', and a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship (Jerome Maunsell) awarded to supervisor Phillippy (2013-16). In this context, further bids involving staff in the Unit and external partners are currently in preparation. The Unit aims to lay a firm foundation of external income to support its research activity as it moves through the next period of assessment.
- The Unit will enhance and expand collaborations with higher education institutions and professional organisations, including the organisation of international conferences of relevance to the discipline. A symposium on David Garrick for the 2014 anniversary will be co-sponsored by the Unit's Kingston Shakespeare Seminars (R. Wilson), the Rose Theatre (Kingston) and Hampton Court Palace. Agnew is collaborating with partners at the University of Leuven to organise an international conference on nineteenth-century Irish travel for 2014. Also in 2014, McQuillan and Morgan Wortham will organize an international retrospective on the work of Jacques Derrida through the prism of the fortieth anniversary of the publication of Glas. Mullarkey will participate in organising the 2014 Cerisy-la-Salle 'decade' devoted to the work of François Laruelle. S. Wilson will continue collaboration with the section clinique of the Department of Psychoanalysis at the University of Paris VIII, including an international event with Jacques-Alain Miller in 2015.
- In 2013 the University was part of a consortium of 7 institutions awarded an AHRC Block Grant Partnership 2, comprising over 170 studentships over five years. The latter scheme will provide PGR support in the disciplines that make up the Unit.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

a. Staffing strategy

Since 2008, the Unit has appointed 19 staff members, all of whom are returned in REF 2014. Recruitment has been guided by the consolidation of research into the three areas of theory, practice and history.

The recruitment of seven senior staff members with expertise in critical and cultural theory (Botting, Chanter, McQuillan, Morgan Wortham, Mullarkey, Weber and S. Wilson) has established the core of LGS, providing the Unit with a distinctive profile in literary and critical theory. The activities of mid-career staff (Weslati) and the recruitment of two early career researchers in LGS (Ikoniadou and Quinlivan) build on the interdisciplinary character of the group.

Three professors (**Cusk**, **Goldsworthy** and **Kureishi**), all promoted within this assessment period, provide an institutional anchor for KWS, while the group's staff (**Campbell**, **Miller and Walsh**) and distinguished writers (**Bailey**, **Hoffman**, and **Shafak**) further contribute to the active, industry-facing profile essential to the vitality of this practice-based research area.

CHK's research strength in gender and women's writing (**Goldsworthy** and **Upstone**) has been augmented by one early career and one professorial appointment (**Agnew** and **Phillippy**). The interests of CHK's newly-promoted professors (**Goldsworthy** and **Carey**) in the literature of travel, identity and location offer direction and strength to **Agnew's**, **Dines's** and **Walsh's** research, and



this work aligns well with the CHK focus on colonial and post-colonial studies (**Upstone** and **Teverson**). Two professorial appointments in Shakespeare and early modern studies (**Phillippy** and **R. Wilson**) consolidate key strengths, and cement ties between literary criticism and performance (**Brooker**, **Chambers**, and **van Elferen**) and links with external partners (Historic Royal Palaces and the Rose Theatre, Kingston).

b. Staff development.

Five members of the Unit (**Brooker, Carey, Kureishi, Cusk** and **Goldsworthy**) have achieved promotion to professorships during the assessment period. This reflects a long-term developmental strategy that has fostered existing staff alongside new appointments. Each of the three research platforms (LGS, KWS and CHK) co-ordinates mentoring by senior staff members of younger and early career researchers, helping them to conceptualise effective programmes of creative and critical research and advising them on the placement of publications. The Unit provides targeted research support for research-active staff; incentives to support research leadership, collaboration and the development of research impact; and a sabbatical scheme which crosses the disciplinary boundaries of the Unit.

Concerted university investment in research provides individual grants of up to £2,500 through a competitive bidding process for research activities including travel to archives, fieldwork, organising conferences, and costs of developing collaborative projects with external partners. These funding initiatives have borne fruit in this assessment period, having, for example, provided support to ECRs **Agnew** and **Ikoniadou** to visit archives and develop collaborative conferences in Leuven and London, respectively; assisted **Weslati** to undertake research on Kojève at the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris; aided **Carey** in conducting archival research toward his monograph (Yale, 2013); and assisted **Campbell**, **Goldsworthy** and **Cusk** in the development of the Military Writing Network (see REF3b.3). An additional Staff Development Fund meets requests for travel to conferences and research-related activities.

The Unit's five early career researchers (**Agnew**, **Ikoniadou**, **Miller**, **Quinlivan** and **Walsh**) have all been supported by targeted teaching relief, enabling each of them to bring their early outputs to press. Unit staff, particularly ECRs, and postgraduate students are invited to present their latest research through a designated work-in-progress seminar series, at international conferences (including those hosted by Kingston) and through LGS programmes, such as the LGS Summer School in the Critical Humanities. These events provide opportunities for engagement with research by staff at all levels and from all areas of the Unit, enhancing and enriching the research culture of the Unit.

ii. Research students

At present, 52 postgraduate students are pursuing PhD degrees in the Unit, four times the number reported in the closing year of the last period (2007: 13). Enrolment has steadily increased in each year of the reporting period, from 26 in 2008 to the current number, and completions have kept pace with enrolment, rising from 3 at the close of RAE 2008 to 14 in this period. These increases are a result of escalated efforts to recruit and fund postgraduate students, and in part due to the appointments of distinguished writers and leading scholars who attract applications for postgraduate study at Kingston. The reorganisation of research has also enabled each of the three platforms to define more precisely its postgraduate offering and to implement strategies to attract students more effectively.

The University's successful applications to the 2010 and 2013 AHRC Block Grant Partnership competitions were written around the research strengths of the Unit. The 2010 award resulted in 14 full bursaries in the arts and humanities, which were supported with matching funds from the University. In 2013, the University was successful in both the type A and type B scheme, and disciplines within the Unit will be funded with consortium partners (Royal Holloway, Surrey, University of the Arts, and the Royal College of Art) for the next five years. In addition, the Unit has internally funded 12 full studentships, 9 partial studentships, and 9 fees-only bursaries. Postgraduate students are supported through research assistantships that provide valuable early



professional experience, including archival and editorial work, coordinating seminars and organising conferences, and maintaining Unit websites and social media.

The Unit has a full programme of formal training for Humanities students (coordinated by **Upstone**), which meets bi-weekly throughout the academic year. Attendance is mandatory for first-year PGRs and recommended for all research students. The programme focuses on practical skills and research methods, and involves sessions led by Unit staff members focusing on their own approaches to research. The training seminars offer opportunities for students to present their own work, both formally and informally. In addition, each research platform provides avenues for students' professional development. The Unit's staff development funds encourage postgraduate students to present research at national conferences by fully funding travel. KWS organises master classes for creative writing postgraduates led by staff and visiting writers. Links between postgraduates and staff in CHK are cemented by the participation of both populations in bi-weekly research seminars, semi-annual symposia, and special events and lectures. The research platforms collaborate to sponsor conferences for their graduate students, such as 'Migrancy and the Text: A Postgraduate Conference' run by postgraduate students in CHK and LGS in November 2010.

The LGS Summer Academy in the Critical Humanities is taught by colleagues at Kingston (Malabou, Benjamin, Balibar, **Chanter**, **Weber**, **Morgan Wortham** and **McQuillan**) and supported by invited lecturers from around the world. In 2013, along with existing Kingston PGRs, students enrolled from a wide number of institutions internationally, including the Sorbonne, Oxford, Columbia, Northwestern, NYU, UC Berkeley, ANU, Heidelberg and Glasgow. The summer academy therefore offers Kingston PhD students in the critical humanities the opportunity to extend and develop their study, working alongside some of the best graduate students in their field internationally.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

During the assessment period, the Unit has prioritised the growth and success of applications for external funding as a means of improving research quality. The University has set in place a network of support for research with the appointment of a Research Manager to lead a local team which works with the University Research Support Office to identify opportunities for external funding, assists staff in developing grant applications, and organises a structured process of peer review of applications by an expert panel. In addition, a Business Development Manager facilitates collaborations between staff and non-higher-education partners to develop knowledge transfer partnerships and impact-based research. The University Research Support Office assists staff in preparing the budgetary aspects of research funding applications.

The total research income from external funding in the REF period is £424,813, more than four times that reported in RAE 2008 (£95,816). Both the total number and amounts of bids submitted have risen: 58% of successful bids submitted during the REF period were for amounts over £20,000, compared to only 31% of successful bids during the RAE 2008 period. During this reporting period, staff members have been awarded two AHRC research awards (Carey and McQuillan); a British Academy research grant (McQuillan); and two British Academy travel grants (Carey and Dines). Three staff members have recently received award notifications through the Leverhulme Trust: Carey was awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship toward his monograph, 'Slavery and Environmental Consciousness in British Colonial Writing 1660–1840'; Phillippy was awarded a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship to supervise Jerome Maunsell's monograph, 'Crossings: The Writer as Reporter 1890-1950'; Dines is co-investigator in the Leverhulme International Research Network project, 'Cultures of the Suburbs.'

The Unit has been successful in the area of knowledge transfer. Two Knowledge Transfer projects have supported collaborations between KWS staff (Chew Siegel, £35,503, sKTP) and the Bush Theatre; and KWS (Cathcart, £236,835, AHRC Knowledge Transfer Fellowship) and the Natural History Museum. During the assessment period, Cathcart's AHRC-funded 'New Perspectives' project led to the establishment of the Centre for Arts and Humanities Research within the NHM. These successes follow on a three-year AHRC Knowledge Transfer Fellowship between CHK staff



(Longfellow, £85,251, with £33,119 in this reporting period) and Historic Royal Palaces. Initial research was completed in 2009 and collaboration has been ongoing (**R. Wilson** and **Phillippy**) throughout the assessment period. This project received the AHRC award for the most effective use of Humanities for the Creative Economy in 2011.

Staff and postgraduate students have the advantage of Kingston's proximity to London's libraries and archives, including the British Library, the National Archives, Senate House and other University of London libraries. The Unit maintains four major archives: the Iris Murdoch Archives at Kingston, a resource that attracts international audiences of researchers and enthusiasts; the Sheridan Morley Theatre Collection; the Orange Prize Archive; and the recently acquired Stephen Sondheim Archive. These are housed within CHK, which has as one of its primary objectives the protection and enhancement of these collections and their increased integration into research. Maintenance of the archives is resourced by funding devolved to CHK and through external funding, including a National Lottery award to the Murdoch Archives in 2012 (£107,000).

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

1. Collaborations

While each of the three research areas in the Unit has developed a reputation for outstanding individual scholarship, each has also successfully embraced new research initiatives and collaborative opportunities with higher education institutions and non-academic partners.

a. LGS

The School has established close working relationships with major cultural and academic institutes in London and abroad, including the Department of Psychoanalysis at the University of Paris VIII, the University of California, Irvine, the British Film Institute and the Natural History Museum. Collectively, LGS collaborations have helped to establish its reputation as a centre for cultural analysis and academic and public debate, and have enriched the cultural environment of the capital through thoughtful, provocative commentary. The Philosophical Screens programme, for example, coordinated by Mullarkey in collaboration with the BFI and the Collège International de Philosophie (Paris), joins the scholarly discipline of philosophy with the practical art of filmmaking to explore the dialogue between these two forms of expression and analysis. Mullarkey's collaboration with the NHM, 'Unruly Creatures,' similarly presents a series of scholarly conferences that explores the interface of cultural consumption and philosophical speculation, reconceptualising the museum's collection of artefacts as residual animals. In doing so, 'Unruly Creatures' opens public and scholarly debate on the ethics of human relationships with the natural world.

b. KWS

The School has relationships with external partners in greater London and the southeast, including the Rose Theatre (Kingston), the Bush Theatre, the Kingston Reader's Festival and Oxfam. Through standing series of events, these partnerships ensure that KWS writers are a constant presence in the arts and culture landscape of London. Adaptations of KWS writers' works have done the same both in the capital and on the world stage. **Kureishi's** *Black Album* was adapted by the author for performance at the National Theatre in 2009, while Cathcart's *Deepcut*, first published in *Private Eye*, was staged at the Tricycle Theatre in 2009 and aired on BBC R4 in 2011. The film *Le Week-End*, screenplay by **Kureishi**, opened in London in early October 2013 to strong box-office returns and good critical reviews. To date it has been screened at the New York, Toronto and Vancouver international film festivals.

c. CHK

Staff have engaged in over twenty collaborations since 2008 with partners including the Victoria and Albert Museum, Amnesty International and Historic Royal Palaces. Research initiatives have benefited cultural and heritage institutions and their visitors by enriching institutions' offerings with scholarly content and by revealing literary histories within local, regional and national settings. Through the AHRC-funded 'Museum Lives' project, for example, collaboration with the Natural



History Museum produced an online history of the museum's curators and their collections. The project is sponsored by NHM's Centre for Arts and Humanities Research, the first research centre of its kind in the world, which was founded as a result of Unit staff members' involvement in the AHRC's 'New Perspectives' initiative in 2008. 'Museum Lives' demonstrates the potential for and value of intellectual exchange and cooperation between the sciences and the humanities, and helps to redefine NHM as a locus for inquiry and engagement by scholars working in the humanities. **McQuillan** is a member of the International Advisory Board

2. Contribution to the discipline.

The Unit's contributions to the range of disciplines in which staff participate are in three main areas: international reach and recognition, expanding the borders of academic discourse, and cultural engagement and public debate.

a. International Reach and Recognition

By assuming leadership roles in international scholarly organisations, and through the influence of their published outputs on an international academic audience, Unit staff members have established Kingston's reputation as a vital centre of scholarly exchange.

Three staff members serve as officers of the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies and the Literary London Society (Carey), the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women (Phillippy) and Northern Shakespeare Society (R. Wilson). Phillippy is a fellow of the Qatar National Research Fund Peer Review College, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada) Peer Review College. Walsh has held the Alistair Horne Fellowship at St. Antony's College, Oxford, and R. Wilson was visiting professor at the University of Paris IV (Paris-Sorbonne). Supported by an AHRC Research Leave Grant, Carey worked with staff at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies (U. Pennsylvania), Swarthmore College, and Haverford College to organise 'Quakers and Slavery: An International Interdisciplinary Conference,' in 2010.

Unit staff serve on editorial boards for 32 journals in their fields, and are peer reviewers for 45 journals and 29 university and trade presses including Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Routledge, Continuum and Stanford. **Chanter** is Series Editor of the Gender Theory Series (SUNY Press) and **McQuillan** edits the series 'Frontiers of Theory' for Edinburgh UP. Four staff members edit international scholarly journals: S. Wilson is editor of the *Journal of Cultural Research*; **Brooker** is the editor of *Cinema Journal*, **Phillippy** is senior editor of *Sixteenth Century Studies*; and **Morgan Wortham** is a close editorial advisor to *Textual Practice*. Three staff are members of the AHRC Peer Review College (**Morgan Wortham**, **Mullarkey** and **Phillippy**) and **McQuillan** serves on the AHRC Strategic Reviewers Group.

Creative writers in the Unit have won nearly two dozen awards and honours, including the Pen/Pinter Prize (**Kureishi**); the Crashaw Prize for Poetry (**Goldsworthy**); the Gold Medal for Literary Fiction, Independent Publishers' Association (**Hoffman**). **Van Elferen** was awarded the Allan Lloyd Smith prize for best book in Gothic Criticism, 2011-2013. Three KWS staff members are fellows of the Royal Society of Literature (**Bailey, Hoffman** and **Kureishi**). The Unit's creative writers are frequently featured in radio and television broadcasts and in the media, having given 18 such appearances in the assessment period. Works by **Cusk, Hoffman, Goldsworthy, Kureishi** and **Shafak** have been widely translated. Works by two writers have prompted secondary critical discussion: **Cusk's** writing was the subject of the Research Group A.C.E. Conference in 2011 at Rennes 2 University, and collected papers from the conference appeared in a special issue of *Erea: Revue electronique d'etudes du monde anglophone* in 2013, and **Kureishi's** work has spawned seven articles and four critical monographs since 2008.

Four international conferences hosted by the Unit underscore staff member's international contributions to their respective fields. **Teverson** was co-covener of the International Conference, 'After Grimm,' hosted by Kingston in 2009. The 2011 Theatre and Performance Research Association (TAPRA) conference was held at Kingston (**Chambers**). Directed by **Mullarkey**, the Society for European Philosophy and Forum for European Philosophy (SEP-FEP) Conference was



held at Kingston in June 2013. The Post-Colonial Studies Association Conference took place at Kingston in September 2013 (**Upstone**) and the Society of Early Americanists Conference (**Carey**), will be held at Kingston in July 2014.

b. Expanding the borders of academic discourse

Unit researchers are assiduous archivists: publications by **Agnew**, **Carey**, **Teverson** and **Walsh** rely fundamentally on unpublished archival collections. Three scholarly editions undertaken by staff in the assessment period broaden the material available for academic discussion and critical analysis, exemplifying the expansive approach to research that permeates the Unit.

The Writings of an English Sappho (ed. **Phillippy**) contains fully annotated texts by Elizabeth Cooke Hoby Russell, including manuscript correspondence and poems, monumental projects and ceremonial performances, all compiled through archival research and fieldwork. The edition brings previously overlooked forms of early modern women's writing into critical view.

Alexandre Kojève's *The Notion of Authority* (ed. and trans. **Weslati**) reveals and explores this enigmatic author's influence on twentieth-century notions of sovereignty and political authority. **Weslati's** fully-annotated translation positions the text and its author in the field of contemporary philosophy.

McQuillan has been engaged in a five-year editing project, funded by the AHRC and British Academy, based upon the Paul de Man papers held at the University of California, Irvine, producing editions of 'The Post-Romantic Predicament' (de Man's 1961 Harvard doctoral thesis, published by EUP), 'The Portable Rousseau' (original writing and translation by de Man) and 'Textual Allegories' (the transcription of an unknown monograph) available through the University of California on-line repository.

c. Cultural Engagement and Public Debate

The outputs of some members of the Unit have offered public commentary on issues of concern both within and beyond the university.

Cusk's memoirs, which express her personal trauma and self-analysis, have led to public controversy. In engaging with and contributing to discourses surrounding the morality of life writing and the genre's specific use to female writers, **Cusk** has significantly influenced the direction and intensity of these debates in the UK and internationally by promoting a feminist defence of women's expressions of domestic and bodily experience.

McQuillan's public commentary on higher education in the UK and the US, in forums including *The Guardian, Research Fortnight* and *Times Higher Education*, has challenged government thinking and public policy. His documentary on the 2012 tuition fees increase was nominated for a British Universities Film and Video Council Award in 2012.

Shafak has served as a Special Envoy in the EU-Turkey Cultural Bridges programme and makes frequent personal and media appearances in defence of the rights of women and minorities in Turkey and around the globe.

Cathcart's public examination of the individual's right to privacy from exploitation by the media resulted in his co-founding of the Hacked Off campaign, which ultimately led to the Leveson Inquiry into the phone hacking scandal. Cathcart's 'Leveson Bill,' put forward by Hacked Off in response to the Inquiry's report, informed and influenced the Royal Charter on press regulation which was approved by the Privy Council on 30 October 2013.