

Institution: UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Unit of Assessment: D29 English Language and Literature

#### a. Overview

All submitted staff are part of the School of English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies (EDACS). The School's constituent units are English, Drama & Theatre Arts, American & Canadian Studies and the Shakespeare Institute (SI). The School was established in 2008 when the University of Birmingham (UoB) was reorganised into Colleges, EDACS joining the College of Arts & Law (CAL). Its core commitments are researching language, text and performance (some work in the latter submitted to UoA 35) and facilitating research that is diverse, interdisciplinary, collaborative, and intra- and inter-institutional.

# b. Research strategy

Since 2008 the UoA has led the development in EDACS of a distinctive combination of research focuses on Medieval & Early Modern Literature and Shakespeare; Literature and Culture after 1850; Critical Creativity; and English Language and Applied Linguistics. Strategic appointments, research mentoring, internal funding, dedicated support for external funding applications, development of research centres and the integration of ECRs and PGRs into a vibrant scholarly community have supported achievements that include:

- launch of new PGR programmes: PhD in Creative Writing; PhD in Shakespeare & Creativity, and Distance Learning extended across all PhD programmes
- PGR recruitment increased, and PGR completions risen 44% 2008/09 2011/12
- promotion of a staffing strategy that supports research aims by targeting prioritised areas, with research excellence as a key criterion for appointment and promotion
- launch of mentoring for research planning, including focus on collaboration, external funding and impact potential
- productive engagement with CAL's Research and Knowledge Transfer (RKT) office from the first stages of new research
- launch of three new centres (Centre for Literary Editing and the Materiality of the Text, Centre for the Study of Cultural Modernity and Centre for Translation) and strengthening and refocusing of the SI and the Centre for Corpus Research (CCR).

## Position with regard to research plans described in RAE 2008

University reorganisation, anticipated in 2008, has given the UoA a new context within the School of EDACS which productively brings Drama and American & Canadian Studies into the same school as English and the SI and facilitates fruitful relations with other schools within the College (e.g. Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music). The EDACS Head of Research chairs its RKT Committee and sits on CAL's RKT committee. The new structure has facilitated EDACS's contribution to new interdisciplinary research arrangements (for UoA Centres, see below). The development of undergraduate teaching in Creative Writing mentioned in RAE 2008 has, as anticipated, led to the creation of two research-active posts (see below, c. (i)) and we now offer a PhD in Creative Writing, complementing our research and doctoral activities in Shakespeare & Creativity (see below). The reorganisation of support for International Students in English Language referred to in RAE 2008 has strengthened our research into language pedagogy in Business English and Academic Writing.

All major planned outputs mentioned in RAE 2008 are now published (including four from American & Canadian Studies, UoA 47 in RAE 2008) with six exceptions. Of these, one developed into a monograph of wider range (also now published), one is due for publication early in 2014, three are in progress, and one is being developed into a larger collaborative project.

New directions have been facilitated by departures and retirements and by prioritisation of unexpectedly productive seams of research (e.g. Wright's monograph took priority over the editions of Epictetus and Jowett's work on More and collaborative authorship over the co-authored book on bibliographical theory). The appointment of new staff enabled the CCR to strengthen work on academic discourse, leading to a successful ESRC proposal on interdisciplinary journals. The CCR is now supporting work in International Development, Education and Law (rather than Modern Languages).

# Plans and Aspirations for 2014–19



EDACS endorses, with local variations, CAL's Research and Knowledge Transfer Strategy 2011–15, aspiring to research that is world-leading, agenda-setting, addresses key national and global issues, and has positive impacts on society. Within this framework, the aims of the UoA are to:

- develop further our particular strengths in Medieval & Early Modern Literature and Shakespeare; Literature and Culture after 1850; Critical Creativity; and English Language and Applied Linguistics
- support collaborative and interdisciplinary research by means of four Research Centres located in the UoA and the Shakespeare Institute (see below and section d.)
- contribute to CAL's research themes Connected Communities (civic, national, European, global); Heritage and Digital Humanities; Environment (culture/nature and humanities contributions to environmental debates); and Translating Cultures
- support individuals to meet the expectations of outputs, funding, and PGR supervision defined in job descriptions and promotion criteria by UoB and CAL (see c. (i))
- appoint strategically at all levels (see c. (i)), including recent and planned appointments to expand post-1850 literary research.

## **Support for Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Research**

In order to identify and foster interdisciplinary and collaborative research within the UoA, across UoB more widely, and with other HEIs both nationally and globally, we are developing a range of research centres located within the UoA, and we are also contributing to key centres homed outside the School (e.g. Centre for the Study of the Middle Ages, Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies, Birmingham Eighteenth-Century Centre, and BFilm). Our long-established SI and CCR have recently been joined by the Centre for the Study of Cultural Modernity, the Centre for Literary Editing and the Materiality of the Text, and the Birmingham Centre for Translation, and over the coming period we shall continue to review our centres provision to ensure flexible and appropriate support for both established and emerging research focuses. Our centres organise seminars, workshops and conferences, share best practice and scope new projects (including impact and funding potential), and integrate ECRs and PGRs into wider research cultures.

The new Centre for Literary Editing and the Materiality of the Text (CLEMT, 2013) supports work across all periods and media including the digital, with particular strength in Medieval and Early Modern Literature and Shakespeare, in Literature post-1850, and in Critical Creativity (e.g. House's technologically innovative *The Kills*). CLEMT works closely with UoB's Institute for Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing, and alongside members' many editorial and archival undertakings (e.g. Adlington, Oxford UP Donne Sermons; Jowett, Gen. Ed. the New Oxford Shakespeare and Gen. Ed. Oxford UP Middleton; Longworth, Oxford UP Dorothy Richardson; VRumbold, Cambridge UP Swift and Longman Pope; Scase, Vernon MS for Bodleian Digital Texts; Small, Gen Ed. and Ed., Oxford UP Wilde; Wiggins, Oxford UP British Drama catalogue) external collaborations include three projects under the UoB / U Nottingham initiative: Fagg ('Vertical Networks of Periodical Production in Nineteenth-Century America'), KRumbold ('Digital Shakespeares') and VRumbold ('Scriblerian Editing and the Futures of Reading', under consideration by AHRC).

The **Shakespeare Institute** supports interdisciplinary research in the areas of Shakespeare & Creativity and Shakespeare & Cultural Value alongside editorial and archival work (jointly with CLEMT, e.g. Jowett, Wiggins). Developing from these strengths is an emerging focus on Shakespeare as vehicle for aesthetic and social experiment and intervention. Major collaborations will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare's death in 2016 and test the possibilities for reinvigorating Shakespeare as a 'muse for twenty-first century Europe': Fernie and Dobson are leading 'Shakespeare European Laureate (1769, 2016, and Beyond)' in partnership with eight cultural organisations and funders. The SEL programme includes a 'Civic Shakespeare Summit' (Verona, 2013); 'Civic Shakespeare in Anglo-German Contact Zones' (Weimar, 2013); future plans include a revival of the Garrick 'Shakespeare Ode' and creation of a new Ode for contemporary Europe (for performance in 2016); and a liturgy for Shakespeare's church in Stratford with the Oxford Centre for Christianity and Culture.

The Centre for the Study of Cultural Modernity (CSCM, 2011) addresses the formation



and legacies of distinctively 'modern' conceptions of self and society, supporting the symposium series Making of Modernity, and organising international conferences on Wyndham Lewis (Gasiorek, 2008) and Sitwelliana (Longworth, 2011, with UoB Barber Institute of Fine Arts), and the 2011 meeting of the British Assoc. for Victorian Studies. Gasiorek and Longworth co-edit *Modernist Cultures*, the only British-based journal in its field. Collaborative plans include REllis's exhibition of the visual paratexts of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* at Bowdoin College and U Illinois Chicago; an AHRC Network application on 'Identification and Literature' with U Illinois Urbana-Champaign and U Leeds (Ferguson); and 'Vertical Networks' (Fagg with U Nottingham; see CLEMT above).

The **Centre for Corpus Research** supports initiatives in corpus linguistics and discourse analysis, exploiting advances in the digitisation of texts. Sealey, with G. Cook of King's College London, funded by Leverhulme Trust, is investigating talk and writing about animals; and Hunston and Thompson are investigating 'Interdisciplinary Research Discourse', using the journal *Global Environmental Change* as a case study funded by ESRC. CCR research increasingly has an applied emphasis, e.g., in bio-medical research, translation, law and political science, and education, while work on everyday creativity, new media and multimodality is being developed into a unified research area. The CCR collaborates with such universities as Free U of Amsterdam, U Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Federal U of Santa Catarina and U of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and U of Extremadura, Spain, with the aim of establishing a global network of affiliated centres.

The new **Birmingham Centre for Translation** (2013) brings together literary translation and reception, adaptation, translation history and corpus-based translation studies, and spans English and Classical and Modern Languages. The Centre aims to promote interdisciplinary research collaboration; to disseminate translation research; to generate new research projects and grant capture; to recruit PGRs; and to engage with the translation industry and with the profession to generate national and international impact.

The UoA's interdisciplinary and collaborative research initiatives are also supported by UoB and CAL in various ways, e.g.:

- the CAL RKT Fund (£32,000) supports larger projects, new strategic initiatives and impact activities
- the UoB North America Strategy Fund supports research visits to the US and Canada; 13 members of the UoA were awarded a total of £14,532, 02/2011–10/2013
- EDACS's RKT Fund (c. £15,000) supports smaller-scale activities, including conference participation by ECRs
- the Birmingham-Nottingham Strategic Research Collaboration Fund supports preparatory activities for major projects, supporting in the UoA the CLEMT projects on 'Digital Shakespeare', 'Scriblerian Editing and the Futures of Reading' and 'The Vertical Networks of Periodical Production in Nineteenth-Century America' (CLEMT/CSCM)
- UoB's new Institute for Advanced Study funded a two-day workshop on Language in Society and in the Mind organised with Computer Science and Psychology
- the UoA benefits from UoB's membership of the Universitas 21 consortium. A Universitas 21
  Staff Fellowship enabled Sullivan to visit the Universities of Queensland, Western Australia,
  and Sydney for work on the history of the emotions
- extended research visits to UoB by overseas researchers are facilitated by EDACS's Centre for Advanced Research in English (CARE). For example, Prof. Handford (Tokyo) visited to collaborate with Koester on research into Business English
- CSCM received funds from UoB's Transatlantic Collaboration Fund for the Making of Modernity symposia and a symposium on Computational Analysis of Nineteenth-Century Print with Ted Underwood (both with U Illinois Urbana-Champaign).

## **Support for Collaboration with non-HEIs**

A re-alignment of CAL's RKT office in 2011 included support, focused through a dedicated senior research facilitator (Baggott, who herself gained a PhD in the UoA) for all aspects of grant application development, including research collaborations with non-HEI cultural organisations. Examples of externally-funded research and plans for work with a wide range of partners, national and international, include:



- the SI's European Laureate 1769–2016 and Beyond' project, with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, the International Shakespeare Assoc., the European Shakespeare Research Assoc., the Ex Cathedra Choir, the New Shakespeare Company, the Orchestra of the Swan, and the German Shakespeare Soc.
- 'Faerie Queene Now: Remaking Religious Poetry for Today's World' (SI, Fernie) included collaboration with the RSC, Manchester Cathedral, the Windsor Festival, Royal Holloway College Choir, Poet in the City, Shakespeare's Globe, Bishop David Brown School, and Cumberland Lodge (Redcrosse is an outcome of this project)
- CCR collaborations include projects with Elsevier on interdisciplinary research discourse, with Cambridge Language Assessment on metaphor, and with Oxford UP on learner corpora
- Scase's ESF Exploratory Workshop 'Applying Semantic Web Technologies to Medieval Manuscript Research' involved collaboration with a wide range of organisations including the National Library of the Czech Republic, Prague; AiP Beroun Ltd, Beroun, Czech Republic; Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munich; and Det Kongelige Bibliotek, Copenhagen.

We are also strengthening collaboration with non-HEIs by working with them to provide PGR training, e.g. engaging archives, libraries, and heritage organisations in the region in the delivery of English Literature Masters research skills and with the new Library of Birmingham (a UoB Cultural Partner), the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and the RSC in the delivery of the Shakespeare and Creativity PhD.

# c. People:

## i. Staffing strategy and staff development

Research achievement and potential are key appointment criteria. Two new chairs and several new junior appointees now strengthen the UoA's leadership on Shakespeare and Early Modern Literature. Dobson has replaced McLuskie (2011) as SI Director. Fernie, as Chair in Shakespeare Studies (2010), bridges Shakespeare with our strengths in Creative Writing (see below). Two Birmingham Fellows, Laoutaris and Wallace, will, over the five years of their Fellowships (2013–18), enjoy dedicated research mentoring and greatly reduced teaching and administrative loads, with conversion to lectureships at the end of the term (subject to performance). We have appointed four ECRs, following departures and retirements, to ensure the sustainability of this area. Early career scholars KRumbold (2012), formerly PDRA for the 'Interrogating Cultural Value' project led by McLuskie, Sullivan (2012) and Rokison (2012) refocus our strengths in Shakespeare performance history and reception studies and in Renaissance cultural history. The appointment of ECR Wingfield (2013) adds exceptional expertise in Scottish materials to the UoA's strengths in medieval manuscript studies and editing (led by Scase). These appointees join Adlington, Dobson, Fernie, Griffith, Jowett, Lockwood, McDermott, McLuskie, VRumbold, Scase, Semper, Wiggins and Wright in our cohort of Medieval & Early Modern Literature and Shakespeare specialists.

Strategic investment in the post-1850 area has been enabled by retirements and departures. New lecturers Fagg (2011), Ferguson (2011), Dinnen (09/2013), Moore (09/2013) and Zimbler (09/2013) have joined our post-1850 team (Aaron, REllis, SEllis, Fuller, Gasiorek, Gunning, Longworth, Small, Walters and Wood). Fagg has taken over as Director of the CSCM, now supported by Moore. UoB is also committed to appoint at least one professor in 2014 and further lectureships to catalyse further developments and new areas of research in post-1850 literature and culture.

Retirements have provided opportunities for strategic ECR appointments in English Language (Millar (2010), Bennett (2011), Tagg (2011), Evans (2012), Malamatidou (2013)), and for the appointment of Thompson as Senior Lecturer (2009), to ensure the vitality and sustainability of our Language research. Thompson replaces Teubert as Director of the CCR; the junior appointments add to our profile of research expertise in the language of social media (Tagg) and translation studies (Malamatidou), while Evans's work on Elizabethan letters adds a historical dimension to our corpus research. These appointees join English Language and Applied Linguistics researchers Groom, Hunston, Koester, Littlemore, Millar, Moon, Saldanha, Sealey, Teubert and Toolan.

The appointments of Creative Writers Kennard (2008) and House (2010) have contributed significantly to our developing focus on Critical Creativity in many areas of our work.



#### **Staff Development**

Each member of research-active staff has a mentor with whom they plan a long-term programme of research and publication, identifying collaboration, funding and impact opportunities, selecting appropriate publishers and journals, and prioritising projects. Mentors are experienced researchers who publish in a cognate area. Research plans and progress are also reviewed as part of annual Performance Development Review (PDR). Staff also benefit from the Library Services' formal training programme for researchers, which includes guidance on publication (including open access), bibliometrics and effective use of social media, and from the services of the UoB specialist library advisors, ranging from systematic literature reviews to one-to-one bespoke training on databases and reference management software. UoB was awarded the HR Excellence in Research accreditation in September 2011 and achieved full implementation of its Concordat action plan by September 2013. UoB also provides an integrated leadership development programme for academics at all stages with recurrent central funding to maintain development provision. Staff are supported in identifying development opportunities relevant to their career stage and plans by research mentors, PDR reviewers, the EDACS Head of Research and the College Head of Research. The College supports future research leaders, e.g. through the provision of financial support for applicants to the AHRC Fellowship schemes.

# Support for Early Career Researchers

The research of early career staff is also mentored through University probation. Staff taking the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice are offered a module in research leadership. CAL is rolling out a Workload Allocation Model to ensure appropriate distribution of duties and fully recognise research activities. Newly appointed early career scholars are supported by being allocated to team-taught modules and having lighter teaching and administrative loads, to protect research time. The College provides support for applications for research leave, in particular Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships and AHRC Fellowships: Early Career Route, on a selective basis (e.g. Adlington's AHRC Early Career Fellowship). In 2011 individual research funding allocations were replaced by strategic School-managed funding, in which early career staff are prioritised.

## **Research Leave**

Research-active staff are encouraged to apply for periods of fully paid institutional study leave, normally one semester in seven. Completion of substantial research outputs and planning of new projects is prioritised, including identifying and applying for funding. Applications are screened to ensure that objectives align with CAL strategies, and outcomes are monitored by an end-of-leave report.

# **Support for Career Progression**

The objectives of staff at all levels (including fixed-term and part-time staff) are formally set on appointment, and in promotion procedures and annual reviews. The College seeks to ensure that opportunities and support are available for all staff, at all levels, to be able to meet these expectations and to work towards satisfying promotion criteria. The College RKT Committee and Office, and notably the dedicated senior research facilitator for EDACS, assist staff at all levels in their research activities.

# **Contribution of Postdoctoral Scholars**

Postdoctoral researchers contribute as members of project teams and as individual research fellows. They contribute to research outputs and culture, and through training and mentoring them we build capacity in the discipline. PDRAs contribute to research seminars and centre activities, e.g. by presenting their project work. Medieval & Early Modern Literature has been supported by several PDRAs over the assessment period: Farnham and Cole on Scase's 'Vernon Manuscript' project; and KRumbold on McLuskie's 'Interrogating Cultural Value' Project. Cole was subsequently appointed as PDRA on the 'Wollaton Manuscripts' project (U Nottingham) and KRumbold as lecturer in the UoA. Birmingham Fellow Laoutaris contributes to our research on Shakespeare reception and textual dissemination under the mentorship of Dobson, while Birmingham Fellow Wallace researches pagan antiquity in Early Modern England, mentored by Adlington. Moore, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow in the UoA 2010–13, contributed to the



CSCM and served as its administrator, before being appointed as lecturer in the UoA.

## **Equality and Diversity**

All staff were trained in 2011–12 in the principles and importance of valuing diversity in the workplace. Hunston serves on the UoB Equality and Diversity Working Group whose remit includes legal compliance and dissemination of good practice. Activities to address under-representation of particular groups include encouraging and supporting staff to apply for promotion and reviewing the gender balance of shortlists. Timetabling of Research Seminars in the UoA is kept under review and adjusted to accommodate those with caring responsibilities. Both genders are represented on appointments and promotions panels. Workload allocation is transparent and the introduction of the Workload Allocation Model is designed to give equal weighting to activities whose contribution is equal. Equality data for promotions, appointments and discretionary pay awards is monitored by HR

# ii. Research students Integration and Preparation

PGRs participate in UoA seminars, workshops and conferences such as the Department of English's weekly Literature Research seminar; the SI's weekly 'Thursday Seminars', guest lectures and readings; the events run by the UoA research centres; the weekly American Cultural Research seminar; and the weekly English Language Research seminars and student-led seminars and the annual PGR-led Language conference. PGRs are also encouraged to participate in activities homed in other Schools, e.g. the seminars of the Centre for the Study of the Middle Ages, the PGR-led EMREM forum (Early-Medieval-Renaissance-Early-Modern); the Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies; and the seminars and symposia of the Birmingham Eighteenth-Century Centre.

In addition, PGRs gain experience of the publication process and peer-review by contributing to, editing and managing the journals *Birmingham Journal of Language and Literature* and *English Language Research*, and (with U Nottingham), *49<sup>th</sup> Parallel*. Research students contribute to staffled research projects: e.g. the SI's 'Year of Shakespeare' project and Fuller's 'Beyond the Book' project.

PGRs also develop their understanding of contexts for research and its dissemination by contributing to the organisation of conferences and high-profile lectures, e.g. the Annual Sinclair Lecture, the UoB Visiting Writers' Programme, the biennial International Corpus Linguistics conference (UoB 2011), the British Assoc. for Canadian Studies conference (UoB 2011), the 'Unlocking the Private Library' symposium at Winchester College (2013, principally organised by the PGR in the AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award 'Collecting the Eighteenth Century' at Winchester), and the forthcoming British Assoc. of American Studies conference (UoB, 2014).

# Recruitment

Recruitment has increased over the period; 60 new PGRs registered in the UoA in 2012/13 (with particular concentrations in English Literature (22), Language (23) and Shakespeare (12)). Recruitment of high quality PGRs into the UoA is supported by our membership of major doctoral training pools (AHRC BGP1 and 2 and the ESRC DTC), 8 PGRs in the UoA holding AHRC/ESRC awards in 2012/13. Over the last year, the UOA was a part of Birmingham's highly successful BGP2 bid ('Midlands Three Cities consortium': ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UK) worth £14.6million, which will receive 100% matched-funding from the College. Alongside this external funding, UoB brings in elite PGRs through generous scholarship schemes at University and College level; CAL offers 'gold standard' studentships, to complement AHRC funding, and funds Research Master's students, providing a funded route from BA to PhD. 13 students in the UoA are funded from these sources or by EDACS in 2012/13. Two PhD studentships were provided by McLuskie's AHRC 'Cultural Value' project and one by Sealey's ESRC project. The College's Undergraduate Scholarships fund placements on staff research projects enabling early identification of talent and providing research training and a pathway to postgraduate research. The UoA has secured 16 scholarships since the scheme began in 2010/11. In anticipation of reduced external postgraduate funding we aim to sustain our recruitment of high quality PGRs through targeting opportunities for PhD projects in funding proposals and expanding our collaboration with non-HEIs in doctoral education. Our new PhD programmes in Shakespeare & Creativity and in Creative Writing and our



new Distance Learning PhDs target areas where we have identified potential growth.

## **Equality and Diversity**

All scholarships are publicly advertised and UoB codes of practice on recruitment and selection explicitly highlight the need to consider equal opportunities issues. Gender is taken into account in the composition of viva and interview panels (where single sex panels are proscribed). Students with disabilities are supported by the EDACS Reasonable Adjustments Officer who works with relevant University services.

## Exchanges/Collaborations with Business, Cultural Organisations, and Third Sector

We currently support an AHRC-funded collaborative doctoral student with Winchester College. Research students work with the RSC and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust; e.g. contributing to the administration of the RSC's 'Open Stages' project on amateur Shakespeare. Students in Film & Television benefit from a range of industry-focused research relationships arising from links with the production industries (e.g. Walters with Maverick and North One). Shakespeare & Creativity PhD students also benefit from UoB's partnership with the Library of Birmingham.

# Monitoring and Support for Successful Completion

Every PGR has one or two supervisors, an advisor and a mentor. PGRs meet with their supervisors at least monthly (pro-rata for part-time students) for specialist support and guidance on their research and writing. The monthly supervision, with planning of and feedback on work, is a key means by which PGRs are supported to complete successfully. The advisor offers generic support (e.g. with publication strategies, conference participation, and viva preparation). The mentor provides support on personal and pastoral matters that may affect progress. The progress of research students is monitored and recorded at every supervision. A student's first year is evaluated by assessment of a draft chapter and thesis outline, and every student is invited to discuss their progress with the EDACS PGR Progress Panel in year one. Students meet with their supervisor/s annually for a formal progress review meeting, the outcomes of which are reported to the Graduate School. Where cause for concern is flagged by either party the student discusses their progress with the Progress Panel. Where the panel has concerns the student agrees an action plan and is invited to a further panel. Completion rates are monitored by the EDACS PGR Director. 43 PGRs (PhDs and Research Master's) completed in 2011/12.

### **Skills Development and Career Preparation**

Research students are prepared for work within and outside academia. PGRs benefit from the diverse programme of developmental workshops and events offered by the University Graduate School (UGS), which is mapped against the four domains of the Researcher Development Framework (RDF). PGRs are required to complete the reflective Development Needs Analysis (DNA) process, also mapped against the RDF. The DNA process encourages reflection on the skills most meaningful to PGRs and supports key conversations with supervisors about skills needs. The UGS funds PGRs to attend relevant training events and conferences, and provides workshops and resources in core skills such as academic writing, presentation skills and project management. PGRs also have access to online resources such as Doctoral Researchers' Essentials (an online induction package) and development toolkits for specific PGR groups such as part-time researchers. Key training partners from Employability provide development opportunities for PGRs in enterprise, consultancy and leadership skills.

The UoA's PGRs also benefit from participation in collaborative training events tailored to their specialism, e.g.:

- the Quadrivium Programme in Medieval Textual Cultures, a national-scale collaborative PhD training programme initiated with AHRC funding in 2004–06 and provided annually since by a consortium of institutions including UoB
- biannual workshops and training days organised by the British Assoc. for Modernist Studies;
   2010 symposium organised by Gasiorek and Longworth at UoB
- training and placements appropriate to careers in the creative arts offered by our new PhD programmes in Shakespeare & Creativity and in Creative Writing.



All PGRs have the opportunity for HEI teacher training (from the University's Centre for Learning and Academic Development), and opportunities to teach undergraduates through annual schemes run by the CAL Graduate School and EDACS.

# d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

In the assessment period, external research funding was awarded to 31% of submitted staff (12 staff). Research leaves were funded externally for five individuals (Adlington, Fuller, Longworth, VRumbold, Scase). Six major collaborative projects have been funded externally: Fuller, 'Beyond the Book' (AHRC, £239,005, 09/2005–08/2008); Thompson and Hunston, 'Investigating Interdisciplinary Research Discourse' (ESRC, £384,218, 08/2013–08/2015); McLuskie, 'Interrogating Cultural Value' (AHRC, £358,435, 10/2006–09/2010); KRumbold, 'The Uses of Poetry' (AHRC, £26,564, 11/2013–04/2014); Scase, 'Vernon Manuscript Digital Edition' (AHRC, £313,056, 02/2006–01/2009); Sealey, 'Discursive Representation of Animals' (Leverhulme, £120,702, 09/2013–08/2015). Research in the UoA is also regularly supported by internal funding from the CAL RKT Fund, the EDACS RKT Fund, the UoB North America Travel Fund and India Travel Fund, and other internal funds (detailed under 'Support for Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Research', section b. above).

# Research Income from Sources not Reported in HESA Returns includes:

- Bibliographical Soc. Major Grant, £1000 (Lockwood, 2013)
- RSC Redcrosse, c. £15,000 from RSC and Coventry Building Soc. (Fernie, 2012)
- Cambridge English Language Assessment, £5000 (Littlemore, 2010)
- British Council Funding, £2820 (Littlemore, 2011)
- Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Grant, \$1,500 (Ellis, 2012)
- Oxford UP, £10,000 (Hunston).

# Scholarly Infrastructure and how it is Developed and Used

Staff and PGRs benefit from UoB's Main University Library, one of the country's largest academic libraries, with 2.7 million items, over 50,000 scholarly journals (electronic and print), and access to 275,000 e-books and e-resources including EEBO and ECCO. Medieval manuscript holdings of the Cadbury Research Library are used for training PGRs in codicology and palaeography. Shakespeare and Early Modern studies are supported by the SI Library, the UoB's world-renowned collection on English Renaissance literature, with constantly expanding holdings, including major theatre and actor archives, recently further enhanced by a digitizing collaboration with the Garrick Club. Research in English language and applied linguistics is supported by a large collection of language corpora provided by Elsevier and Harper Collins. Donations to Special Collections of archives relating to Philip Callow, Edgell Rickword, Randall Swingler, Fred Beake, Arnold Rattenbury and John Sommerfield have enhanced twentieth-century literary resources.

## Organisational Infrastructure and Areas of Significant Investment

The Research Centres and Institute homed in the UoA (section b. above) provide organisational infrastructure where there is a critical mass of high quality work and a track-record of grant capture and recruitment of high quality PGRs. They facilitate rapid response to major collaborative and interdisciplinary opportunities, and enhance strategic awareness and reflective priority-setting, ensuring that the UoA contributes to the UoB's strategy of producing research that is world-leading, agenda-setting, relevant and impactful. US engagement is an area of significant investment with a focus on developing a strategic regional presence across a number of institutions in Chicago and the Midwest supported by UoB's International Relations office; CSCM has been a particular beneficiary (see 'Support for Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Research', section b. above). Through the Birmingham Fellowships scheme, UoB is investing significantly in the appointment of future research leaders; in the 2012 round 'Language, Text and Performance' was identified as a priority area and two Fellows appointed to the UoA (detailed in section c. (i)).

# **Operational Infrastructure**

The College's RKT office provides support, through the dedicated senior research facilitator for EDACS, for funding application development and research grant management, and this support has contributed decisively to an increased rate of applications for external funding. The UoB



Research and Innovation Services Office provides a range of support including for developing European funding applications (e.g. Scase's 2009 ESF Workshop and Zimbler's planned application for an incoming Marie Curie Fellow) and for developing commercial partnerships (see Impact Template section b.). IT facilities management, support, and network services are provided to staff and students in the UoA by a dedicated Arts IT team. Research with a visual culture element has a dedicated laboratory with Apple Macintosh computers. A dedicated technician provides support (e.g., for Walters' book Film Moments and PGRs engaged in audiovisual research). Live online seminars are facilitated by PanOpto and Skype technology (e.g. between the Munich Shakespeare Library and the SI). Facilities for recording and disseminating research seminars and creative projects have been funded by the Centre for Learning and Academic Development and the UoB's Development Office. The Digital Heritage Demonstrator project provides facilities for the development of programmes for multi-user multi-touch touchtables (e.g. a 'reading lives' app for Fuller's research into changing reading practices). The CCR is equipped with a dedicated computer suite that provides specialist software and access to a wide range of language corpora. A dedicated Arts Web team and the UoB Institutional Research Archive support members of the UoA in the dissemination of research and contribute to its open access publication including free online publication of all PhD and Research Master's theses.

## Strategy by which Infrastructural Elements are Balanced and Prioritised

It is the responsibility of the Head of College to agree annually with the relevant Head of School and subsequently maintain an appropriate balance between the various infrastructure aspects described above. Due regard is given to School aspirations, the over-arching College research strategy and external environmental factors (such as funder priorities) in determining this balance.

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

In the period there have been 23 collaborations on research projects with national partners, six interdisciplinary and one with a commercial organisation, 23 collaborations with international partners, and nine instances of research in national and international networks. Examples include: Adlington, General Editor of Donne editions; Shakespeare projects of Dobson, Fernie, Jowett, KRumbold, Sullivan; Fuller, collaboration with Canadian partners on book group research; Koester, collaboration with a researcher in Japan on Business Communication; Littlemore, collaborative research on metaphor in academic contexts; Scase, collaborative research in digital manuscript studies (e.g. *Manuscripts Online*, funded by JISC); REllis, collaboration with Henry Louis Gates Jr., Harvard.

## **Membership of National and International Committees**

The UoA has provided 12 memberships of research councils (e.g. AHRC and ESRC Peer Review Colleges); 25 committee memberships of learned societies (e.g. REllis is President of the Soc. for the Study of American Women Writers and was Executive Board member, British Assoc. of American Studies to 2013); six people have held advisory positions (e.g. Scase for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation international project 'Book Networks in England at the end of the Middle Ages'). Hunston is a member of the REF 2014 Sub-Panel for UoA 29. Dobson, REllis and Scase are Fellows of the English Assoc., Griffith is a Fellow of the Soc. of Antiquaries, and Hunston is Academician, Academy for Social Sciences.

# **Editorships**

Six members of the UoA edit or co-edit book series: Palgrave Shakespeare Studies; Springboard Shakespeare (Arden); American Editions (Trent); Shakespeare Now (Arden); Cambridge Applied Linguistics Series; Medieval Texts and Cultures of Northern Europe (Brepols). 13 members of the UoA edit or co-edit journals (includes reviews editors), including: Comparative American Studies; British Journal of Canadian Studies; Modernist Cultures; New Voices in Translation Studies; New Medieval Literatures; Journal of English for Academic Purposes; Succour – The New Poetry, Art and Fiction. Six are members of editorial boards for book series (e.g. Cambridge Applied Linguistics; Edinburgh Critical Studies in Shakespeare, Theory, and Performance) and 31 for journals (e.g. Applied Linguistics, International Journal of Lexicography; Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies; Journal of Literary Semantics; Speculum).



#### **Examination of Doctorates**

Members of the UoA served as external examiner for **68 UK doctorates and 35 non-UK doctorates** at universities including Leon, Lund, Geneva, Trinity College Dublin, British Columbia, Helsinki, Melbourne, Barcelona, National U of Singapore, Grenoble, Georgetown, Brussels, Amsterdam, Koblenz, Madrid, Hong Kong U, Western Australia, Simon Fraser, Limerick, Granada, Islamabad, Lahore, Neuchatel.

## **Conferences and Academic Encounters Organised**

Members of the UoA organised **17 major conferences and 34 important conferences or symposia**. Examples include: British Milton Seminar; Contemporary Fiction Research Seminar; International Shakespeare Conference (biannual); British Assoc. for Canadian Studies conference 2011; Postcolonial Studies Assoc. conference 2011; Corpus Linguistics conference 2011; ESF Exploratory Workshop on Applying Semantic Web Technologies to Medieval Manuscript Research 2009.

# Refereeing for Journals, Publishers and Research Funders

**32** members of the UoA have refereed for journals and **30** for books, including for Oxford UP, Cambridge UP, Manchester UP, Edinburgh UP, Liverpool UP, U of Michigan Press, Yale UP. **Ten members of the UoA have reviewed research funding proposals**, for: AHRC, ESRC, Leverhulme, British Academy, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Canada Council for the Arts, National Institute of Education (Singapore), European Science Foundation, Czech Science Foundation.

# **HEI Consultancies**

13 members of the UoA have served as external assessors for senior posts at UK and overseas universities. 12 members of the UoA have served as external programme reviewers. Groom has provided project consultancy advice in six instances. Scase advised the French Agence d'Évaluation de la Recherche et de l'Enseignement Supérieure.

# Prizes (7 in total):

Katharine F. Pantzer Jr. Scholarship in the History of the Printed Book, Bibliographical Soc. (Adlington); Giles Hart Prize (SEllis); Man Booker Prize long-list 2013 (House); MLA prize for Distinguished Scholarly Edition (Jowett); Shakespeare's Globe Inaugural first book award (Rokison); *Cultural History* essay prize (Sullivan); James Holly Hanford Essay Award, Milton Society of America (Wallace).

# Fellowships (10 staff in total; excludes research grant schemes):

W. E. B. DuBois Institute, Harvard U Fellowship, International Forum for United States Studies, U Illinois Urbana-Champaign Fellowship (REllis); Smithsonian Short-Term Visiting Fellow (Fagg); Visiting Fellow, LMU, Munich and Visiting Scholar, Eton College (Fernie); Robert & Stephanie Olmsted Fellow, MacDowell Colony (House); Harry Ransom Mellon Fellowship (Longworth); Visiting Fellowship Yale Center for British Art (Mitchell); British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship (Moore); Visiting Professor in Shakespeare and Renaissance Drama at the U of ICES, La Roche Sur Yon, France (Rokison); Fellowship, Folger Shakespeare Library, and Scholarship, Columbia U Library (KRumbold); Huntington Library, British Academy Exchange Fellow (VRumbold).

### **Invited Keynotes and Lectures**

Members of the UoA have given **71 major plenaries** (e.g. the Fifth Eccles Centre for American Studies Plenary Lecture, British Assoc. for Canadian Studies Conference, U Cambridge (Fuller) and the keynote for the Japanese Assoc. of Language Teaching Annual Conference, Hamamatsu, Japan (Littlemore)); **78 invited contributions to conferences**, and **140 invited seminars or lectures** to research groups (e.g. the British Academy Chatterton Lecture (Lockwood); the British Academy Warton Lecture (VRumbold)).