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Institution: Bournemouth University
Unit of Assessment: UOA3
a. Overview

Our health and social care research prioritises key societal issues: older people (including dementia), maternal health, and other vulnerable groups. Our work contributes to social change with the ultimate aim of improving the health and social wellbeing of our participants. Our submission reflects our interdisciplinary approach developed in RAE2008 purposefully including nursing, midwifery, allied health and laboratory research, social work and social care disciplines. As a result of institutional investment our UOA has undergone significant growth since 2008:

- **A 133% increase in submitted staff** from 9.2 to 21.4 FTE due to investments in research staff and external funding;
- **A 100% increase in PhD completions** from 17 to 34 in respective RAE and REF cycles;
- **A 70% increase in annual research income** from £331k to £563k per annum on average;
- Research and knowledge exchange contracts totalling £11.9m active over the REF period.

There are five key research themes spanning the breadth of UOA3:

- **Public Health and Wellbeing** (Bond, Ellis-Hill, Hartwell, Miller, Nyman, Pritchard, Sheppard, Todres, van Teijlingen, Williams);
- **Ageing and Dementia** (Fenge, Innes, Khattab, Nyman);
- **Midwifery, Maternal and Perinatal Health** (Hundley, Miller, Sheppard, Thomas, van Teijlingen);
- **Clinical Research and Laboratory-based Health Science** (Assi, Baker, Zeng, Etheridge, Khattab, McGhee, Miller, Osselton, Tsofliou, Thomas, Sheppard);
- **Marginalised and Disadvantaged Groups** (Ashencaen Crabtree, Fenge, Parker, Williams).

Our unit embraces the National Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work, which is at the forefront of post-qualifying social care educational provision in England, working in partnership with 80 local authorities. It leads developments around leadership within health care professions in response to the Francis Report, safeguarding issues and post-Baby Peter reforms. Underpinned by practice and policy based research, the Centre offers a range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes in specialist areas to health care and social care practitioners and over a half of qualified social workers in England.

b. Research Strategy

Research strategy 2008-2013

The defining characteristic of our research is a strong citizens' or patient voice pioneered by our Centre for Qualitative Research (CQR), a founding member of the European Academy of Caring Science (<http://www.eacs.nu>). Our four key strategic aims since RAE2008 have been to: (1) increase Research Council funding annually (£500k, 2008-13); (2) double doctoral student recruitment (33% increase to n=94); (3) sustain PhD completions (increased by 129%; Section cii); and (4) grow the critical mass of each of our research themes. Through BU investment from 2008, we have appointed 36 academic staff and eight senior academic staff, including four professors, to enhance and develop new areas of research strength, namely: (1) maternal health (Hundley, van Teijlingen); (2) dementia care (Innes); and (3) workforce development (Rosser).

Since 2008 our QR income (> £1.1m) has funded: (1) four research assistants to support key researchers; (2) an academic post to strengthen qualitative research (Ellis-Hill); (3) 12 seed-corn funding grants (up to £5k each) to support research development. Bid development is supported by Bournemouth University (BU)'s Grants Academy (Section ci) and Research Development fund (£104k), and by the European Research Development fund (£118k) to which academics can apply. Since 2012 BU has created a £3m annual fund to support research, education and practice as part of the University's Strategic Plan. BU offers access to Research Professional, information databases, and an internal peer review service as well as a quality approval for all external bids.

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Since 2008, we have published 514 peer-reviewed papers, 64 research reports, 61 books and 78 book chapters, and reference works. We have embraced Open Access publishing. BU has a dedicated Open Access publishing budget (c. £100k per annum) supporting, in UOA3, publications in *BioMed Central*, *PLoS ONE* and *BMJ Open*. BU runs events to promote open access publishing, notably one in 2011 led by Dr Alma Swan highlighting SHERPA projects. BU supports Green Open Access through its institutional research repository BURO which is populated via BRIAN, BU's publications management system (c. £300k). Publications and successful research bids attract QR funded incentives through our ESCAPE scheme, providing financial assistance for conference attendance, disseminating research and forming networks (£98k, funding 38 academics at 66 conferences leading to 27 published peer-reviewed papers).

Research strategy 2014 and beyond

In 2012, our research strategy was re-aligned to mirror the University's BU2018 strategy which aims for fusion of research, education and practice. Our research themes align to the BU2018 strategy and core societal issues drive our research locally, nationally and internationally.

Our four core strategic objectives for 2018 and beyond:

- Enhancing our excellent national and international profile in research;
- Increasing the quality of our research income;
- Enhancing our research capacity and environment further;
- Continuing to grow our PhD population (Section cii).

Our Practice Development work (Section e) cross-cuts our research groups and themes and promotes practice engagement and relevance. Our research programmes align with two of the eight interdisciplinary BU-wide Research Themes (*Ageing & Dementia* and *Health, Wellbeing & Society*, both led by unit staff Innes, Hartwell), with work on disadvantage and marginalisation cross-cutting all themes and aligning with a third BU theme, *Communities, Cultures and Conflicts* (led by Parker). Focus for continued investment and development are the following programmes:

i. Bournemouth University Dementia Institute (BUDI): represents an important strategic multi-disciplinary investment, launched in 2012 and supported by a grant from Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) funds to Innes. The 32-strong multi-disciplinary team draws on expertise from across BU and includes psychologists, Wiener (UOA4) and Nyman. BUDI offers internal secondments for academics in other disciplines to develop expertise in dementia research and address societal imperatives through research and public engagement. BUDI undertakes high quality research (e.g. 16 peer reviewed papers, four professional papers, 43 national and international presentations), evidence-based education, service evaluation and consultancy on models of care and design and has secured £700k across 25 funded projects since its launch 18 months ago.

Future plans: Working collaboratively we will boost research funding working towards the creation of dementia friendly societies at regional, national and international levels. BUDI's multi-disciplinary approach brings a unique aspect to our dementia research addressing a global priority.

ii. Healthy Lifestyles and Healthy Ageing (HLHA): research builds on the successful translational public health work of the Centre for Well-being and Quality of Life and CQR, especially in the areas of nutrition and healthier lifestyles, and for conditions linked with ageing (aligning with BUDI) and boasts 29 academic members. This group has secured €1.6m for the EU funded VeggiEAT project and has disseminated research through c. 163 peer-reviewed papers, 31 chapters, 11 books, 41 national and international presentations.

Future plans: To increase collaboration with colleagues in hospitality and tourism, and increase joint applications and research forming an interdisciplinary research focus. We will use findings from the VeggiEAT project to influence EU food policy and practice within the food industry. HLHA initiated the biennial International Conference on Culinary Arts and Sciences (ICCAS) in 1998, with future conferences at Montclair University, USA (2015) and Aalborg University, Denmark (2017).

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iii. **Midwifery, Maternal & Perinatal Health Research (MMPH):** research addresses the development of high quality maternity care that supports the wellbeing of mothers and babies (Hundley, Thomas, van Teijlingen and eight others) attracting >£500k research funding from 2008-13. Since 2008, BU has invested in two new professors (van Teijlingen and Hundley) to expand internationally excellent research in maternity care originated by Alexander (retired 2008). We have expanded our research in Nepal by winning the first International Fellowship for Midwives (Section e.). Research is actively disseminated (e.g. c. 137 peer-reviewed papers, 16 chapters, three books, 33 national and international presentations).

Future plans: To continue to lead in breastfeeding research and strengthen cross-disciplinary collaboration by exploring the impact of the media on intervention rates in childbirth (with BU Media School), the place of community hospitals/ services in the NHS (with Cambridge and RAND) and the role of sleep in postpartum depression (with Psychology). We will enhance international links between research and practice (e.g. building-on our EU Networking Fund (EUNF) award to support the midwifery profession in Slovenia).

iv. **Clinical Research and Laboratory-based Health Science (CRLHS):** research focuses on the biochemical, physiological and cellular basis of human disease. The Clinical Research Unit (BUCRU) (Thomas, Sheppard, four other academics, over 40 visiting faculty from hospitals across the South of England) formed in 2011 and has a strong focus on translational research. Its function is to conduct and facilitate clinical research, by: (1) supporting BU researchers and NHS professionals to improve the quality, quantity and efficiency of research; (2) conducting research in long-term conditions and complex interventions; and (3) providing research methodology consultancy to NHS Trusts, working on projects worth <£2.5m over the period. Research outputs include c. 152 peer-reviewed papers, eight chapters, three books, 22 national and international presentations.

Future plans: To expand clinical research capacity across BU (e.g. mentorship of staff/secondments) and drive towards attaining Clinical Trials Unit status. Enhance successful collaborations with NHS, and HEIs in the UK and abroad (e.g. Paris West and AUT Universities).

v. **The National Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work (NCPQSW):** is one of the few CPD providers endorsed by The College of Social Work (TCSW) to provide post-qualifying social work education. We undertake research and evaluation studies for a range of regional and national bodies into workforce planning and development and also Leadership and Management development within health & social care (www.ncpgsw.com) (£790k over the period). Links with other social care researchers concerning marginalised and disadvantaged groups have led to c. 97 peer-reviewed papers, 29 chapters, three books, 15 national and international presentations.

Future plans: To enhance our reputation as leading health and social care leadership and management research and evaluation across the UK and, from this, to develop our theoretical research into practice, and continue to contribute to UoA3's impact agenda.

Essential to this growth strategy is the sustainability of our research endeavour fuelled by external research income. We aim to ensure that all research active staff have at least one significant research grant (>50k), at any one time. This will be supported through mentoring and attendance at the BU Grants Academy (Section ci). This incremental approach will assure the quality of the research by building on successful project completion, management and dissemination. In addition to our 2008-13 strategy, bidding is supported by dedicated BU research advisors who assist with identification of funding calls, costings and drafting applications to research funding bodies alongside access to Research Professional, Scopus, Web of Science and dedicated library and information staff (£3m).

Support to help secure National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), ESRC, AHRC and cross-research council funding (a key element of our strategy) is provided through BU grant-writing workshops, mentorship, School post-doctoral bid writing groups and BUCRU's methodological support. Experienced academics support junior staff in applying for research grants by including them as co-applicants in existing and forthcoming projects; for example, Burdett Trust funding. Cross-disciplinary research is encouraged (e.g. BUDI, CQR), as is joining research teams in other institutions. Strategy is monitored by KPIs through the Deputy Dean (Research) and centre leads.

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Staff contribution is focused through appraisals, drawing on BU's strategic plan for fusing research, education and professional practice, and training, support and mentorship needs are identified.

We run monthly research seminars. We offer a Mixed-Methods Research Support Group, promote interdisciplinary working through shared seminars and research discussion, and support 'new' researchers in particular. We will make on-going contributions to BU's annual Festival of Learning and the ESRC festival of social science, engaging with public beneficiaries and illuminating our research culture. UOA3 ran 19 events at the inaugural Festival of Learning in 2013, attended by about 800 members of the public. Notable events included: Interventions in Childbirth and Community Arts Dementia Project.

c. People, including:**i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

Our first principle is to recruit and maintain research-active staff, thereby enhancing research profiles, income generation, and research culture and environment. BU is committed to aligning policies and practices to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and was awarded the EC HR Excellence in Research Award in January 2013. BU's action plan is monitored by a steering group that includes three members from the unit (Innes, Sheppard, Cash) and overseen by the University's Research and Knowledge Exchange (RKE) Committee (includes three UOA members, Innes, Parker, Cash). We implement the principles of the Concordat through our Research Committee, cascading through research groups.

Early career researchers (ECRs) are prioritised for grant writing workshops, aligned with experienced researchers and encouraged to apply for and utilise BU's research investment funds and development schemes (e.g. Fusion Investment Funds, Grants Academy, EU Academic Development Scheme and Research Development Fund). Alignment with specific research groups and funding streams is encouraged to ensure sustainability. ECRs are encouraged to develop their own research expertise, sharing this through research seminars and the internal e-journal, *eBU* (launched 2013). ECRs carry protected teaching loads as they embed into the research culture. Our REF strategy encourages ECR inclusion.

Our HR policies permit flexible working and career breaks, and provide generous maternity/paternity/adoption leave. BU abides by the Fixed-Term Employees (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations (2002) and is committed to ensuring proper use of fixed-term contracts, as seen in our Code of Practice – Use of Fixed-Term Contracts which states that, normally, BU will transfer fixed-term staff to established status after four years.

BU is currently preparing a submission for Athena Swan bronze status to gain recognition for its work to support women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) research careers. Two members of UOA3 are members of the steering group driving this (Innes, Parker). Also, UOA3 has been instrumental in the emerging Women's Academic Network to support women in developing their research careers at BU (co-convenor: Ashencaen Crabtree).

Academic staff undertake an equal opportunities module, advised by a BU officer who provides bespoke staff development, such as holding joint seminars on diversity issues (Black people in London during WWII, Nov 2012; professional regulation, disability and diversity, Jan 2013), feeding into our research on marginalised groups. Staff members address diversity issues through peer mentorship and review of research. Staff not submitted to this REF are also supported to develop their research and to join research themes within the unit. Academic staff undertake mandatory research ethics training modules, which are monitored and assessed and must be completed satisfactorily to be eligible for central support.

We launched a staff development programme based on Vitae's Researcher Development Framework in 2013 to enable staff to plan their own research career whilst embedding their research trajectory within appraisals and using attendance and success to enhance promotion. Research staff development opportunities and successes are promoted through our successful HEIST award (2012) winning Research Blog for successfully creating a sense of community among researchers across the University.

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Our research staff development strategy enhances research capability and professional development. The BU Grants Academy was launched in 2012 as a rolling 18-month staff development scheme to equip researchers with the skills required to design and write a competitive funding proposal. The EU Academic Development Scheme has been operational since 2011; each year a select cohort of researchers are identified to undertake intensive training on EU funding with a requirement to submit a proposal at the end of the year. Involvement has resulted in a number of grant successes; for example, Hartwell (Marie Curie IAPP grant, VeggieEAT, €1.6M), Innes (Erasmus Mundus grant, £60k) and Murphy (Burdett Trust, £134k).

Our study leave policy (2011-12) associated with planned research outputs resulted in four staff undertaking study leave for one term, leading to nine peer-reviewed publications and one research bid. A central study leave initiative has resulted in three staff being awarded full study leave from 2014, one to develop BUDI's work (Nyman) and two to embed social science research across the University, with a focus on marginalised groups in Asia (Parker, Ashencaen Crabtree).

c. II. Research students

Strategy and training: BU's Graduate School is responsible for all PGR students, developing policy, monitoring progress and providing support via funding opportunities investing over £5.2m since 2008 in match- and fully-funded studentships. It is committed to providing a hundred doctoral opportunities every year. For PGR students it offers a competitive PGR Development Scheme (c. £54k per annum) that has funded dissemination opportunities for PGR students across BU (e.g. PGR students attending conferences in Columbia, Denmark, Malta, Nepal; South Africa, Spain, USA). All PGRs complete the PGR Development Framework, based on Vitae's Researcher Development Framework. There is a requirement for all BU-funded studentships to undertake at least two public engagement activities during their doctoral studies and a budget of £20k per annum is available to support this. To ensure consistent monitoring of PGR progress the Graduate School has invested £290k in an online system, ResearchPAD, and training for supervisors.

PGRs are encouraged to take part in the annual Graduate School PGR conference and our annual Festival of Learning. In 2013 PGRs delivered sessions on PhD studies including Nepalese maternity care, kinship care and mental health education. There is a dedicated PGR section on the Research Blog to encourage interdisciplinary contacts across Schools.

Our student recruitment strategy aims to increase numbers of international research students, endeavouring to secure at least one international student each year to 2018. To achieve this we are strengthening links with international partners by publishing, researching and creating exchange and research study opportunities that result in joint doctoral programmes. Currently, we have eight international research students. Locally and nationally, we promote our Professional Doctorate to our practice partners in the NHS, third sector and local authorities. Currently, we have 13 students from nine NHS Trusts and Local Authorities. We aim to attract more funded postdoctoral fellowships for completed PhD students and to offer more doctoral opportunities for strong undergraduates as they qualify. Currently, we support 35 School of Health and Social Care (HSC) staff without research degrees in undertaking doctoral research.

Our target, that all research-active academics supervise at least one PhD by October 2015, is currently surpassed (mean of 2.5 PhD students as first supervisors). This ratio will be maintained to ensure quality standards. Also, we endeavour to win internally-funded BU PhD studentships each year to 2018. Support to achieve this is provided by the School Research Committee, senior academics, research teams and experienced supervisors, as well as central BU support in the development of proposals.

HSC provides £3k per student for PGRs over the three years of full-time programmes (pro-rata part-time) to attend conferences, travel and purchase equipment for research. HSC hosts PGR research seminars. We complement the skills and personal development training offered to PhD students by BU's Graduate School and the central research ethics module, by offering bespoke modules on research methods, design and analysis and by funding NVIVO and SPSS training.

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PGR supervisors must attend a training course in PGR supervision, and have monthly meetings to share good practice and to support new supervisors. HSC operates formal procedures for effective supervision, a code of practice for the ethical conduct of research and liaison with regional NHS research ethics committees. The School Research Committee reviews postgraduate applications, matches and assigns appropriate supervisors subsequent to robust scrutiny of proposals, and ensures that postgraduate students are supported and tracked for progress throughout their studies.

HSC provides bespoke equipment and desk space for PhD students, financial support for studentships, and bursaries for international students, designed to enhance the culture and environment for research.

We have above-sector average numbers of doctoral students (50 in 2007; 78 in 2010; 94 in 2013), including externally-funded, competitive studentships (e.g. HEA, £54k, Pfizer, £63k). From Graduate School funding HSC has secured five fully-funded and 10 match-funded PhD studentships, including four match-funded and two fully-funded PhDs in BUDI (Age UK, Guild Care, Tender Loving Care, Future Roots, £84k). HLHA has secured four match-funded studentships (National Coastal Tourism Academy, Rural Foods, Poole Hospital, Solutions for Chefs, £84k). MMPH has secured three match-funded studentships with NHS Portsmouth (£96k) and five externally-funded scholarships (e.g. Santander and Open Society). MMPH has received external funding to support preparation for PhD studies including the first International Fellowship for Midwives (Wellbeing of Women; Royal College of Midwives, £20k) and an NIHR internship (£10k). NCPQSW has one match-funded PhD (Hampshire CC, £24k). BUCRU has a NIHR Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowship (<http://www.nihrtcc.nhs.uk/cat/cdrf>) (£244k), and three BU fully-funded studentships. Nine BU-funded students have completed (nine publications to date).

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income: Since 2008 the unit has received income of over £7.6m for a wide-range of research, CPD, short course and consultancy projects from external sources and held by BU. This includes £2.8m research funding of which £0.5m is from UK research councils, NIHR and British Academy, and the remainder from the NHS, the Department of Health, social care organisations, UK-based charities and industrial partners. From 2008, we have 67 staff as PI, on a total of 422 awarded research and knowledge exchange projects, including £313k from Knowledge Transfer Partnerships. Currently, research-active staff are working on 75 externally funded research and knowledge exchange grants (£3.3m).

Working across BU, BUDI has secured £700k of external funding for 25 projects in the 18-month period since its launch, including multi-site research collaborations (e.g. NIHR Sight Loss and Dementia project) with other UK (Cambridge, York, Worcester, Stirling) and overseas universities (Saskatoon, Canada and La Trobe, Australia).

Healthy Living & Healthy Ageing secured an EU award (2013) (VeggiEAT), worth €1.6m and led by BU. VeggiEAT aims to develop an EU platform for predictive modeling of processed vegetable intake. This translational research will provide strategic intelligence for industry decision-making and EU policy-making. HLHA is a key partner on an EU project (EU Interreg IV 2 Seas Dignity in Care programme, €270k) with other universities (France, Netherlands, Belgium). Further research funding (Macmillan Cancer Support and NHS innovation fund, £45k) develops and evaluates high quality nutrition education platforms for health professionals. Linking with the work of BUDI, HLHA has secured £140k from the Burdett Trust for Nursing to research dignity, nutrition and dementia.

MMPH research into women's experiences of breastfeeding underpins the online resource Healthtalkonline, used by around 1,500 breastfeeding mothers globally every month. The findings support BU's research-based training modules sold externally. Other research includes postnatal care, the psychological and physical wellbeing of childbearing women (e.g. the impact of interventions aimed at reducing maternal and newborn mortality), research into perineal tears, and labour pain. We have secured joint funding from: Chief Scientist Office (NHS Research Scotland), Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) (NIHR, £490k), ESRC, Wellbeing of Women (20k), British Council DelPHE (round 4), ERASMUS, Green Tara Trust and the Iolanthe Midwifery Trust.

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CRLHS secured a \$1m grant (\$250k to BU) from the Qatar National Research Fund in collaboration with Weil Cornell Medical College and Hamad Medical Hospital in Qatar and Royal Bournemouth Hospital (to study the link between cerebral auto-regulation and microalbuminuria in transient ischaemic attack (TIA) patients).

CRLHS/BUCRU is part-funded by the NIHR Research Design Service (RDS) South West (2013-2018, £5.2m, £550k to BU) to provide methodological input into NHS relevant grant applications. Research includes: (1) a fatigue management programme (FACETS) for people with Multiple Sclerosis and a randomised controlled trial (RCT) of effectiveness and value for money (£320k MS Trust, BUPA, MS Society). FACETS is being rolled out nationally by the MS Society, and the research has resulted in plenary and invited conference presentations, and two short videos; (2) Mii-vitaliSe study (£150k MS Society) - a pilot randomised trial of the Nintendo Wii in promoting fitness and wellbeing in people with MS; (3) Evaluation of a pilot relapse support programme for people with MS (MS Society £15k); (4) Cochrane review of psychological interventions for people with MS (£1k grant by Italian organisation Associazione Ricerca Epidemiologica delle Malattie Neurologiche). CRLHS/BUCRU also provides methodological collaboration with other funded studies worth £740k with the NIHR RfPB and £570k with the Health Foundation £570k.

The NCPQSW is the leading centre in the country for CPD in this field, providing research and consultancy advice to this sector (£790k, 2008-2013). NCPQSW supports the Centre for Workforce Intelligence through consultancy and workforce modelling advice, Learn to Care (the national professional association for workforce development managers in social care) and acts as a hub for leadership and management research and development in health and social care.

Infrastructure: There has been significant investment in dedicated space for the Wellbeing Research Hub (£175k) – a multidisciplinary research space for developing research ideas; £86k for BUCRU, and £86k for BUDI. For those engaged in clinical research there are new clinical skills laboratories staffed and supported by technicians (£125k investment), excellent relationships with Bournemouth and Poole hospital trusts through our visiting faculty, and a joint working relationship with Anglo European College of Chiropractic (AECC) which sports excellent up-to-date clinical facilities supported by professional technical staff.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

International/transnational collaborations: have increased since 2008 through 67 joint publications and 21 international research projects and include: health research in Nepal (van Teijlingen, Green Tara Trust) and Afghanistan (PhD student supervised by van Teijlingen); use of mosquito nets in the Niger Delta (Galvin, British Council); socio-economic determinants of health in South Africa (Sheppard, MRC); use of safe birth kits in Pakistan, maternity care in the US and Slovenia (Hundley, Maternal Health Taskforce); approaches to vulnerability through curricula in Austria, Hong Kong, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, UK and US (Ashencaen Crabtree and Parker, International Association of Schools of Social Work); intercultural learning in Malaysia (Ashencaen Crabtree and Parker, British Council); and dementia care in Malta and Canada (Innes, EU funding through the University of Malta and Canadian Institute for Health Research). CQR's 2010 conference on qualitative methods attracted a global audience (23 countries, 200+ delegates).

We collaborate with NHS Trusts, Local Authorities, voluntary sector and private care providers on educational initiatives, service evaluations and research projects; for example, our collaboration with national charity Elderly Accommodation Council (EAC) has led to a match-funded studentship funded by Legal and General's corporate social responsibility fund (£21k). We collaborate with the BU Centre of Postgraduate Medical Research and Education (including Visiting Faculty of over 40 clinicians from various NHS Trusts), the GP Centre and the Research Department from a local NHS Trust. Collaboration is encouraged by the recent employment of a Clinical Research Co-ordinator developing relationships across BU and NHS. Our robust relationships with NHS partners in taking forward research, education and practice development are evidenced by the University Department of Mental Health with Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust (designated as a University Trust as a result of our strong collaboration). We also collaborate with HEIs including the Universities of Aberdeen, East Anglia, Liverpool, Nottingham, Sheffield, Stirling,

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King's College London, and Robert Gordon resulting in joint publications, an EU bid, and funding for a Wellbeing of Women project (£20k). The International Midwifery Conference on Millennium Development Goals, 2014, hosted by BU, has attracted support from the United Nations and WHO.

Internationally, staff are members of INTERDEM (www.interdem.org) and a rural dementia care initiative (GRIID) and consortia partners along with Austria, Finland, Ireland and the Netherlands, for a new ERASMUS MUNDUS project (£399k, £75k to BU) to develop an MSc Innovation in Dementia programme. UOA3 staff have secured a professorial secondment from the Federal University of Santa Catarina funded by National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) and a doctoral student from 2014 supported by *Coordenação de Apoio ao Pessoal de Nivel Superior* (Brazil). Examples of our international collaborations include Tribhuvan University and Pokhara University (Nepal), Pathfinder International (Pakistan), the Cochrane Collaboration College for Policy at George Mason University (USA), University of Texas (USA), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Semmelweis University (Hungary), the International Early Labour Group (Hannover Medical School, La Trobe University, University of British Columbia, and a range of UK institutions), Paris West University (France), and AUT, Auckland (New Zealand).

Our cross-school Practice Development Unit Accreditation Scheme has a long history of service evaluation nationally (30+ per year) and a track record of Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (e.g. Five Rivers project). Our strength in public engagement/user involvement in our research is evidenced through novel methodologies and dissemination (film, art, theatre) including contributions to the ESRC Festival of Social Science and 'Older people's consultation panel for research, South West' and the Festival of Learning 2013 at which the unit offered 29 contributions.

Strong connections with professional practice are demonstrated by our two 'Category C staff', Baker (Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals) and Miller (Anglo European College of Chiropractic), enhanced by our visiting faculty ($n=100$), many of whom are primarily employed in NHS posts, and who contribute to the unit's research. Other visiting scholars come from across the globe, including Canada (Carr, a leading researcher into pain; Morgan, an expert in dementia care) and Australia (Ryan, expert on breastfeeding research). Visiting Faculty from within the UK include Bick (King's College London & editor *Midwifery*), and valued regional links, such as Wee, (Anaesthetist, Poole Hospital) and Pitchforth (RAND & editor *Globalisation & Health*).

Contribution to the discipline:

Editorial positions: 30 editorial board memberships, and editorships of academic journals/scholarly series: *Birth* (van Teijlingen), *BMC Preg Childbirth* (van Teijlingen, Hundley), *Crit Stud Soc Cultl Diversity* (Ashencaen Crabtree), *Persp Pub Health* (Hartwell), *J Interprof Educ* (Hean), *J Prac Teach & Learn* (Parker), *Midwifery* (van Teijlingen, Hundley), *Pract Soc Work Action* (Quinney), *Post-qualifying Soc Work* (Brown), *Transform Soc Work Pract* (Parker).

Reviews: 600+ peer-reviewed health/social care manuscripts; evaluated 325 grant applications, e.g. RfPB, Department of Health, ESRC, NIHR, Well-Being of Women, SDO Commissioning Board, NETSCC (now Health Services & Delivery Research), Chief Scientist Office (Edinburgh), Netherlands Organisation for Health Research & Development (ZonMw); assessed international conference abstracts, e.g. International Confederation Midwives (ICM), Optimise2014.

Research advisory committees: RfPB (NIHR) - South West Region (van Teijlingen 2010-2014), Royal College of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Well-Being of Women (van Teijlingen 2007-2010), ICM Research Advisory Group (Hundley 1999 to present), College of Experts for Reproductive Health, NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research (Hundley 2012 to present), NIHR funding panel, PM Dementia Task & Finish groups (Innes 2009 to present), Iolanthe Midwifery Trust (Hundley 1999 to present), Royal College of Surgeons, Research & Peer Review sub-committee (Pritchard, 2009), MS Society (Thomas 2006 to present), NIHR School for Social Care Research Programme reviewer (Parker 2011 to present).

Elected society memberships: Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS) (Parker, Pritchard), President of the England Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (Rosser).