

<p>Institution: Queen's University Belfast</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: UoA 24 Anthropology and Development Studies</p>
<p>a. Context:</p> <p>Anthropology at Queen's has a global reputation for research on national and international conflict and cross-border issues based on a sustained history of major research grant awards in collaboration with non-academic beneficiaries. Additional research strengths in the arts and cultural performance have further promoted community relations and enhanced public recognition of ethnic minorities and wider identity politics. The Unit has conducted research with community partners and research user advisory boards dating back to the 1990s, although public impact was not categorised as such at that time. In seeking to influence public and government outcomes nationally and internationally, research impacts have been shaped by social policy drivers. For example, early work on unemployment and the public dimensions of cultural research led to two key publications on policy in Northern Ireland (Donnan and McFarlane 1989, 1997), while an acclaimed five-part BBC production on the social effects of dance (Blacking) and the World Music in the Community project (Ramnarine) introduced ethnomusicological practices to Northern Irish schools and local groups, influencing cultural attitudes and educational policies on performance practice. Since 2012, the Unit has consolidated its international conflict research through university investment in a new Institute for the study of Conflict Transformation and Social Justice (ICTSJ). End-user beneficiaries of the Unit's research include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) National and international governmental and non-governmental organisations (e.g. lawyers, victims' groups, human rights' bodies, parliamentary groups and government officials). (b) Cross-border and community groups (e.g. the Centre for International Borders Research; Community Relations Council and the European Commission). (c) Media groups, broadcasting corporations, newspapers and online publications nationally and internationally, (e.g. BBC TV, BBC Radio, Australian Broadcasting Corporation). (d) Arts and public health professionals based in museums, festivals, arts and health care arenas.
<p>b. Approach to impact:</p> <p>Our generic approach to impact is to produce high quality, high impact policy-related research that speaks to the agendas of end users. We aim to create a sustainable culture of productive relationships by identifying multiple audiences and organisations with which to maximise research and impact opportunities through working collaboratively. Staff participate in research cluster, School and University forums which share good practice on how to engage effectively with end-users to deliver impact outcomes.</p> <p>We seek to expand our approach to impact outcomes through five practical measures by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Determining policy drivers with research users: The School's Management Board and Research Committee review strategies to capitalise upon the current concerns of users and their requests for consultancy outputs. The Director of Research and senior staff oversee this impact agenda via biannual appraisals, research group meetings and promotion profile criteria which specify evidence of 'economic and social impact'. (ii) Increasing research accessibility: Staff and postdoctoral researchers are assisted in creating accessible briefing reports for non-academic users. For example, Donnan led two projects with a postdoctoral fellow, commissioned by the Sports Council for Northern Ireland for research on attitudes to migrants in sport. It led to a report on sport for ethnic minorities (2003) which informed policies on discriminatory barriers to migrant access to sporting and leisure facilities. (iii) Planning for impact: The Unit convenes staff sessions on exemplary impact-related practice to provide models for identifying grant impacts early on in project planning through to delivery. We mentor early career researchers to apply for impact ring-fenced finance and ESRC Future Research Leadership schemes. A targeted University impact budget facilitates research travel and the dissemination of staff research findings. Some have been awarded funding to present research impacts, e.g. at government briefings (Bryan, Donnan). (iv) Promoting professional partnerships for research visibility: Researchers are mentored to participate in professional advisory and parliamentary bodies and they are encouraged to serve on research advisory bodies as research negotiators, policy analysts and consultants. Staff have presented research findings to national and international professional bodies, civic organisations, advisory panels, Government departments and NGOs. Their research has impacted upon social understandings of public space (Bryan), hate crime, peace building and human rights (Jarman), social exclusion (Donnan), sport's policy (Donnan), long-term unemployment (Donnan,

McFarlane), national parades (**Bryan, Reily**), infrastructure development (**Koensler**), risk and road safety (**Magowan** and **Donnan**), conservation issues (Milton, **Knight**), cultural heritage (**Magowan, Bryan**) and motility and age care (Skinner). Staff and PhD researchers have also briefed national committees and assemblies e.g. a delegation of **Bryan** and two anthropology PhDs was invited to present papers at an end-user conference at Georgetown University, Washington involving the South African Ambassador to the USA and Senator George Mitchell.

(v) **Documenting impact:** The Unit has introduced the systematic collection of impact outcomes in a monthly School newsletter, on project websites such as **Svašek's** HERA project: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/CreativityandInnovationinaWorldofMovement/News/> and blogs such as Skinner's 'Dance Beyond' <http://www.dancebeyond.co.uk/>. Staff participate in University media training and research expertise is collated in a University database. **Bryan** has frequently appeared on BBC Radio 4 and 5 News programmes and in media outlets across Europe and the USA, interviewed about public policy and civil protest around flags. Skinner has been interviewed by Ulster Television on cultural beliefs and by BBC Radio 4 on dark tourism on Montserrat.

Magowan has scripted two BBC radio broadcasts and been interviewed on Australian media outlets on Australian Aboriginal music.

The Unit's research impacts are characterised by three policy-related strands:

(1). Legal Commissions, Conflict and Community Relations: **Bryan and Jarman's** (1996, 1997, 1998) sustained critical work on post-conflict analysis has been the catalyst for policy reports on parades and protests funded by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister. This research recommended the formation of the Northern Ireland Parades Commission. **Bryan** has also produced evaluations of public attitudes for Belfast City Council on the community relations' outcomes of St Patrick's Day events (**Bryan** and Stevenson 2006, 2007). Research reports on social mediation processes have further influenced the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (Hamilton, **Jarman** and **Bryan** 2001) and Armagh and District Council (**Bryan** 2012). The latter research was commissioned by the independent Community Relations Council.

(2). Borders, Human Rights and Policing: As co-Director of the QUB Centre for International Borders Research and Director of ICTSJ, **Donnan** works with the EU funded Centre for Cross Border Studies in Armagh and Dublin and similar bodies across Europe to develop practical co-operation at the Irish border and regional EU-borders. International policy transformations are evident in **Donnan's** EU funded research on European borders and social exclusion with policy recommendations to Brussels and in an EU report comparing European borders. **Jarman** has collaborated on grants and publications with staff in the Unit since the 1990s. Working with multiple national and international stakeholders concerned with the management of violence, police reform, hate crimes and migration in Northern Ireland, as well as with organisations working on the freedom of assembly in Europe, his research has contributed significantly to developing measures for sustainable security. He is Director of the Institute for Conflict Research, an independent Northern Ireland research organisation which conducts conflict research in partnership with the community, voluntary and academic sectors nationally and internationally.

Research findings have influenced public perceptions of policing and police histories. As Academic Advisor to the Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Foundation, **Donnan** and the Foundation trustees received Lottery funding to support a comprehensive oral history of the force's seventy year existence and, with an anthropology postdoctoral fellow, produced a book on the RUC (2009). ESRC funding for road risk management also involved the police with the Department of Rural Development, Sustrans, Belfast City Council and policy professionals who discussed risk and mobilities in briefing papers at a public policy symposium (**Magowan** and **Donnan** 2007).

(3). Cultural Performance and the Arts: Artists, musicians, health care professionals and cultural organisations have collaborated with staff research projects, advising on policy drivers and policy transformations around performance activities. EU HERA funding supported an international two-day conference of three HERA consortia in collaboration with the Museum of Ethnology, Vienna (2012). Artists, curators, policy-makers, academics and members of the public debated controversies of war and oppression. The 'Disturbing Pasts' conference influenced public understandings of cross-cultural trauma images (**Svašek** and **Magowan**). It arose from **Svašek's** Royal Refugee Day 2011 public keynote at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and led to a knowledge exchange event between Royal Academy of Art and Royal Conservatory art practitioners (2013). **Svašek** ran a Dublin-Belfast community arts project that critiqued social inclusion and migration issues (2011). Skinner's (2011, 2013) policy reports on social dance have influenced

Impact template (REF3a)

understandings of its health benefits in Ireland and the USA. His work with the NI Police Board and Education and Library Board on dance has improved self-esteem among youth, reducing crime and cross-community violence. Other funded research led to 'Generation Dance', an all-Ireland forum with over 60 dance instructors, NHS trust policy makers and health care providers to develop best practice for senior citizens (Skinner 2011). The event was covered by BBC radio, national TV and newspapers with implications for arts health management and best practice protocols such as falls' prevention techniques. **Reily's** and **Magowan's** funded research with external practitioners from Brazil and Aboriginal Australia, respectively, has influenced public perceptions of community musics and identity politics in the arts.

c. Strategy and plans: Queen's University envisions research excellence with societal value. The Unit's overall future aims in delivering impact are to reinforce and optimize excellence in research capacities and impact agendas among staff as follows:

(i). We will **build upon our commitment** to the understanding of international and regional conflicts and the implications of conflict transformation for global policy. We are reorienting our impact agenda by seeking to integrate end users into the research design and planning process prior to grant conception. We will invite end users to advise on their agendas for public value outcomes, thereby informing research questions and creating partnered grant submissions.

(ii). We aim to **maximise collaborative grant success** with international impact through a two-pronged approach: We will run regular interdisciplinary staff/research student concept seminars to discuss common cross-School issues (e.g. restorative justice) and increase our hosting of regular national and international conferences and workshops with research users. (The Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation and Social Justice has established a cross-community advisory group of policy makers and community groups and a policy-related seminar with high profile speakers, such as the Nobel Peace Prize winner and former President of Finland). Impacts will continue to be archived in School and Institute newsletters and activity blogs.

(iii). We are **devoting time and expertise** to developing transformational outcomes with targeted public audiences through specialised workshops (e.g. the 2012 Sunken Heritage conference which involved UNESCO and tourism heritage experts). It led to a community forum initiative, 'Heritage Matters', which is designed to enhance future impacts. PhD researchers participate in these and other professional-related seminars to train them in impact-related matters.

(iv). Mechanisms for **consolidating our research planning** include the appointment of a research impact coordinator responsible for extending knowledge transfer processes and overseeing the Unit's impact progress. We are striving to **ensure continuity and longevity** in current projects for the next REF by extending academic-professional networks listed in the University's Experts' Directory and through impact seminars with the Research and Enterprise Directorate. We encourage staff to apply for the QUB VC's annual Impact Prize (£25,000) and the Business Alliance Fund linking academics and research users.

d. Relationship to case studies: Our impact case studies exemplify how long-term policy-related research with stakeholders is complemented by community partnerships and global public policy networks. Continuing involvement with policy beneficiaries and non-academic users has been ongoing long before the current REF cycle. Both **Jarman's** and **Bryan's** case studies thus build upon well established research reputations illustrating how close partnerships can drive the design of research questions and effect sustainable policy impacts. They detail how research has informed legal, social and human rights' agendas and policies nationally and internationally. **Jarman's** role as Chair of the International Expert Panel on Freedom of Assembly since 2004 has resulted in two editions of the Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly (Warsaw) which have transformed human rights' practices in this field, along with a research-led programme for monitoring assemblies across eastern Europe, south Caucasus and Central Asia. **Bryan's** research deals with conflict transformation over an extended period, dating back to the mid-90s through ESRC and government funding for the analysis of public symbols and conflicts in everyday and festive civic spaces. In seeking to forge a shared future in Northern Ireland, the public and government have been influenced by this research which reveals the socio-political effects of contentious national emblems. These two case studies are evidence of the Unit's commitment to meaningful impact outcomes that demonstrate the public value of anthropology. By reflecting upon public service demands and our mechanisms to support impact, the Unit's ethos is to continue to influence public policy nationally and internationally and enhance societal and human rights outcomes in systematic and targeted ways.