

<p>Institution: University of Westminster</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 29 English Language and Literature</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>Research is located in the Department of English, Linguistics and Cultural Studies (ELCS), within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. The Department also contains four researchers in Visual Culture who are submitted in sub-panel 34, and who collaborate closely with a number of staff submitted in this unit. Subsequent to the last RAE, the previous cross-departmental research cluster system - in which English was grouped with Modern Languages and History - was disbanded, and, since 2008, ELCS's own Departmental Research Management Group (DRMG) has become responsible for the management of all research, including administration of QR funds, staff research time and postgraduate bursaries. Following a substantive reorganisation of Linguistics research, in the wake of RAE 2008 and the retirement of Professor Philip Baker, English Studies and Linguistics now also share a common research management structure, alongside various ongoing intellectual collaborations, and are hence entered as a single Unit of Assessment.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Our strategy for research is to support our individual staff to produce internationally-significant research that is both academically excellent and publicly engaged, as well as to foster internal and external collaboration, enhancing and extending our position as a leading department in theoretically-informed and cross-disciplinary English Studies. The development of an active and sustainable research culture has been a priority at both University and Faculty level, and has included increasing the number of PhD scholarships as well as the appointment of new dedicated staff to support external funding bids and enterprise-related activities. At Faculty level, strategy is led by the Dean and Faculty Research Director, and overseen by the Research, Enterprise and Knowledge Transfer Committee (REKT), with responsibility for the general terms of research policy and practice.</p> <p>The establishment of the Department's own Research Management Group (DRMG) has allowed for far more effective planning and monitoring of research within the subject area, which is now directly overseen by the DRMG and Head of Department (Warwick). This is in line with a broader University strategy to shape departments as the core units within the university structure, incorporating the full range of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, doctoral programmes and research activities. With the majority of QR funding returned directly to ELCS, English has been able to support its commitment to research through sabbaticals and remission from other duties, student bursaries, conference support, and purchase of major online resources, as well as regular symposia, awaydays, and other activities to facilitate the research culture.</p> <p>Following RAE 2008, DRMG identified several strategic aims in English: (i) to increase substantially our external income; (ii) to expand our PhD student registrations and completions in a sustainable fashion; (iii) to increase the number of major research outputs, particularly monographs; and (iv) to identify key research groupings and develop a coherent structure to oversee future developments and appointments in these areas. These aims have been fulfilled and in many respects surpassed. In the last RAE we were unable to return any external research income; this time we are reporting in excess of £300,000, including major grants from the AHRC and Leverhulme Trust. We have recruited 17 new PhD students. Westminster has demonstrated its commitment to investment in research in English, recognising its strong and sustainable student base, with a programme of six additional appointments (4.8 fte) plus two post-doctoral fellows and one full-time replacement post following the 2012 departure of Barfield. All appointments reflect priorities identified in relation to our five key research groupings (see sections c and d below). Since 2008, our ambition to increase both the number of major research outputs and external research income has been achieved through targeted blocks of research time administered by DRMG. Funding of two annual one-semester sabbaticals, open to all researchers and awarded according to clearly-articulated criteria, has allowed us to support staff to complete substantial projects, including books by Nath, Syea, Wilson and Witchard. Since 2010, earmarked financial and administrative support has also been made available for substantial bids to external funding bodies (see section d).</p>

Research Strategy 2014-2019: The main priorities and objectives for the next five years include enhancing structures and processes for the realisation of research impact (described more fully in REF3a) as well as continuing to strengthen further the promotion and efficient management of research grant applications across the full range of research undertaken within the Department, drawing upon the expertise of those staff with an existing track record of success. While our policy is to support excellent research in whatever field it might be located, our plans and aspirations in developing our future research from 2014-2019 focus on the longer-term goal of becoming a recognised international centre for theoretically-informed and cross-disciplinary work in three main areas. Each of these is guided by a specific concern for the initiation of networks able to promote our visibility as a centre of research excellence and to ensure future sustainability:

1. An established collaborative base for the Department's distinctive contributions in studies of modern literature and visual culture is provided by the Faculty's interdisciplinary Institute for Modern and Contemporary Culture (IMCC), established in late 2008, in which the Department has played the leading role, with Marquard Smith (submitted sub-panel 34) as Director and **Cunningham** Deputy Director. Within this context, Department-led research programmes are centred on comparative questions of representation, media and technology, for which **Beck** has now taken on a specific leadership brief (see <http://instituteformodern.co.uk>).

2. Research in historical and contemporary forms of multilingualism is already continuing to build upon our success from 2007-12 in securing major project funding. Reflecting Westminster's traditional strengths in the study of 'language mixing', **Sylvester** is Co-I on a new Leverhulme Trust-funded project to create a bilingual thesaurus of the linguistic culture of late medieval Britain (2013-16), while, led by **Syea**, the unit is beginning its collaboration with CNRS (Paris 8) on constructing a new database devoted to effects of creole languages upon Bhojpuri (2013-16).

3. Following the arrival of **Willis**, and building upon work by **Geric**, **Warwick**, **Wilson** and others, literature and science has emerged as a third key area. This has been enhanced with the establishment in 2013 of a new research Centre for the Study of Science and the Imagination at Westminster (<http://www.westminster.ac.uk/scimag>), led by **Willis**, which now also hosts the *Journal of Literature and Science* and which will develop and further formalise our existing partnership, dating back to the 1990s, with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, USA.

Finally, much of the Department's most outward-facing and impact-related activity will continue to be focused in collaborative work on the cultures of London, embracing creative writing, urban theory, and literary and cultural history (e.g. the Fitzrovia Atlas project detailed in REF3a).

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

All research funding in the Department, including research time and access to conference funding, is awarded via an annual bidding process administered by DRMG. This is open to all staff, including fractional staff, and subject to clearly articulated published criteria which ensure equal opportunities and support for our diverse staff team. Regular and consistent time to pursue research is thus made available to all staff (full-time, fractional and fixed-term), at a level directly tied to the completion of high-quality outputs. In this way, an average of 20-25% research time is awarded to each research-active staff member annually within their overall timetable. Professors and Readers are guaranteed at least a third of their timetable exclusively for research. All staff attend individual research interviews twice annually, at which research plans for the year are agreed. As part of this system, junior staff and Early Career Researchers (ECRs) are formally paired with an experienced mentor able to advise them on the development of their research career, with more regular scheduled meetings, in line with the key principles of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. They are also required to take the Masters-level module 'Supervising Research Students'. New staff and ECRs are further supported through a lightened teaching load during their probation period in the first year of employment (equivalent to two fewer two-hour seminar classes per week across their timetable). Career pathways for staff at all stages are clearly set out at a University level, supported by a range of workshops and courses run by Westminster Exchange, part of the University's Department of Leadership and Development. Since 2008 two staff have been promoted to Readerships (**Avery**, **Sylvester**) and one to a Professorship (**Warwick**) in English.

Our staff base has expanded considerably since 2008, with seven new permanent appointments, each of which has been made in line with strategic priorities identified in relation to our five key research groupings (see section d). **Germanà** (2008) joined us from the University of Derby in contemporary fiction and gothic; **Pons-Sanz** (2010) came to us from Nottingham, where she held a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship, in history of the English language; **Geric** (2009) and **Colby** (2012) were appointed to first jobs in Victorian poetry and American fiction, respectively. **Lichtenstein**, who has been teaching part-time at Westminster since 2009, joined as a permanent member of staff in creative writing (2013). As part of a University strategy to enhance research leadership across Westminster, **Beck** was appointed Professor of Modern Literature in February 2013, joining us from Newcastle, while **Willis** was appointed (from Glamorgan) to a Professorship in Science, Literature and Communication, directly funded by the Vice-Chancellor's Office for the first two years. The capacity of the Department to recruit such internationally recognised researchers is indicative of the vitality and sustainability of the research environment in English.

The Faculty's commitment to developing new researchers is reflected in its funding in 2012 of two two-year Post-Doctoral Fellowships (**Bond, Charles**), on contracts divided between teaching and research, with interests strongly connected to the unit's strategic foci. Departmental funding has supported each Fellow in organising their first conferences (mentored by **Cunningham** and **Beck**), thus helping to developing their contacts and profile within the discipline: 'Walter Benjamin, Pedagogy and the Politics of Youth' (June 2013), convened by **Charles**, and 'Memory and Restitution in Literature and Culture' (July 2013), convened by **Bond**, with international keynote speakers from the universities of Ghent, Louvain, Paris 8 and MIT. Post-Doctoral Fellows can bid for departmental funding in the same way as all other staff.

Along with those staff listed in REF1, a number of other people have greatly enhanced our research culture since 2008. Dr Mark Chambers was a research assistant in medieval English in the Department (2007-2012), working with **Sylvester** on two major research projects funded by the AHRC and Leverhulme Trust. Emily Williams was a research assistant working with **Witchard** from May-July 2013, funded through an AHRC Research Networks project. Professor Allan Stoekl was a resident Visiting Professor (Sept 2012-July 2013), during a sabbatical from Penn State, over which time he led a series of regular seminars presenting work in progress from his project on culture and the 'postsustainable city'. Professor Lennard J Davis of the University of Illinois, Chicago was Visiting Professor in English (2008-11), and co-organised several collaborative research events with the Department, including 'Biocultures and the Post-Humanities' (Nov 2009) with the Director of the Arts Catalyst, London. Dr Jarkko Toikkanen was a post-doctoral Visiting Research Fellow (2011), supported by a full-year stipend from the Alfred Kordelin Foundation in Finland, and organised the September 2011 'New Ways of Working with Image' symposium at Westminster. We also hosted Junior Visiting Research Fellows from the Universities of Aarhus, Barcelona, UC, Davis, and Tamkang (funded by the Taiwanese National Science Council), each of whom were active participants in staff-student seminars and symposia. In September 2011, poet Aoife Casby was appointed as the first writer-in-residence based in the Westminster Archive, working closely with the Department on writing projects engaging with the history of the institution. The UoA further benefits from the presence of Dr Saul Frampton as a part-time lecturer, whose popular study of Montaigne was published by Faber (2011), and reviewed in the *Sunday Times*, *Telegraph*, *Washington Post*, and elsewhere, and who has, more recently, contributed major articles on Montaigne and Shakespeare to the *Guardian* newspaper.

ii. Research students

Scholarships and bursaries have been used to attract excellent students to our areas of research strength. In 2009 English was awarded one of the University's first competitive Studentships, worth £45,000 (plus fees), and in the same year established four of its own fee waiver bursaries (two full-time, two part-time) through QR funds. In 2012 the Department funded two additional fee waiver bursaries in English. All bursaries were advertised and awarded following interviews with shortlisted candidates, subject to equal opportunities procedures monitored by REKT, and offer evidence of our support for students whose backgrounds do not allow for self-funded education. Staff also contribute to six successful MAs run within the Department – Creative Writing: Writing the City; Cultural & Critical Studies; English Language and Linguistics; English Literature: Modern and Contemporary Fictions; Museums, Galleries and Contemporary Culture; and Visual Culture –

and several students have progressed from these to doctoral work. Supervision logs are submitted following each meeting (with a minimum of six meetings per year), along with an annual training log and PDP in year 1, noting clearly identified objectives, and a detailed annual progress report is incorporated into the Faculty audit administered by REKT. Student progress through the key stages of the research degree programme – from registration (after 3 months) to transfer (after 12-18 months) to completion – with formal reviews by senior staff outside the supervisory team, is now more challenging as a result. This process is, in turn, monitored annually by REKT, in line with the wider University programme, and is overseen by two Departmental coordinators.

In 2012, Westminster established the university-wide Graduate School with an explicit mission to enhance the provision of research training across the University. The Graduate School now coordinates the Doctoral Researcher Development Programme through a range of customised workshops, individual sessions and PDP activities based on the national Vitae Researcher Development Framework. This is complemented by a Faculty training programme, which provides a series of both generic and discipline-specific sessions for years 1-3 to ensure timely completion of formal stages. The Graduate School has also run a series of regular symposia and workshops on post-doctoral careers, with speakers from business, RCUK, Vitae and London First. The Research Student Forum meets once per term to give students an active voice, and has facilitated students' capacity to contribute to the development of the research culture, including organisation of university-wide Graduate School events. Students are further supported through a VLE site, where information is disseminated and issues discussed online. DRMG oversees the programming of regular events at a departmental level, including an annual workshop conference, to foster a more 'local' sense of community. Students can also gain teaching experience on the BA, and undertake training through the PG Certificate of Special Study for Supporting Learning.

Research students take a leading role in organising events in which staff also participate. The UoA runs two fortnightly research seminar series with invited speakers, in English Literature and in English Language and Linguistics, the first of which is coordinated by doctoral students. We also hosted a number of high-profile speakers, including Thomas Y. Levin (Princeton) and W.J.T Mitchell (Chicago), who led seminars with postgraduate students. The UoA supported two further one-day conferences organised by PhD students, and attended by more than fifty visitors: 'Narratives of Suburbia' (June 2012), and 'Theatre for a Young Audience in the UK' (July 2010), with speakers including Jeanne Pigeon and Roger Deldime (Université Libre De Bruxelles), which subsequently became the basis for an essay collection co-edited by Karian Schuitema (Trentham Books 2012). Further students were funded to give papers at, for example, the International Association for the Study of Irish Literature Annual Conference, International Gothic Association, and 'Empire State of Mind', Ligan University, Hong Kong, while others gave invited talks at a British Library Science Fiction Study Day and the Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Researchers in the Faculty benefit from one full-time and one part-time Research Development Officer, appointed during the present census period, who identify external funding opportunities and support applications. Such dedicated new personnel have helped to increase dramatically both the quantity and quality of applications. From a nil return in 2008, we can now report around a third of a million pounds of external income earned over the current census period. The Department was partner with the University of Manchester on a £765,576 five-year AHRC-funded project, 'The Lexis of Cloth and Clothing in Britain c.700-1450: Origins, Identification, Contexts, and Change' (2006-2011); around one-third of which came to us from October 2007 (Co-I **Sylvester**). In 2009 a successful bid was made to the Leverhulme Trust for a further three-year project, 'Medieval Dress and Textile Vocabulary in Unpublished Sources', worth £158,560, for which **Sylvester** was PI. From September 2013 **Sylvester** will be Co-I on 'A Bilingual Thesaurus', a new three-year project also funded by the Leverhulme (£108,329), in collaboration with Birmingham City University. We were funded through the AHRC Beyond the Text scheme (2008-09) for a network on 'Spiritualism and Technology in Contemporary and Historical Contexts' (£9,254), with **Mays** as PI with a Co-I in Photography. A further AHRC Research Networks grant was awarded in September 2011, under the Translating Cultures scheme, for 'China in Britain: Myths and Realities', worth £32,918, for which **Witchard** was PI. An AHRC Research Fellow in the Creative and Performing Arts, Joe Banks, was based in the Department from 2010-12, for his project 'Rorschach Audio: The Reality

of Audio and Visual Illusions' (£58,769), which was strongly connected to the work of the 'Spiritualism and Technology' project (and to the research of **Mays** and **Wilson**, in particular). **Pons-Sanz** is leading our participation in a Spanish Ministry of Education funded project examining the language of the Old English gloss to the Lindisfarne Gospels, including the organisation of a two-day workshop (April 2012) at Westminster supported by grants from the Society for the Study of Medieval Languages and Literature (£750) and the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (£300). Among other individual awards, **Germanà** was the recipient of an Everett Helm Visiting Fellowship (\$1500) at Indiana University (2011). **Colby** received an Arts Council award of £5,125 for a series of site-specific events on 'Death and the Contemporary' (2012-13), also supported by the Culture Capital Exchange. **Lichtenstein** was also funded via the Arts Council 'Grants for the Arts' (c.£5000) for the multi-media 'Diamond Street' app launched in 2013.

Research resources in English Studies and Linguistics have been considerably extended since 2008, particularly in electronic library packages, with access to databases such as LION, Box of Broadcasts and journal portals including Project Muse, JSTOR and Swetswise. This is further enhanced by easy access to nearby collections, such as the British Library, BFI, Warburg Institute and Wellcome Library. The Department is also beginning to exploit the unique archive of the Royal Polytechnic Institution (part of what is now the University of Westminster) located in new bespoke archival rooms in our library at Little Titchfield Street (for example, funding a PhD student researching the archive of the Polytechnic Touring Association). This historical institute – of global significance in Victorian studies, history of science, performance studies, photography and media – will be a major focus of work by the Department's Centre for the Study of Science and Imagination in the period from 2014-19, led by **Willis**, and will also engage public interest through a series of research-led events supported by the RPI's archivists.

All full-time, part-time and fixed-term staff in English are provided with individual office space, and the Head of Department is responsible for making sure that staff are treated equitably as regards access to resources. The Department also provides a designated common room and office space, with up-to-date computing equipment, for all doctoral students, who are eligible for research-related expenses in the same way as staff. The University's open-access policy provides an institutional fund as a top up to RCUK funds with selection rules designed to encourage critical mass, target and grow early career researchers, and support non-traditional outputs.

In line with the strategy set out in section b the UoA has developed its planning around five coherent, if overlapping clusters, which will continue to define our main internal organisational and scholarly infrastructure for research post-2013. These provide an informal forum for shared expertise as well as a focus for mentoring of ECRs:

Multilingualisms: Historical and Contemporary: Work in this area spans English historical linguistics and research in pidgin and creole languages (a traditional strength of Linguistics at Westminster), syntax and language acquisition. These two strands have been brought further together around a shared interest in language contact, as reflected in the June 2009 symposium 'Multilingualism: Medieval and Modern' staged at Westminster. Since 2010 the Department has also supported the annual 'Language Contact, Change, Maintenance and Loss' conferences; an ongoing series overseen by **Ihemere**, from which two edited volumes have so far derived and to which **Syea** has contributed. Among further research in the area, the latter is also currently writing a book for Routledge on French Creoles, following on from his 2012 book on Mauritian Creole. The AHRC and Leverhulme-funded projects on medieval vocabularies, led by **Sylvester**, have resulted in the production of an online searchable database (<http://lexisproject.arts.manchester.ac.uk/>), and, among other outputs, a new anthology of multilingual source texts for Boydell (2014). Success in this area led to the appointment of **Pons-Sanz** in 2010, who works on the lexical effects of Anglo-Scandinavian linguistic contact on Old English.

Gothic Studies: English at Westminster has a particularly strong international reputation in the study of gothic. **McEvoy**, **Warwick** and **Willis** are recognised authorities in eighteenth-century and Victorian gothic, while activity has been extended with **Germanà**'s work on contemporary gothic and **Witchard**'s on chinoiserie and urban gothic. Among other events, in March 2008 the Department funded a one-day conference that resulted in the collection *London Gothic* (2010), co-edited by **Witchard**, to which **McEvoy** also contributed. The latter is also currently completing a monograph, *Gothic Tourism*, to be published by Palgrave in 2014.

Victorian Literature and Culture: Editing of important but previously neglected literary texts has been nurtured as a particularly productive area of activity, including new editions of works by Mona

Environment template (REF5)

Caird and Mary Coleridge. **Avery** is also Associate Editor for the new five-volume edition of Barrett Browning's *Collected Works*, while **Warwick** and **Wilson** are completing an edition of the *Selected Works* of Andrew Lang for EUP (2014). Each of these projects has been supported through QR funding for the original contextual and archival research central to these projects. Intersections between literature and science define much of the ongoing work of the group, which is now developing under the auspices of the new Centre for the Study of Science and the Imagination (SCIMAG), and which hosts several doctoral students working in the field (e.g. on scientific representations of race, female scientists in literature, British SF). Current research includes **Willis's** history of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, **Avery's** cross-disciplinary cultural history of the 1890s, **Warwick's** study of the archaeological imagination, and **Geric's** forthcoming monograph on poetry, geology and evolution.

Modern and Contemporary Literature: The UoA's work in this area coalesces around three overlapping strands: (i) theories and transdisciplinary practices of modernism; (ii) contemporary writing; (iii) American literature. Department funding supported sabbaticals for **Wilson** and **Witchard** to complete new monographs in the field of modernism studies. We further supported a one-day event in December 2009 to commemorate the centenary of Ezra Pound's lectures on Romance Literature at the Regent Street Polytechnic (part of what is now the University of Westminster), organised by **Cunningham** and **Wilson**, and 'The Vicissitudes of the Modernist Muse' symposium (June 2010), organised by **Witchard**. Research leave has enabled a number of forthcoming outputs on contemporary practice, including **Colby's** *Kathy Acker: Writing the Impossible* (EUP 2014) and **Beck's** study of the politics of American landscape representation, which builds on his 2009 monograph. Extending our focus on the continuities between modernism studies and contemporary fiction, **Wilson** is currently leading a bid to the Leverhulme Trust for a network devoted to the legacies of modernism in the twenty-first century novel, while **Cunningham** is completing a monograph, *The Dynamics of Modernism*, which explores the temporalities of different modernist practices through to the present. **Witchard** is currently writing a book on China and World War One for the Penguin Specials e-book series to be published in 2014.

Cultural and Critical Theory: Incorporating a range of research into contemporary critical theory, aesthetics and the visual by **Beck, Bond, Charles, Colby, Cunningham** and **Mays**, this group benefits specifically from close interdisciplinary collaboration with Visual Culture staff also based within ELCS. Stemming from work derived from the AHRC-funded network on 'Spiritualism and Technology', the cluster has subsequently built upon this through **Mays'** coordination of the ongoing 'Archiving Cultures' programme, which focuses on the theorisation of archival practices across a range of cultural forms. This has also resulted in the production of an open access website (<http://archivingcultures.org/>) which, for example, hosted the summer 2011 online conference 'Materialities of Text', subsidised by the Department and IMCC. Work on forms of technological and cultural memory has been extended by the post-doctoral appointment of **Bond**, who is currently collaborating on a new cross-institutional Centre for Cultural Memory with the international Mnemonics Network. **Witchard's** AHRC-funded 'China in Britain' project (2011-2013) is explicitly interdisciplinary, covering film/TV, literature, theatre and digital media, and is now further developing an ongoing platform for contemporary debates surrounding multicultural identity (<http://translatingchina.info/>). The significant role played by interdisciplinary work is indicated by our involvement in PhD supervision across the University, acting as second supervisors in Architecture, Art, Chinese Cultural Studies, French, and Law.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

The establishment in late 2008 of the interdisciplinary Institute for Modern and Contemporary Culture, based within the Faculty and administered via ELCS, has marked a step change in the UoA's research dissemination and public engagement. The IMCC is designed to act as a focal point for collaboration both between colleagues across the University and with outside cultural institutions, facilitating various cross-disciplinary projects and maintaining its own blog/website (<http://instituteformodern.co.uk>). **Beck, Bond, Charles, Cunningham, Germanà, Lichtenstein, Mays, Warwick, Wilson** and **Witchard** have all been involved in events and programmes convened via the Institute, as have a number of research students. **Cunningham** co-curates the IMCC's Whitechapel Salon, an annual series of four public discussions on a single contemporary cultural theme held at the Whitechapel Gallery and co-funded by the Stanley Picker Trust, with

speakers including Chantal Mouffe, Jean-Marie Schaeffer, Richard Sennett and Gayatri Spivak. Among events at Westminster, the IMCC supported, for example, 'The Apocalypse and its Discontents' (December 2010), with more than 60 international speakers, organised by **Germanà** along with a doctoral student (Christopher Daley), and hosted the two-day '2010 Visual Culture Studies Conference', in collaboration with Nicholas Mirzoeff at NYU. As well as those listed in section d, other individual events co-funded and hosted by the Department included the one-day 'Fashioning Postmodern/Postcolonial Bodies' (September 2008), organised by **Germanà** and **Warwick**, and 'Queer London' (March 2013), organised by **Avery**.

The AHRC-funded 'Spiritualism and Technology in Contemporary and Historical Contexts' network supported a series of workshops led by **Mays**, culminating in September 2009 with a major conference held at Westminster with Marina Warner and artist Susan Hiller. The 'Archiving Cultures' programme that developed from this resulted in three further collaborative conferences: 'Old Media/New Work' (May 2010), with the Magic Lantern Society; 'The Hole in Time: German-Jewish Political Philosophy and the Archive' (June 2010), with Sussex Centre for German Jewish Studies; and 'Contemporary Vernacular Photographies' (Sept 2011), with the Photographer's Gallery, London. The AHRC-funded 'China in Britain' network, led by **Witchard**, staged six events between May 2012 and May 2013 with participants including filmmakers, actors, curators and writers. **Pons-Sanz** was the main organiser of the March 2012 and 2013 London Anglo-Saxon Symposia, Institute of English Studies. In June 2012, we further organised the three-day Soho Poly Theatre Festival, commemorating the theatre's 40th anniversary, with play readings and talks from Michael Billington, Michael Coveney, and others. SCIMAG jointly hosted the annual international conference of the British Society for Science and Literature (April 2013). Westminster also hosted the 13th International Conference on Functional Grammar (Sept 2008). Elsewhere, **Avery** co-organised 'Re-assessing the Dramatic Monologue' (June 2012) at Royal Holloway to mark the Browning Bicentenary, with funding from the Modern Humanities Research Association (£850) and BAVS (£400). **Cunningham** co-convened 'Surrealism, Post-War Theory and the Avant-Garde' at the Courtauld Institute (November 2009), and, with Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, the 2011 *Radical Philosophy* New York conference, hosted and co-funded by Columbia University.

The UoA contributes significantly to the subject area and to interdisciplinary research both nationally and internationally:

In English Language and Linguistics, **Syea** is a participant in a Groupe de Recherches sur les Grammaires Creoles project at CNRS (Paris 8), funded by the European Commission. **Pons-Sanz** is on the advisory editorial board of *North-Western European Language Evolution* (John Benjamins), the executive editorial board of the journal of the Spanish Society for the Study of Medieval English and Literature, and was a member of the editorial advisory board, *Anglo-Saxon* (2007-10). She also gave invited master-classes at the AHRC-funded language skills programme for Old Norse-Icelandic and Viking Studies held at Oxford (2011) and Nottingham (2012). **Sylvester** is a trustee of the Chaucer Heritage Trust.

In Victorian and Gothic, **Avery** is Secretary of the Browning Society and reviews editor for the *Journal of Browning Studies*, as well as on the editorial advisory board of *Victorian Review*. **Willis** is a founder member of the British Society for Literature and Science, Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Literature and Science* (for which **Geric** is reviews editor), and series co-editor for *Intersections in Literature and Science* (University of Wales Press). **Germanà** is Executive Secretary of the International Gothic Association. Her 2010 monograph inspired 'We Live in Gothic Times', a one-day event celebrating International Women's Day, organised by Scottish PEN (March 2013).

In the field of Modern and Contemporary Literature, **Lichtenstein** is a committee member of The Author's Club and on the board of the arts organization Metal. **Cunningham** was external advisor for 'Poetry Beyond Text', an AHRC-funded 'large grant' research project based at Dundee and Kent (2008-2011). **Wilson** is series co-editor for *Decades in Contemporary British Fiction* (Bloomsbury; 4 volumes). **Witchard** is on the editorial board of the Royal Asiatic Society China book series with Hong Kong University Press. The Department also hosted *Critical Engagements*, journal of the UK Network for Modern Fiction Studies, from 2008-11.

In Cultural and Critical Theory, **Beck** is on the editorial board of *Cultural Politics* (Duke University Press). **Cunningham** is on the editorial collective of *Radical Philosophy* (reviews editor since 2009), international board of *CITY* (Taylor & Francis) and external advisory board of the Courtauld Institute's *Immediations* journal. **Bond** was an Academic Committee Member, Institute for Germanic and Romance Studies (2010-11), and British Research Council Fellow at the John

Environment template (REF5)

W. Kluge Centre, Library of Congress (2010). She was also co-organiser of the 2012 AHRC research training network seminar 'Theories of Cultural Memory', while **Willis** was a lead speaker at the AHRC-funded Literature, Science and Medicine Doctoral Training Programme (2010).

Academic conference participation: Many invitations to present at conferences, both nationally and internationally, include: **Beck's** keynote at 'Performing Identities in American Literature', Durham University (Sept 2011); **Cunningham's** keynote at 'Architecture and the Political', LAU, Beirut (Nov 2011) and invited presentations at 'Qu'est-ce que la fiction politique?', NYU, Paris (Nov 2012) and the Norwegian Arts Council-funded 'Photography as Model' workshop, Kirkenes, Norway (Sept 2011); **Germanà's** plenary paper at 'Cities and E-motions', Universitat Rovira e Virgili, Spain (April 2012); **Lichtenstein's** keynote at 'Literary London', Queen Mary (July 2009); **Pons-Sanz's** invited presentation at 'Early Germanic Languages in Contact', University of Odense, Denmark (August 2013); **Warwick's** keynotes at 'The Grotesque', Tampere University, Finland (March 2009) and 'Mapping Dangerous Spaces', British Library (June 2009); **Willis's** keynotes at CultureWorks Festival, Mount Allison, Canada (Feb 2012), George Eliot Fellowship Annual Conference (Nov 2011), and 'Nature and the Long Nineteenth Century', Edinburgh (Feb 2010).

Public Talks and Discussions: **Avery** gave public lectures on Victorian literature for the LGBT History Month in Cambridge (2011, 2012). **Cunningham's** work on literary, urban and photographic theory, which has been translated into Spanish, Polish, Portuguese and Farsi, led to invited public talks at Círculo de Bellas Artes, Madrid; MACBA, Barcelona; Royal Academy of Arts; and Hordaland Art Centre, Bergen. **Lichtenstein** spoke on writing and place at Bath Royal Literary Institute, Bishopsgate Institute, ICA, Museum of London, Royal Festival Hall, Snape Maltings and Tate Modern, as well as at the SPACE Gallery and Wood Street Galleries, Pittsburgh (2012). **Mays** gave talks on the sublime at Tate Britain (2010) and on contemporary theory at the Institut Français (2011); **Nath** on Wyndham Lewis at Tate Britain (2008); **Germanà** on gothic at the ICA (2011); **Warwick** on Victorian narratives of crime to the Whitechapel Society (2012). **Willis** gave public lectures on the early years of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at the British Science Festival (2009) and on science fiction at Gresham College (2008). **Witchard** gave invited talks on chinoiserie at the Museum of the Far East, Brussels (2010), and on Lao She at the Royal Asiatic Society in Hong Kong, Suzhou and Shanghai (2012) and at the Shanghai International Literary Festival and Cheltenham Festival (2013). **Cunningham, Lichtenstein, Willis** and **Witchard** were each interviewed for BBC Radio 4 on aspects of their research.

External examination and representation on external academic bodies: **Sylvester** was a member of the AHRC Peer Review College (2009-12). **Willis** was sole Humanities representative for the Welsh Crucible: Research Leaders programme (2011), founded by NESTA. He is also Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Cardiff School of Medicine. **Beck** is external examiner for the MA Global and Media Culture at Keele (2011-). **Cunningham** has been external examiner for the MA Aesthetics and Art Theory at the Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy (Middlesex 2007-10; Kingston 2010-11) and the Masters programmes in Cultural Studies and Critical Theory at Nottingham University (2012-). Staff have examined PhDs at Manchester, Nottingham (**Beck**), Birkbeck, Goldsmiths, Nottingham, Plymouth (**Cunningham**), Stirling, Southern Cross (**Germanà**), Sydney (**Mays**), Seville (**Pons-Sanz**), Newcastle (**Syea**), Glasgow (**Sylvester**), Amsterdam, Birkbeck, Cardiff, Hull, Kent, Queen Mary, Sheffield, Sussex (**Willis**).

Other achievements: **Beck's** *Dirty Wars* was winner of the Western Literature Association's Thomas J. Lyon Prize (2010). **Lichtenstein's** *On Brick Lane* was shortlisted for the Royal Society of Literature's 2008 Ondaatje Prize. **Nath's** *La Rochelle* was one of four novels shortlisted for the 2011 James Tait Black Memorial Prize, as well as among six books selected for the Arts Council England's 'Exclusively/Independent' programme. **Willis's** *Vision, Science and Literature, 1870-1920* was winner of both the 2012 British Society for Literature and Science Book Prize and 2012 European Society for the Study of English Cultural Studies Book Prize.