

**Institution: The University of Edinburgh**

**Unit of Assessment: 22 Social Work and Social Policy**

### A. Overview

Edinburgh's Social Work and Social Policy Unit of Assessment 22 (UoA22) brings together colleagues located in the Schools of Social and Political Science (SSPS), Health in Social Sciences (SHiSS) and Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences which hosts the Centre for Population Health Sciences (CPHS). Staff collaborate intensively via joint research projects, research interest groups, the cross-School Centre for Research on Families and Relationships (CRFR), joint PhD supervisions and a shared overall research strategy and vision. The Schools are co-located in the adjoining George Square and Teviot Quad areas of the University of Edinburgh, after a £14.3m refurbishment. This investment has invigorated further our large and vibrant interdisciplinary and collaborative research community.

Our purpose is to sustain and grow a leading, multi-disciplinary research community which makes major contributions to social policy and social work in Scotland, the UK and internationally. We achieve this through outstanding research and exchange of knowledge across three priority themes: **governance of welfare states; children, families and relationships; and health, inequalities and health care.**

### B. Research strategy

The underpinning principle of our strategy is *to support innovative, intellectually challenging and methodologically advanced research of relevance to society*. Our overall research strategy builds on and develops our UoA40 submission to RAE2008 by focusing our priorities to three themes and converging our strategic objectives. This has stimulated:

- a fertile diversity of research topics coalescing within the three priority themes;
- a range of research perspectives and methodologies, strongly informed by international, global and comparative inquiry as well as participatory approaches.

The entirety of this submission reflects the sustained success of our research strategy of interdisciplinary collaboration as outlined in 2008. Key evidence for enhanced achievement includes:

- substantial growth in staff size: as a result of new investment we are returning 62 colleagues (58.7 FTE), which means our submission is 34% larger than it was in 2008 (and 204% larger than our RAE2001 submission);
- robust overall research income relative to the previous assessment period: our average annual research income (£2.4m) is 43% higher than for the RAE2008 notwithstanding our sizeable increase in early career researchers;
- major successes through the award of very large grants, from diverse funding sources, involving major collaborations, such as Frank's MRC/CSO Centre Renewal Grant (£4.1m) and Collin's funding (of \$2.9m in total) from National Cancer Institute, US Department of Health and Human Services;
- major progress in our key medium-term strategic objectives (see below).

In the area of **governance of welfare states** we have a prominent position in European collaborative and comparative social policy research. Clasen held a lead role in RECWOWE (*Reconciling work and welfare in Europe*, FP6 2006-2011, Edinburgh €362k), which has generated a book series (Palgrave) and major publications on, for example, the administrative and political re-categorisation of unemployment across Europe since the 1990s (see REF2, Clegg/2). This propelled our involvement in two further FP7 programmes, with PI positions for Clegg (*COPE - minimum income schemes across the EU*, 2012-15, Edinburgh £361k) and Nauman and Koslowski (*Changing families and sustainable societies*, 2013-14, Edinburgh

£157k).

In the area of **children, families and relationships** we have grown in prominence as a result of our cutting edge work and associated networks and collaborations. For example Harden and Cunningham–Burley’s *‘Changing lives and times: relationships and identities through the lifecourse’* formed part of the pioneering Timescapes programme (ESRC; Edinburgh £392k); Tisdall has led innovative projects investigating and promoting children’s participation (e.g. Leverhulme, £91k) and Cree led the key seminar series *‘Revisiting Moral Panics’* (ESRC, £18k).

In the area of **health, inequalities and health care** we have excelled in winning major funding awards to develop research, collaborations and infrastructure with compelling potential to influence public health policy and practice, e.g. the *Scottish Collaboration for Public Health Research and Policy*, SCPHRP, (Frank, MRC/CSO, see above), the *UK Centre for Tobacco Control* (Amos, ESRC led, £268k), the national evaluation of the Dementia Strategy for England (Clarke lead, and Wilkinson, DH Policy Research Programme, 2010-13, Edinburgh £294k out of £649k) and the *e-Health Informatics Centre* (Cunningham-Burley, MRC led, £183k).

Our three medium-term strategic priorities since 2008 have been *generational renewal, capacity building and knowledge exchange*.

Our metrics of success for **generational renewal** are indicative of substantial internal and external investment and commitment. More than half (57%) of our CatA staff (37 colleagues) have been appointed since 2008 and to complement existing senior leadership we have focussed on recruiting and retaining talented early career staff and postdoctoral fellows (see section B.ii). Our fostering of talent has led to a submission with considerably more early career researchers (18; 29% of the submission) compared with RAE2008 (3; 7%). The proportion of early career staff (Post-docs and Lecturers) relative to senior colleagues (Senior Lecturer and above) has risen to 53% (from 31% in 2008).

Institutional reorganisation has brought us closer together physically and intellectually: promoting interdisciplinary collaborations and the sharing of methodological expertise (e.g. through joint supervision of PhD students), creating the Global Public Health Unit and expanding the Centre for Population Health Sciences to integrate the former Research Unit in Health, Behaviour and Change and host the SCPHRP. **Capacity building** has also focussed on the enhancement of quantitative and qualitative research capability. Social Policy colleagues (Norris, Koslowski) are leaders within the Applied Quantitative Methods Network (AQMeN), funded jointly by the ESRC and the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) to build expertise at the intermediate and advanced level (£1.1m, 2009-12). This work continues in the second phase (2012-16) as AQMeN II, which is funded as a research centre by the ESRC to develop world-leading quantitative methodologies in the context of social science and including eight PhD students pursuing advanced quantitative techniques. Koslowski has since led a successful bid for Edinburgh University to host one of the new ‘Q-Step’ Centres for quantitative methods teaching and research in the UK, which is tasked with positively transforming the numerical and analytical capabilities of students and thus a future generation of researchers (ESRC and the Nuffield Foundation, £1.46m, 2013-18).

In 2008 we emphasised ‘knowledge transfer’ as one of our cross-cutting themes. Since then **knowledge exchange** (KE) has acquired an even more strategically important role in terms of practical efforts to improve the relevance and impact of our research. Understanding the role of KE, and particularly the relationships and pathways between evidence, policy and practice, has been a key area of our substantive research. Examples include K Smith’s focus on the politics of knowledge transfer in public health (K Smith, ESRC, £216k, and REF2, K Smith/4). Other examples include Morton’s ESRC scholarship on the ways how research translates into policy, as well as the project ‘Families of the future: evidence for change’ (Big Lottery Fund; £457k, 2010-13), research on KE and evidence based practice in the care of older people (Wilkinson, ESRC, £45k; REF2/1) and work on engaging with involuntary service users in Social Work (REF3 and M Smith, REF2/4). This research enriches our own efforts at best practice in KE: our research agenda has increasingly been shaped and sharpened by such interactions, particularly with policymakers and civil society. A high profile example is the research to support implementation of the WHO’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control which followed discussions with an international coalition of NGOs working on the treaty. These led to a research paper (Hill, REF2/4)

published in *Tobacco Control* to coincide with the Conference of Parties negotiations in South Korea in 2012, attended by Collin. Government and popular concern about the use of linked data for research (e.g. e-health records) has led to major investments in public engagement research, led by Cunningham-Burley, including the Scottish Health Informatics Programme (the Wellcome Trust led, Edinburgh £142k).

### B.i: Current priorities and future research directions

Within each of our three research themes several priorities guide ongoing projects, programmes and collaborations and signpost future directions. Synergies across the three themes arise due to a unifying emphasis on modes of governance, interventions into policy and practice and how these shape and are shaped by the experience of practitioners, service users and wider publics.

In the theme of **governance of welfare states** we have focused strategically on comparisons of policy formation, reform processes and outcomes, particularly but not exclusively in Europe. Led by Clasen, Clegg, Koslowski, Naumann and Whyte, several major international and comparative research programmes have been completed or are currently under way. Supported by EU Commission funding this work has demonstrated processes of policy and procedural convergence across many European countries in the area of labour market policy (e.g. see REF 2, Clasen/3; Clegg/2), as well as in poverty and minimum income schemes (Clegg, COPE project). Other comparative investigations have covered early childhood education and care policy (REF2, Naumann/1), while European education policy (REF2, Grek/1) has recently been added to our policy analysis portfolio. In criminal justice social work, projects commissioned by the Scottish Government have included the evaluation of two phases of the first major study on mentors for short-term prisoners (Whyte, £150k; REF2/4).

We remain committed to supporting new and developing research initiatives. Examples include Clasen and Clegg's investigations into the prospect of social insurance as a vehicle of achieving cross-class solidarity within European societies, Grek's focus on governance and transnational policy learning in labour market, education and health policy between the EU and the OECD, and Naumann's interests in religion and the welfare state and her book project on the political economy of childcare. Kirkwood's strategic appointment enhances research on restorative justice and desistance from offending. Recent appointments (Grek, Wiggan) are helping us to develop a research strand on 'Multi-level Governance and the Future of the Welfare State', (also involving Naumann, Koslowski and Tisdall), addressing issues of rights, entitlements and citizenship. This will take a life-course perspective, examining how these principles and processes develop as people pass through successive critical points of transition.

Led by Cree, Cunningham-Burley, Koslowski, McGhee, Tisdall, M Smith, Waterhouse and Wilkinson, research within the theme of **children, families and relationships** is built upon an approach that promotes participation and methods that embrace multiple perspectives. We aim to maximise the use of large-scale datasets such as *Growing up in Scotland* (GUS) to explore the lives of children, their families and wider relationships (CRFR is academic partner for this study and leads the knowledge exchange programme, Scottish Government, £100k p.a. since 2008). Research about and with children and young people continues as a major priority. Examples include: children and young people's information needs (Tisdall, Information Commissioner, £41k), children affected by HIV/AIDS (Cree, Elton John AIDS Foundation, £10k, REF2, Cree/2), and the mental health needs of children in residential care across six countries (M Smith, ERASMUS Lifelong Learning, £48k). Contributing to international comparative networks has been a priority, e.g. 'Children's Participation' (Tisdall; Leverhulme, £91k) and our work on developing critical perspectives on contemporary child and family social services (e.g. McGhee and Waterhouse on practitioner-parent relations – REF2, Waterhouse/2; and Roesch-Marsh's examination of the impact of organisational culture and relationships on the practice of Social Work with young people; REF2, Roesch-Marsh/2). Situating children in their family context marked our contribution to the ESRC funded Timescapes programme with the Working Families Lives' project. This explored the impact of parental work on family practices through family interviews, identifying the temporal, emotional and moral dimensions in both taken for granted routines and mundane practices of resistance (Harden and Cunningham-Burley, REF2,

Harden/4).

New developments include Tisdall's work on cross-national and international policy learning in the area of children's rights, legislation and policy; Naumann and Koslowski's work on changing family relationships across the EU; Clapton's research on the reunion between adoptees and their birth families as well as access to care records for people who have been in public care; McGhee's work on multi-sector data-linkage for longitudinal research in child welfare; and M Smith's focus on knowledge exchange and lifelong learning as mechanisms to influence culture change and practice in child welfare. These ensure a trajectory that combines high quality research, participation and strategies for influence that will improve policy and practice across diverse areas.

In **health, inequalities and health care** (led by Amos, Clarke, Collin, Cunningham-Burley, Frank, Lawton, Platt, Thompson and Wilkinson) our major focus has been to develop a large interdisciplinary community of researchers that engages with systems level analyses of health care, health technology and public health policy and micro level exploration of user experience and uptake of health interventions. Our work is propelled by major public health and health care concerns and critical social science perspectives. A key priority is to extend our research on the ***lived experience of illness and improvement of care***, in relation to several major health conditions, particularly non-communicable diseases, and to diverse care environments. For example, Lawton has directed a leading edge programme of qualitative research focusing on chronic disease self-management (specifically, the management of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, NIHR, £194k). This has identified how embodied experiences at individual and group level influence risk management and thus uptake of novel approaches to insulin dosing (REF2, Lawton/3). Clarke and Wilkinson's research on risk management in dementia has identified the contested territories in domestic homes that undermine an individual (REF2, Clarke/2). This has led to future work that will address the juxtaposition of safety and human rights in dementia care internationally, e.g. Wilkinson has secured ESRC international network funding (£23k, 2012-14) to develop research collaborations between UK, Taiwan and India.

A second priority has been the exploration of the ***social determinants of health and health inequalities***, with particular emphasis upon the analysis of system-level as well as community/family factors. Our extensive engagement in key public health issues using analytical approaches from across the social sciences is evident in the strength of policy salient research within this field. Hellowell's high profile work (REF2, 1/2) has involved extensive analyses of the impacts of the Private Finance Initiative on the NHS, revealing how current procurement practices mitigate against fair returns with resultant negative financial impact on hospitals. Platt's pioneering work on the social patterning of suicidal behaviour has promoted an inequality perspective in relation to the Scottish Government's suicide prevention strategy and action plan (REF2, Platt/3). We have a portfolio of influential tobacco control research (Amos, Platt, Hill, Collin, European Smokefree Partnership, £100k). This involved an in-depth exploration of community and individual responses to the English smoke-free legislation and demonstrated the predominant pattern of reduced consumption was attributed primarily to the legislation (REF2, Amos/2/3). Analysis of corporate documents revealed how British American Tobacco shaped impact assessment within the EU (REF2, K Smith/2). Our global health policy research focuses on governance, including the financing of global health (REF2, Sridhar/1), the impact of global health initiatives on civil society organisations (REF 2, Harmer/1), and obstacles to developing country engagement in global governance (REF 2, Hill/4).

Our third priority is ***methodological innovation***. We have established longitudinal qualitative methods as the gold standard for examining patient experience of health and health care (see REF2, Kendall/1/2; C. Chandler/1), including enhancing clinical trials (Lawton REPOSE trial HTA, £194k). Further methodological innovation has been developed by Jenkins with the use of vignettes in dementia care analysis. Cunningham-Burley and Pickersgill extend the use of public engagement dialogic techniques to explore the impact of developments in medical science across different policy areas and professional/lay actors. The use of quasi-experimental designs and mixed methods has advanced evaluations of national policy and complex practice interventions for a range of health outcomes and medical conditions. For example, Platt and colleagues constructed and tested a comprehensive new measure of workplace change, which was then applied in a

prospective longitudinal study of staff in six NHS Trusts (REF2, Platt/2).

Our future plans are taking shape through strategic new initiatives. We are extending our public health research to include alcohol for the first time, with Amos and Collin's contribution to research on the alcohol epidemic and industry in the new UK Centre for Alcohol and Tobacco Studies. We have a nascent programme of work on mental health bringing together a new grouping (C Chandler's and P Smith's work on emotions; Jain's work on community mental health in India; and McKenzie and Pickersgill's work on access to psychological therapies). We have a group of scholars working on public and policy engagement poised to take forward an exciting programme of work on the governance of 'big data' (led by Cunningham-Burley), and patient involvement in health care, with an upcoming CSO postdoctoral fellowship and K Smith's ESRC Future Leaders grant on the politics of knowledge transfer in public health. Finally, the renewal of the SCPHRP until 2018 will enable our health inequalities and public health policy work to continue to grow in scope and impact.

### **B.ii: Research support and priority development areas**

The enduring success of activities within the research themes above has been supported by a variety of structures, both university wide (see section D) and in-house. Our three priority development areas are *enabling opportunities and governance*, *postgraduate training*, and *spreading expertise* in gaining research income.

Considerable attention is given to **enabling opportunities and governance**. Colleagues are supported to develop their areas of research expertise through, for example, annual away days which typically involve discussions about research directions and opportunities (and at times are entirely devoted to this). Staff belong to at least one research interest group which brings together colleagues interested in similar research areas in regular (typically monthly) lunchtime meetings, reviewing outputs prior to submission for publication and discussing new research opportunities from a strategic perspective, as well as ideas for collaboration. Recently such meetings have generated major applications (e.g. a large Edinburgh led ESRC-ORA+ application in 2013/4; Edinburgh £674k), as well as research funding (e.g. for an ESRC seminar series emerging from cross-college Tobacco Control Research Group).

Opportunities to apply for (additional) short research sabbaticals, as well as easily accessible seed-corn funding, support the generation of future research opportunities (see section C). School research committees monitor research applications, and provide peer review support for grant proposals. For example, with the help of an internal (College) grant of £10k, K Smith organized a symposium in December 2012 which brought together over 90 academics, public sector researchers, civil servants, politicians, research funders and third sector organisations to debate the future of health inequalities research in the UK. As a result, K Smith and Hill developed analyses of contrasting perspectives on future agendas, with a view to ensuring that prospective research proposals reflect the needs of diverse potential users. Another example is the University of Edinburgh Moray Endowment Fund which has supported Pickersgill (science and ethics) and our emergent work on military families.

Applications for research funding are subject to strict but facilitating ethics policies and procedures. The ethics policy operated by all three Schools included in this submission involve a three-level procedure designed to minimise burden and delay for ethically straightforward projects while ensuring detailed scrutiny of more challenging 'level-three' cases. CPHS and SHiSS jointly administer such a procedure, with particularly close monitoring at triage because of the sensitive nature of many health-focused research studies. Moreover, administrative capacity and seniority is growing in order to support the growth in research activity proactively.

**Postgraduate research and training** has been invigorated substantially in recent years, enhanced by a new infrastructure. The University of Edinburgh led a collaborative bid, with SSPS providing the central hosting, for the Scottish Graduate School of Social Science (SGSSS), which includes the ESRC's Doctoral Training Centre in Scotland (the largest of all ESRC's training centres). Covering all Scottish HEIs and all social-science disciplines the SGSSS is of direct relevance to research conducted within the scope of UoA22. We lead the dedicated pathways in

**Environment template (REF5)**

Social Policy, Social Work, Health, and Families, Relationships and Demographic Change. Postgraduate researchers benefit from the University's commitment to making the SGSSS a world-leading centre of research training in the social sciences (see also section C.ii), strengthening it:

- intellectually, for example by building further provision for advanced quantitative training, such as in Bayesian statistics and in the management and manipulation of 'big data' (mass transactional data, linked health and social data), and by introducing KE 'masterclasses' to reinforce the focus on impact;
- technologically, for example by building a web-based platform allowing device-independent, off-campus secure access to all our qualitative and quantitative research software applications and datasets from laptops and other web-enabled machines;
- organisationally, for example by holding annual summer schools to bring the benefits of the Scottish Graduate School to the widest possible constituency (the inaugural summer school, held in 2012, attracted over 400 students from across the country).

A third development priority is to concentrate proactively on consolidating and **spreading expertise** to secure research support from a wide range of funding streams. Since 2008 UoA22 colleagues have won major grants from various national funding sources (including the AHRC, MRC, ESRC, ESRC-DFID, JRF, NIHR, the Wellcome Trust, the NHS and the Scottish Government including CSO), other national research councils (e.g. Agence Nationale de La Recherche, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Netherlands National Organisation for Scientific Research, Indian Council of Social Science Research), as well as supra-national and international funding bodies (e.g. the European Commission, the US National Cancer Institute, European Smokefree Partnership, the Rhodes Trust, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Fia Foundation for the Automobile and Society). We are now focussed on spreading our excellent levels of expertise and experience more widely. We bring experienced and early- (and mid-) career colleagues together (e.g. in dedicated seminar programmes) and involve the latter more firmly in international research networks, subsequently taking on lead roles (with appropriate mentoring) in funding applications. New and aspiring PIs have been supported in this, e.g. with the help of the four-day 'Research Leader Programme' offered by the College of Humanities and Social Science and the Institute of Academic Development (see D below). In 2012, for example, Koslowski participated in this programme, and Cresswell in a two-day workshop on 'writing successful large grant applications'. Additional mechanisms include mandatory internal peer reviewing of research applications, learning from successful and experienced staff providing feedback, and training courses and 'in-house' seminars on grant-getting and publishing research outputs. This has already led to an overall reduction in the number of grant applications, but a higher success rate and especially success in winning larger grants.

**C. People****C.i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

The research performance and achievements by all staff across the submission reflects our enabling approach towards developing research capability. We ensure that colleagues have the freedom, security, autonomy, time and skills to pursue their intellectual interests and to inform and be informed by emerging user (policy, practice and public) needs across a diversity of topics within our three themes. Across the three thematic areas professorial leadership comes from Clasen, and Whyte (**governance of welfare states**), Cree, Cunningham-Burley, Tisdall, Waterhouse, Wilkinson (**children, families and relationships**), and Amos, Clarke, Collin, Cunningham-Burley, Lawton, Platt, P Smith and Thompson (**health, inequalities and health care**). Clarke, P Smith and Frank represent strategic professorial appointments. Clarke boosts the expertise in the area of dementia research and leads as Head of School. As Head of Nursing Studies, P Smith has a key leadership role in partnerships with external health organisations, contributing to the acclaimed Clinical-Academic Research Careers development with NHS Lothian to develop research capacity in nursing and allied health for example. Frank's appointment within CPHS enhances capability and capacity for complex interventions research and the analyses of

secondary and linked data.

Our submission consists of 40 women (65% of CatA staff; 49% in 2008), and appointments made since the RAE reflect the strong international and global reach of our research (51% of all staff recruited in the past five years have an international background). Our approach of appointing promising researchers at the start of their academic careers and supporting and promoting talented colleagues is illustrated by fourteen colleagues (23% of the submission) who have gained promotions since 2008. As a reflection of the rise to international prominence of our mid-career generation, two men (Clegg, M Smith) and three women (Koslowski, Hill, Naumann) have progressed to senior lecturer level during the REF period. They have made outstanding contributions to research on French social security and European labour market policy, residential child care and utilising social pedagogical approaches, quantitative analysis in social inequality, social determinants of health, and comparative childcare and work/family reconciliation policies. K Smith has been promoted to Reader based on her outstanding contribution to a range of health policy related research. Two men (Collin, Thompson) and three women (Lawton, Tisdall, Wilkinson) gained promotions to personal chairs, reflecting their lead roles in the fields of global public health policy, patient choice, health-related risk and lifestyle, childhood studies, dementia research and knowledge exchange respectively.

Sixteen colleagues (C. Chandler, Cook, Grek, Harden, Heins, Hellowell, Holloway, Jain, Kirkwood, Norris, Roesch-Marsh, K Smith, Stenhouse, Sridhar, Palattiyil and Wiggan) joined us on new open-ended lectureships in the past five years. Overall our submission includes 18 early career researchers, constituting 29% of all submitted staff. Four (Cresswell, Eichhorn, Jenkins and Willis) were appointed via major University investment in internationally-advertised tenure-track 'Chancellor's Fellowships', and one (Pickersgill) with a similar internal scheme aimed at promoting 'rising stars'. These schemes are dedicated to high potential academics in the early stages of their careers who have already begun to establish a reputation for top quality research. Each of these prestigious fellowships lasts for five years, is supported by start-up research funds as well as structured mentoring and career development advice, and is expected to be converted into a standard University appointment after a third year review. The fellowships represent a considerable contribution towards the sustainability of research expertise and excellence across the submission. The University is making another 50 new 5-year tenure-track Chancellors Fellows available in 2014 which are anticipated to lead to open-ended lectureships. This is part of our mission, outside REF, to be the UK's leading institution supporting the development of early career academic staff, reinforced by our Institute for Academic Development.

**Career development** has been a key priority. All early career researchers are supported by mentoring aimed at utilising the level of experience provided by more senior staff, as well as colleagues who have succeeded in winning grants from particular funders. Mandatory annual reviews for all staff focus on key objectives and identifying the factors that will facilitate their achievement. Early career staff benefit from adjustments to teaching and administrative workloads, as well as from financial support for attendance at relevant conferences and courses. For example, all Social Policy and Social Work staff below Senior Lecturer level (within their first 5 years of employment) are entitled to apply for grants of up to £1k per year for the purpose of conference attendance (totalling around £40k annually). Research 'seed-corn' funding is easily accessible too. Small 'research support funds' (of up to £500) can be applied for at any time (no deadlines) and larger funds (up to £5k) twice a year. This support is versatile in its use and has helped especially early career staff. For example, in 2012 Norris gained strategic research support funding of £5k to secure an initial aggregate-level data license to the Gallup World Poll (GWP), which facilitated preliminary publications and a proposal for an ESRC open competition. Kirkwood's small knowledge exchange grant (£2.5k) helped to develop practitioner research in criminal justice social work, using innovative methods to analyse practitioner interaction with adults involved in offending. CPHS has a bursary scheme to support conference travel and research. As in SHISS, a proportion of fEC income is dispersed to PIs, which provides further opportunities to encourage networking and dissemination for researchers.

We provide training courses and career-development workshops for all newly appointed staff and particularly intensive mentoring for postdoctoral fellows, who receive coaching and support in taking the next step of writing a larger research proposal as a PI. When early-career staff

supervise PhDs we team them with experienced supervisors, and they attend seminars on best practice in supervision. Even the most experienced supervisors are trained and required to attend regular updating sessions. A research leave scheme (one semester in six) applies to most UoA22 colleagues, with newly recruited lecturers becoming eligible for research leave two and a half years after appointment; this is monitored by Heads of Schools. In addition, there are options for 'short sabbaticals' which are dedicated to certain tasks. For example, Cook and Smith have benefited from residential writing retreats and 'intensive research bootcamps' which are entirely devoted to completing publications, applications or projects, supporting not only junior but all research active staff. Other mechanisms include biannual 'new researchers' conferences (hosted by CRFR) which draw international audiences and 'showcase' new talent and work in the area of families and relationships. Following the sector-wide Concordat, we ensure that all research-only staff, including research assistants, receive the same support as those on teaching/research contracts.

**External Fellowships:** This nurturing of talented early career colleagues has already proved successful. For example, K Smith won a prestigious ESRC-MRC Post-Doctoral Fellowship (2011-2012), followed by a two-year ESRC Future Research Leaders Grant into the politics of knowledge transfer in public health (2013-2014). Other successfully supported and highly competitive post-doctoral fellowships during the census period include Skafida (British Academy), Pickersgill and A. Chandler (Newby Trust), Pickersgill (the Wellcome Trust), Davis, Gunson, Kean and Speirs (all ESRC), Gulland (Leverhulme) Rooke (Cancer Research UK) and Rooke, Rowa-Dewar and Weishaar (all UK Centre for Tobacco Control Studies). Finally, early career colleagues who are not (yet) CatA staff, such as Plotnikova and Morrison have already achieved considerable success with publications in prestigious journals (see next section).

### C.ii: Research students

We have averaged 11.3 PhD awards per year (over the assessment period, compared with 8.2 for the RAE 2008). Studentships have been awarded by British research councils (ESRC, AHRC, MRC), governmental sources (e.g. Scottish Government, Isle of Man Government), other UK funders (e.g. the Wellcome Trust), European sources (e.g. the German DAAD and the Anglo-German Foundation), as well as from various governments beyond Europe (e.g. Chile, Thailand, Saudi Arabia and the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq). The result of these diverse sources of support is a thriving and cosmopolitan community of PhD researchers. Many PhD students are co-supervised across Schools, reflecting our collaborations and working practices that transcend institutional boundaries. Research skills are developed via a range of mechanisms, including workshops that focus on *doing* research and demystify the thinking and problem-solving involved, participation in the fortnightly 'doctoral seminar' in Social Policy, monthly CRFR research meetings, a CPHS PhD/Early Career Researcher group, participation in other specialist seminars and conferences associated with our research themes, full involvement in staff meetings organized by research interest groups, producing working papers at these meetings and moving on to publication. All PhD researchers are encouraged to present papers at professional conferences, and all (including self-funded) can apply for help with costs (of up to £300 per year in Social Policy and Social Work, for example). The University of Edinburgh's 30 FTE Institute of Academic Development, set up in 2010, provides a wide range of courses that enhance employability (such as courses on communication, IT skills and business and enterprise) as well as courses on research planning and professional development for PhD students and staff.

As noted in section B.ii, enhancing the already strong provision of postgraduate research training is a key development area. The University's lead role in Scotland's Applied Quantitative Methods Network (AQMeN; see section B) enables us to provide training in some of the most urgent and complex problems in survey and related methods, including the management and manipulation of 'big data' (mass transactional data) and the use of Bayesian statistics. Apart from advanced quantitative techniques (taught by Koslowski, Norris, Thompson), UoA22 staff play lead roles in the provision of aspects of research training such as comparative analysis (Clasen, Clegg, Naumann), reflexivity in qualitative research (Cree, M Smith), and qualitative data collection and analysis, now including substantial e-learning content (Collin, Hill). CPHS's Masters in Public Health provides training in epidemiological methods, statistics and qualitative health research

(Kendall).

The **Scottish Graduate School in Social Sciences**, assisted by our Institute for Academic Development and the Knowledge Exchange team, supports the direct delivery of research training. This means, for example, overseeing the supervision, training and career development of 350 postgraduate students who are enrolled in PhD and MSc by Research programmes in Social Policy and Social Work, as well as in Politics and International Relations, Sociology, Social Anthropology and other social science disciplines. The programme of research training is based on *core courses* in research design, data collection and data analysis, each of which is team-taught by subject specialists. Each has been, or is in the process of being, recast in modular form and made available as distance and/or blended learning. In this way, we deliver foundational material in more varied, flexible and accessible ways, specific to individual students' needs.

The SSPS Graduate School provides a forum for engagement between postgraduate students, professionals, policy makers, practitioners and publics of all kinds. Practice workshops bring together visiting practitioners and postgraduate students to discuss aspects of professional and organizational practice. They serve to open new areas of research and reflective inquiry, as well as to develop transferable skills. Meanwhile, research training workshops address related issues of impact and user engagement. Work-based placements are available to doctoral students, promoting an immediate relationship between policy, practice and postgraduate research. Students funded through the *Principal's Career Development Scheme* draw on their own professional experience in developing new opportunities for practice-based teaching and learning. In SHiSS the relationship between research and professional practice is also attended to through the clinical-academic research careers scheme with pairings of doctoral and post-doctoral clinical staff working with academic staff (in critical care and, forthcoming, in dementia) and through Hope Park Counselling Centre which, as part of SHiSS, forms a research orientated practice environment within the University. Wakeford, for example, has developed several networks of participatory research with policy makers. In CPHS, collaborative studentships (for example with NHS24) promote specific exchange across sectors and knowledge sharing in addition to wider links between the academy and health care organisations. CRFR has also hosted 11 CASE (and other type of collaborative) studentships. We strongly encourage and support our ESRC students to uptake internships and four have worked within Scottish Government as part of this scheme.

The quality of our postgraduate research training is attested by doctoral students who are currently in the process of completing, or have recently completed, their degrees, and have won prestigious awards, gained post-doc research or lectureship positions. As illustration, we draw attention to:

- H Weishaar (graduated in 2013), won the European Cancer Leagues ECToH Young Professional award 2011 (Amsterdam), and has already authored and co-authored seven publications;
- A Roesch-Marsh (graduated in 2011), gained a lectureship at the University of Stirling in 2009 and was subsequently appointed to a lectureship at the University of Edinburgh in 2011;
- P Ramsay (graduated in 2011), is now Research Fellow (in Critical Care) as part of the Clinical Academic Research Careers scheme (University of Edinburgh and NHS);
- K Everingham (graduated in 2012), is now Research Manager at Barts Health NHS Trust;
- E Plotnikova (graduated in 2012), gained a research fellowship position in Social Policy and has already published in major journals (including *Social Science and Medicine*, 1/2012);
- A Goerne (graduated in 2012), has already published (*Journal of Social Policy*, 4/2011) and was appointed to a key position in the German Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs;
- T Emery (commenced in 2011), has already published (*Demographic Research*, 29/2013) and been appointed as Project Manager (Generations and Gender Programme) by the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague.

#### D. Income, infrastructure and facilities

We have made significant progress in successfully competing for research grants. Between January 2008 and April 2013 we won 111 awards for projects in which Edinburgh staff figured as PI (£10.5m in total). This included some very large grants (over £1m), such as Frank's MRC funding to deliver primary research and knowledge-brokering programmes across four key public health priorities; and Collin's support from the National Cancer Institute, US Department of Health and Human Services for ongoing research into the role of transnational tobacco companies, global governance and public health policy, which is further reflected in the rapid development of this area of work across a number of researchers. Other major grants (of more than £200K each) were awarded by the Department of Health (Clarke and Wilkinson), NIHR (Lawton), the Wellcome Trust (Cunningham-Burley), ESRC (Amos, Clasen and Koslowski; Cree; Cunningham-Burley), the European Commission (Clasen, Clegg, Koslowski and Naumann), MRC (Cunningham-Burley), CSO (Platt) and the Big Lottery Fund (Morton).

Winning these and other research grants has been supported by in-house mechanisms and procedures, such as mandatory peer reviewing and easily accessible research support seed-corn funding (see section B.ii, above). In addition, we draw heavily on the infrastructure and skills of the Edinburgh's 'Research and Innovation' (ERI) unit. ERI has allowed academics to concentrate on the scientific aspects of writing research applications by taking over other aspects, such as identifying relevant funding opportunities, advising on funding bodies' terms and conditions and costing applications. UoA22 colleagues have also benefited from ERI's extensive 'bank' of successful proposals, as well as its events programme including funder visits and inter-disciplinary thematic networking meetings.

Numerous distinctively KE oriented research activities have been supported, directly involving collaborations between academics, policy makers, practitioners and publics. This includes two ESRC projects: culture change in child and family social work services (M Smith, Cree and Wilkinson, £61k) and a collaboration with a third sector organisation to support evidence sharing in health and social care for older people (Wilkinson, ESRC, £125k). Across projects and programmes we make strong use of modern communication tools, such as blogs, twitter and facebook. Globalhealthpolicy.net, written by Harmer and Sridhar, was chosen among the top 25 public health blogs in an international review by MPHonline in 2012. The Scottish Collaboration for Public Health Research and Policy has, at the time of writing, over 2000 Twitter followers (and over 10,000 Tweets). The use of creative arts in KE is emerging as a strong focus; for example Clarke had a 7 day run at the 2013 Edinburgh Festival Fringe of performances based on research in risk and resilience in dementia and secured funding to be part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science in November 2013.

University of Edinburgh investment has facilitated a strong, integrated and resilient research environment. This is evident, for example, in the establishment of the Global Public Health Unit within Social Policy and the sustained success of CRFR, now entering its twelfth year. More broadly, in the past five years the University has made heavy investments in **infrastructure**, facilitating better co-location within the UoA22, information-technology and administrative support. For example, in 2008, colleagues in Social Policy and Social Work moved into the Chrystal Macmillan Building. The building was entirely restructured and refurbished at a cost of £14.3m, of which £10.6m came from SRIF as a result of research performance. It was redesigned to our specification, with a particular focus on architectural aspects intended to promote interaction amongst staff and postgraduate researchers: generous public spaces, break-out rooms and electronically-bookable meeting 'pods'. All UoA22 staff are able to draw upon the University's superb strengths in informatics, including e.g. Edinburgh's Data Library and EDINA, a UK national academic data centre, designated by JISC on behalf of UK funding bodies, which deliver access to a wide range of online data services ranging from census statistics to the Digimap (and other geographic information systems). Finally, within a five-minute walk all UoA22 colleagues have easy access to two world-class research libraries: the National Library of Scotland and Edinburgh University Library. The latter holds over 3.5m printed items and around 0.5m e-books, and subscribes to around 20,000 serials, mostly received as e-journals.

#### **E. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base**

Working across a range of topics, broadly captured by our three thematic areas, UoA22 staff are trained and thus approach these topics from various angles. This is one reason why much of our work is **collaborative**, linking colleagues with different disciplinary backgrounds across different schools and colleges. One illustration is the joint work by Amos, Collin, Ritchie, Hill and K Smith who have actively and successfully promoted **interdisciplinary** research via a Tobacco Control Research Group that operates across the University. This has generated support for doctoral students, enabled researchers to engage in international networks, facilitated connections across the UK Centre for Tobacco Control Studies and provided a model adopted by other universities. A large number of colleagues have collaborated on the development of statistical, epidemiological and qualitative social science methods, not only across the UoA22 but with the wider University (e.g. with investigators from the Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Queen's Medical Research Institute and Edinburgh's Global Health Academy).

Collaborative and cross-disciplinary research has been supported by initiatives such as 'Adventure Lunches', which encourage wide-ranging, cross-disciplinary discussions, exploring a series of themes from different conceptual and disciplinary perspectives. The Lunches intend to encourage innovative thinking and opportunities for further collaborative work. On a larger scale, a major structural factor which has supported cross-disciplinary work is the CRFR as a 'hub' for interdisciplinary research and collaborations with the third sector. It acts as a network for researchers and research-users in policy and practice, across voluntary and statutory sectors. Its online database of people and organisations interested in families and relationships across Scotland and beyond is open to members only and offers a unique facility for researchers, policy makers and practitioners in the families and relationships field to communicate, share information, publicise activities and collaborate.

Major grants have been won on a collaborative basis. For example, linking up with colleagues from the University of Southampton, Clasen (PI) and Koslowski (Co-I) have led a large ESRC funded project (£444k; Edinburgh £322k) on the role of the state, private and corporate social protection across several risk areas for middle and above average income households. Frank is Co-I on the NIHR-funded (£1.27m, 2012-17) DISPLAY study to evaluate point-of-sale tobacco control legislation in Scotland (PI Haw, University of Stirling). Colleagues involved in CRFR have secured major collaborative grants, e.g. the Wellcome Trust Strategic Award in Biomedical Ethics (The Human Body, its scope, limits and future), with the University of Manchester Institute of Science Ethics and Innovation (PI John Harris, Cunningham-Burley as Co-I; Edinburgh £92k). Cree (Co-I) collaborates with Holland (PI, Cardiff University) in a large ESRC grant on 'Talking and Listening to Children (TLC)', (2013-15; Edinburgh £163k).

**International research collaborations** are equally crucial to our strategy within all three thematic areas. For example, Frank is Co-I on the Canadian Institutes of Health Research grant for \$1.98m (2011-16) 'Examining the Impact of Social Policies on Health and Health Equity', led by Heymann at McGill (University of Montreal). Several Edinburgh staff playing key roles in formal research networks, such as EU framework projects or Networks of Excellence (e.g. Clasen, Clegg, Grek, Koslowski). During the assessment period 28 colleagues took on lead researcher positions in 66 of such formal arrangements. Particularly well-established collaborations, including visiting researcher or professorship positions, have been forged with 16 overseas universities: Science Po, Paris (Clegg), Vienna (Clasen), Southern Denmark (Clasen), California San Francisco (Collin), Harvard (Hill, Collin), Auckland & Otago (Hill), Sydney & Macquarie (Collin), Mayo Institute (Collin), McMaster (K Smith), Bocconi, Milan (Hellowell), Monash (Hellowell), Stockholm (Naumann), Griffith (Clarke) and Wisconsin-Madison (Cunningham-Burley).

Our research outputs have gained very strong **national and international recognition** and interest, both from fellow academics and user groups, often shortly after publication. For example, an article on tobacco philanthropy and conflict of interest in global health (Collin) generated over 50,000 downloads since its publication in December 2010, making it the most downloaded article in *Tobacco Control* during 2011-12. Colleagues have won major **awards**, such as Clarke and Wilkinson's book 'Risk Assessment and Management for Living Well with Dementia' (2011) (co-authored with Keady and Gibb) which won first prize in the BMA's Book Awards (health and social care category) 2012. Amos was awarded the WHO 2013 'World No Tobacco' Medal. Early career

researchers have also been recognised for the exceptional quality of their work, with Cresswell awarded the Royal College of General Practitioners Research Paper of the Year (2012) Mental Health category. Major works by colleagues has been translated into Czech (K Smith), Dutch (Clegg), French (Clasen, Clegg, Grek, Heins, Lawton), German and Polish (Wilkinson), Italian (Hellowell), Japanese (Clarke, Thompson), Portuguese (Tisdall) and Spanish (Collin, Grek). Pickersgill and Skafida have been awarded membership of the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Young Academy. An innovative example of successful public engagement on a priority public health topic (suicide prevention) is Platt's role as joint executive producer of a film 'U Can Cope' (2012), viewed over 24,000 times on the Connecting with People channel alone.

20 colleagues were invited and presented **keynote plenaries** at major international conferences in 23 countries: Austria, Finland, France, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Ireland, USA, China, Brazil, Singapore, Japan, Canada, Mexico, Australia, India, Uganda, South Africa and South Korea. 36 colleagues presented a total of 85 other invited international talks in 25 countries: China, Singapore, South Korea, Japan, India, Canada, USA, Mexico, South Africa, Botswana, Hungary, Austria, France, Germany, Croatia, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Latvia.

Academic exchange has also been fostered by hosting existing and potential collaborating researchers in Edinburgh. UoA22 staff have organised numerous seminars with high calibre external speakers, and organized important national and international **conferences** at the University of Edinburgh. For example, colleagues hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> International CRFR conference in 2013 (more than 100 speakers; 25 countries). Clasen and Parry were responsible for the 2008 and 2009 annual SPA conference, and Clasen, Clegg and Koslowski hosted the 2012 ESPAnet annual conference. Such events have attracted internationally leading academics such as G Bonoli, O Kangas, T Knijn, J Kvist, W van Oorschot, I Ostner, B Palier and J Palme. Researchers have also been directly supported in developing such events, as in the funding of the 'Where next for health inequalities research?' symposium in December 2012 via the CHSS Challenge Investment fund and workshops on both neuroscience and epigenetics (Pickersgill) funded by ESRC and the Wellcome Trust respectively.

During the assessment period seven UoA colleagues have been editors of nine **journals** in the field (Journal of European Social Policy, European Educational Research Journal, Journal of Clinical Nursing, Social Work Education, Nurse Education Today, Families, Relationships and Societies, International Journal of Work, Organisation and Emotion, Prevention, Macau Journal of Nursing). Since 2008 UoA22 staff have edited 11 special issues of peer reviewed journals and held 25 editorial board membership positions.

Edinburgh staff have played key roles in the advancement of the SPA and other relevant professional associations and research funding organisations. Examples include K Smith and Naumann (SPA executive), Clasen (ESPAnet chair), Naumann and Koslowski (SPA's Journal of Social Policy), Lawton (HTA: Obesity Themed call, 2010, ESRC: Understanding Individual Behaviours - Exploratory Networks Initiative, 2008), Clarke (HTA dementia call 2011/12; PRP dementia call 2012; chair of NE NIHR RfPB Committee 2009-12), Cunningham-Burley (MRC Methodology Research Panel and The Wellcome Trust Society and Ethics panel), Clasen (2011/12 ESRC large grants/centre competition), Frank (several MRC and NIHR positions, e.g. chair of 2009 Steering Committee, MRC Unit for Lifelong Health and Ageing) and Cree (ESRC Research Seminar Series panel 2013). Several colleagues have served on panels assessing applications for Research Councils in other countries, including Belgium (Clasen, K Smith), Switzerland (Clasen), Norway (Pickersgill, Clasen), New Zealand (Cresswell) and France (Pôle Emploi, Clegg). Finally, colleagues have led national as well as international collaborations in postgraduate training. In addition to the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre, discussed earlier, examples include Kean's organisation of an ESRC summer school and Clasen's directorship of RECOWOWE's doctoral training centre (2006-2011), which organised five PhD summer schools and six doctoral workshops in nine European countries.