

Institution: The University of Edinburgh
Unit of Assessment: 28A Modern Languages
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>Our Unit comprises European Literatures, Languages and Cultures (DELIC) and Celtic and Scottish Studies (C&SS), located in the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures (LLC). LLC is one of 11 schools within the College of Humanities and Social Science (CHSS). Our sister departments in LLC are English Literature, Asian Studies and Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies. These departments all share a strong commitment to interdisciplinary research, evident in the School's 7 interdisciplinary research centres, its cross-disciplinary research seminars and the focus of its Graduate School, which includes programmes in Film Studies, Translation Studies, European Theatre Studies, Comparative Literature, and Celtic and Scottish Studies. LLC and CHSS also support the three research centres based wholly or substantially in our Unit, the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, the Centre d' Études Francophones Belges, and the European Ethnological Research Centre.</p> <p>Our Unit specialises in the cultures and literatures of 13 European languages: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan, Italian, German, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, Russian, Scottish Gaelic, Irish and Welsh. Our research is also multi- and intermedial: we go beyond contemplation of the traditional text to engage with a variety of cultural products: oral, written, visual and material. Our historical range encompasses the Middle Ages to the 21st century.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>In RAE 2008 our strategic research objectives were to continue to publish internationally excellent work, to grow existing research and develop promising new areas, to attract increased research funding, to strengthen our cohort of postgraduate researchers (PGRs), postdoctoral fellows (PDFs) and early career researchers (ECRs), and to contribute to the wider disciplines (see e). Since 2008 we have met these objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • we have established 7 cross-disciplinary research groups and have evolved key centres and networks. • our total research expenditure has almost doubled since RAE 2008, from £1.3m to £2.1m. • LLC has increased its Research Fund for individual research by a third (to £750 per FTE). • we have hosted 23 PDFs, including 5 on competitive external funding. <p>We have also gone beyond our RAE objectives, in two important ways. First, we have developed a vibrant culture of knowledge exchange and impact, which has been supported by LLC and CHSS seed funding (combined support to date: £65k).</p> <p>Second, and most importantly, in 2010 we formed a cross-disciplinary research alliance between our two sub-units — DELIC and C&SS. This alliance formed a pivotal moment in the development of our research environment. It has provided the scope for exploiting fully the vibrant and productive links between the two areas. The intellectual driver was the recognition that a cross-disciplinary alliance would help to innovate new and cutting-edge research groups, such as Intermedial Studies and Performance. These informal research groups, operating without walls, allow colleagues to discover new synergies across overlapping themes from different disciplines (see below). They complement our funded research centres, which offer a specialised focus in more established areas of specialisation. The strategic driver of our alliance was the ambition to align with the priorities of the research councils, in their search to support more interdisciplinary and collaborative research, and to foster research areas that would be well placed to have a wider social and cultural impact, e.g. cultural heritage, film in the public space.</p> <p>In order to underpin this alliance, LLC made a number of investments to promote and sustain the new interdisciplinary structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LLC Research Office was relaunched in 2011 and now has 2 FTE support staff. • LLC Research Committee improved mechanisms for peer review of funding applications,

Environment template (REF5)

leading to a tangible improvement in our funding (see c below).

- With the support of CHSS and its Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (**IASH**), LLC has committed to funding our new cross-disciplinary research seminar, *The Edge of Words*, until 2022.
- LLC has also ring-fenced financial support for a number of continuing subject-specific research forums and networks, e.g. the Edinburgh Film Seminar and the Joint Seminars Series in Translation Studies, which Edinburgh co-runs with Heriot-Watt University.

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUPS

1. Language Policy, Minority Languages and Socio-cultural Linguistics. Under Ryazanova-Clarke's directorship, the **Princess Dashkova Russian Centre** ("Dashkova") — the only research centre in the UK that is wholly focussed on Russian language and society — was inaugurated in 2010, with funding from ESRC (£73k) and the Ruskiy Mir Foundation (£43k annually). Additional funding includes Ryazanova-Clarke's AHRC grant (£35k). With a total of 10 PhD students (5 of whom are funded by the Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies (based at the University of Glasgow), Scottish & Newcastle and AHRC), it is fostering a new generation of scholars in this field. Since 2013, Dashkova has also funded a Research Fellow, an annual, externally funded Calvert-Smolny Visiting Fellow and a p/t Project Assistant. Dashkova hosts ca. 3 international conferences annually and has run two international PG conferences. Some of Dashkova's many collaborations (visiting students, scholars, workshops) are with the Russian Humanitarian University, Moscow and the Södertörn University, Sweden, which funded a workshop on linguistic violence in 2012, leading to a second workshop in Stockholm in 2013 and a collaborative study day between Dashkova and *The Edge of Words* forum in April 2014. In 2012 Ryazanova-Clarke (General Editor) established the prestigious new series *Russian Language and Society* (Edinburgh University Press). For the next cycle, Dashkova will continue to grow its international collaborations, as well as continuing its partnership with the AHRC-funded project at the University of Bristol, "The History of the French Language in Russia", which appointed as PDF former Dashkova PhD Strenge.

C&SS is home to pioneering research on Gaelic language policy development in Scotland. In the current cycle this research has attracted funding of £160k from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the Scottish Government, the British Academy, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland and Soillse, the inter-university initiative on the revitalisation of the Gaelic language and culture in Scotland. Reflecting its commitment to expansion in this area, in 2013 LLC appointed a Chair of Celtic Languages, Literature, History and Antiquities (Dunbar). ECR O'Hanlon's research on public attitudes to the Gaelic language in Scotland obtained ESRC funding (£96k), while McLeod's research on the evolution of Gaelic language policy is being funded by an AHRC Fellowship (£73k). Colleagues in C&SS regularly present their research at the Soillse Seminar Series and the Gaelic Language and Linguistics Seminar, while also using *The Edge of Words* forum to stimulate cross-disciplinary dialogue.

Indicative plans: 4 commissioned volumes of *Russian Language and Society*, monographs on Gaelic in modern Scotland and the Gaelic poet John McLean; collaboration on EC-funded project "Mobility and Inclusion in Multilingual Europe" (Dunbar); funding sought for collaborative project "Scottish Gaelic Literature from 1900 to the Present" (McLeod).

2. Cultural Memory, Heritage and Archive Studies. This strand features colleagues from German, French, C&SS, Scandinavian and Russian. It encompasses memory in the post-Soviet era, Holocaust Memory and the Cultural Memory of Contemporary Scotland. Highlights include West's (C&SS) directorship of the **European Ethnological Research Centre (EERC)**, which attracted Scotland Inheritance Fund (SIF) support (£689k) from 2011 to 2016 for a new large-scale project researching the regional ethnologies and heritage of Scotland. The Centre employs two Research Fellows, coordinates the *Compendium of Scottish Ethnology*, a major project comprising 14 volumes, and produces the international peer-reviewed journal, *Review of Scottish Culture*. West's monograph on Scottish music and song (see REF2) was shortlisted for the **2012 Trad Music in the Media Award**, and his former PhD student, Ugolini (2006, now based in History at Edinburgh), published her dissertation as the award-winning book, *Experiencing War as the*

Environment template (REF5)

'*Enemy Other*', with Manchester in 2011 (see e). Campbell and Lyle are leading an AHRC/DFG international collaborative project "Walter Scott Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border", which runs from 2011-14 with the University of Mainz (€500k; Edinburgh apportionment £214k) and funds an AHRC PhD studentship (MacRae, 2011-14). Smith (Russian) is Co-I on a collaborative project with the University of Exeter (AHRC, £429k, Edinburgh apportionment: £110k), investigating Russian poetry in the post-Soviet era. In 2008 Cosgrove (German) gained AHRC Research Leave (£23k) for her project on memory and melancholy. In 2013 our Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in German, Osborne, ran a Leverhulme-funded study day which will inform *The Edinburgh German Yearbook* 2015 (EGY, see e) on "The Archive and Cultural Memory", with Osborne as Main Editor.

Indicative plans: monograph and *Edinburgh German Yearbook* volume on German cultural memory; co-authored monograph and 2 co-edited collections on Russian poetry; edited collections on the historical ethnology and the oral history of Dumfries and Galloway.

3. Intermedial Studies and Performance. Relationships between literature, language, film, photography, music, theatre, dance, situation and belief inform the work of 14 colleagues across our research alliance. Highlights in this area include the AHRC Research Leave (total: £78k) of Bradley (German), Dayan and Tribout-Joseph (French), which led to the publication of 2 monographs with Oxford and Ashgate and a total of 18 peer-reviewed articles. Dayan, the first Professor of Word and Music Studies internationally, won the *Forum Essay Prize 2010* for his article "Apollinaire's Music". In 2012, Dayan's former PhD student, K. Yacavone (2008), published her dissertation on photography with Continuum; in 2013 Bloomsbury published a paperback edition. Other activities in this strand include Smith's event "Word and Image in Russian Contexts" (Feb. 2013), for which the Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies provided financial support (£4k). Through *The Edge of Words*, Carnegie PhD Fellow Leith (C&SS) innovated a cross-disciplinary research seminar on "Going Beyond Words: A British Sign Language Translation of Scots Oral Tradition" (Nov. 2012). In Oct. 2012, Dayan and Campbell (C&SS) ran an inaugural *Edge of Words* study day on intermediality, performance and oral culture.

Indicative plans: monographs on intermediality in the cinema of the New Wave, Dada's music, and the revised history of Scottish music; major funding sought for "The Zurich Dada Soirée Project" (Dayan); research grant sought for the history of dance song in Scotland (Lamb).

4. Film Studies. Film Studies at Edinburgh grew out of DELC interests in national cinemas and film theory; over the years our expertise has expanded to include World and Queer Cinema, and Film Aesthetics, Film Philosophy and Film in the Public Space. Schmid's (French) research on Belgian filmmaker Chantal Akerman connects transnational cinema to film aesthetics and the avant-garde, and has resulted in a monograph with Manchester as well as a retrospective at the Edinburgh Filmhouse in 2012 (see REF3a). The strategic appointment in 2012 of DELC PDF, Dawson, who became Lecturer in German and Film in Sept. 2013, has enhanced existing research in Queer Cinema (Boyle, French). In July 2013 Dawson hosted the annual conference of the European Cinema Research Forum on the theme of "The Other", featuring ca. 70 speakers from 5 continents, including German filmmaker Monika Treut, and a public event supported by CHSS's KE Fund (£2.5k, see REF3a). A special issue of *Studies in European Cinema* will appear in 2014 (ed. Dawson). In April 2012 Scandinavian and Italian ran an international symposium at the Filmhouse, "Ingmar Bergman and Michelangelo Antonioni in the 21st Century", funded by the Italian Cultural Institute, the Swedish Embassy and the Swedish Institute (£4k). The Edinburgh Film Seminar takes place twice per semester and features our own research alongside guest speakers. Our objectives for the period 2014-20 include deepening our research expertise in the aesthetics and philosophy of film while also expanding it to include Eastern European and German film, and, through our tenure-track Chancellor's Fellow, Gleghorn (appointed 2013, see c), Latin American cinema and indigenous film-making.

Indicative plans: monographs on film aesthetics, gender and film, film philosophy, GDR film and television; funding sought for network project on trans-film (Dawson).

5. Translation Studies, Cultural Transfer and Latin American Studies. Colleagues from German, French, Translation and Hispanic comprise this strand focusing on translation and trauma, cultural transfer between Scotland and Latin America and audiovisual translation. Building on a grant from the University's Development Trust Research Fund (£3k), in 2009 Davies

(German) was awarded an AHRC standard networking grant (£38k) on “Holocaust Testimonies and Translation”. Since 2009, 4 workshops have taken place and this research will feature in EGY 2014. The LLC Research Office supported former Edinburgh PhD (French, 2012) Deane-Cox’s successful application to the British Academy PDF scheme for her project on “Memory in Translation” (to commence Jan. 2014). In 2009 Mackintosh (Hispanic) co-formed the cluster “Caribbean and Latin American Research at Edinburgh” (CLARE), which inspired an international symposium in Edinburgh and Montevideo on Scottish-Uruguayan perspectives on place and belonging (funded by the British Academy Latin American Link programme), and led to a published volume (Udelar, 2011). Mackintosh gained AHRC Research Leave in the current cycle (£24k), leading to two peer-reviewed articles on gender and translation (both in REF2). The new IASH PDF Orloff (PhD Edinburgh 2010, see c) will consolidate this research direction by incorporating expertise in Argentinian literature. In 2013 CHSS founded the new university-wide **Centre for Contemporary Latin American Studies** and appointed Ardila (Hispanic) as Director. Based in LLC, the Centre’s aim is to take on a leadership role for the study and understanding of Latin America within Scotland and beyond. Besides its varied activities, the Centre will provide researchers with an international forum for their projects.

Indicative plans: monographs on Holocaust and translation, audiovisual translation, and Argentinian literature; major funding sought for “Holocaust Testimonies between English and German” (Davies).

6. Diaspora and Migration Studies with an emphasis on the Nordic Realm. This strand highlights research links between Scandinavian and C&SS, and a new initiative in Italian. It encompasses the history, literature and theory of migration from the Viking era to present-day Scotland and Europe. In 2011 Scandinavian established, with funding (£17k) from the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the collaborative Hjaltland Network to commence the project of mapping Viking Age Shetland. The Network brings together national and international scholars of folklore and onomastics. In 2010 Scandinavian and C&SS co-organised an international conference on sociocultural approaches to onomastics, leading to a publication (Multilingual Matters, 2014), co-edited by CHSS Career Development Fellow in Scandinavian and C&SS, Puzey (PhD Edinburgh 2011, see c). In 2012 Italian obtained £40k from the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland to establish the Italo-Scottish Research Cluster (**ISRC**) which studies Italian immigration in Scotland and promotes relations between Scotland and Italy. In its first year the ISRC created an online Archive, delivered 6 international Diaspora Labs and produced a variety of outputs, including a new Italian Diaspora publication series.

Indicative plans: publication of the Diaspora Discussion Papers arising from the Diaspora Labs; funding sought for ISRC Stage Two; establishment of a **Nordic Research Centre** which will promote and coordinate a broad range of research and academic interests in Nordic Studies.

7. Women’s Writing, Masculinity Studies, Queer and Gender Studies. This strand features colleagues from French, German, Russian and Hispanic whose research spans the Early Modern period to the present day. Davies (German) produced a pioneering study on myth, patriarchy and modernity (De Gruyter, 2010, submitted to REF2). Through *The Edge of Words*, in May 2013 Dawson hosted a cross-departmental interdisciplinary study day on Gender and Queer Studies. In 2013 the Arts Council of England awarded her £14.5k for her project on “Flaneuses” (Nov. 2013-June 2014), which explores gender, identity and the different ways women and men occupy space. Matthes’s (PhD Edinburgh 2008) project on masculinity in contemporary Germany attracted a Leverhulme ECF in 2008 and led to a one-day Leverhulme-funded symposium (Oct. 2009), resulting in 6 peer-reviewed articles on masculinity and ethnicity (3 feature in REF2). In 2010 Matthes was appointed Lecturer in German.

Indicative plans: monographs on Early Modern French women writers, the *femme* in 20th century film, masculinity in contemporary German literature; funding sought for international conference on “Queer Femininities” (Dawson).

THE EDGE OF WORDS: Rationale and Objectives

In 2012 Campbell and Dayan inaugurated the new interdisciplinary seminar for our Unit, *The Edge of Words*, financed by LLC and hosted by IASH. *The Edge of Words* provides a forum through which colleagues and PGRs can explore how language intersects with discourses that resist it.

Environment template (REF5)

This question impacts on nearly all research strands and on all of our research centres. *The Edge of Words* thus helps us to foster research groups without walls that cut across traditional subject areas and research centres. The Project Coordinator is Dawson, appointed in 2012 in conjunction with the project. In its first phase *The Edge of Words* runs from 2012 to 2017.

It consists of:

- 4-6 study days p.a. on interdisciplinary themes, designed to lead to wider research projects.
- a seminar series bringing prestigious scholars from other institutions as well as providing a platform for our PhD students (see e.g. Leith, research group 3).

LLC has committed to Phase 2 2017-22, which will be driven by another interdisciplinary five-year project. The CHSS Challenge Investment Fund, which supports capacity-building for inter- and/or multi-disciplinary working, is a further source which we intend to use to progress substantial ideas through *The Edge of Words*. With this funding, *The Edge of Words*, already an established forum for interdisciplinary dialogue, can also become a framework for collaborative writing and, leading on from this, the basis for external funding applications.

FUTURE PLANS

Our above-listed “indicative plans” give a selective overview of the activities and outputs we envisage underpinning our research vitality in the cycle 2014-20. Supporting these objectives, we have identified 3 **priority development areas** which will strengthen our drive to advance and sustain our interdisciplinary research:

- 1) We plan to further embed the backing of **collaborative research** in our support processes with the formalisation in LLC, from 2014, of annual Collaborative Research Labs. These Labs will act as a forum for collaborative research ideas, from the earliest stages of inception, and will include expert advice on the application process. Through the Labs, and also through *The Edge of Words*, we will accommodate new research ideas, adjusting our research groups to reflect organic growth or shrinkage of thematic areas. Complementing the Labs will be informal Research Conversations between individuals and the Research Advisors from across our Unit.
- 2) We plan to enhance further our **societal and economic impact** by capitalising on, expanding and refining our in-house expertise. For the coming research cycle, LLC has doubled to £20k its annual funding for the LLC Impact Fund, and has established an Impact Support Group, led by Dayan and including two mentors (see REF3a). The Collaborative Research Labs will also facilitate creative discussion of the intellectual and KE/impact rationale behind nascent and more advanced collaborative projects.
- 3) A third priority is **facilities**. Our current facilities are excellent; however, LLC’s move in 2014 to newly refurbished premises (see d) will provide the physical context in which even greater cross-disciplinary dialogue can occur.

c. People

STAFFING STRATEGY AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Recruitment: Since 2008 there have been 8 appointments which expand our interdisciplinary research across, for example, Film Studies, Gender & Queer Studies, and Latin American Studies. These appointments comprise 1 Chair, 1 Senior Lecturer, 5 Lecturers and 1 Chancellor’s Fellow. The Chancellor’s Fellowships, highly prestigious, internationally-advertised tenure-track fellowships, are new academic appointments with an initial focus on the establishment of the Fellow’s independent research programme, supported by a structured mentoring and career development programme within Schools and within the Institute for Academic Development (IAD). At the end of the Fellowship, we expect our Fellow to join us with an open-ended contract focused on teaching and research. In the next cycle we will continue to map our interdisciplinary staffing strategy onto our priority research areas.

Staff Development: (i) **Leave:** Research staff are entitled to apply for 1 semester sabbatical per 7-semester cycle. The LLC Research Committee reviews these applications. Staff must submit progress reports to the LLC Research Office after the end of sabbatical. In the period 2008-13, 29 staff submitted were granted a total of 44 semesters of sabbatical (on average 1.5 semesters per staff member). All sabbaticals applied for over the REF period were approved, because of the

quality of the plans put forward and the willingness of colleagues to continue to support each other's activities. The Research Committee is flexible in granting accelerated or delayed sabbatical leave. This approach to timetabling, which feeds into our review system (see below), helps individuals to maximise their research performance. For example, accelerated leave granted to Davies in 2013, due to his REF sub-panel duties in 2014, helped advance his major AHRC bid (see b, research group 5).

(ii) Professional Development: All staff have access to a wide range of training courses run by IAD and Human Resources training, e.g. in 2013 Smith attended a course for research leaders, run by IAD, to support a major interdisciplinary funding bid. IAD and HR regularly inform all of us via email about these opportunities. Edinburgh Research and Innovation (**ERI**), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the University of Edinburgh, hosts frequent CHSS-wide Learning Lunches, informs colleagues about UK and international funding schemes and advises individuals on both small and large funding applications. We plan to use ERI expertise to help us with our Collaborative Research Labs (see b, "Future Plans").

(iii) Annual Review: This is mandatory for all staff members, including research-only staff such as research assistants. During these one-to-one meetings, individual research plans and projected outcomes are discussed in a supportive way. Practical measures to help complete research projects — adjusting teaching plans, allocating teaching relief, accelerating/delaying sabbatical — can be the result (see "Research Support" below). Review encourages colleagues to plan for promotion: in the period 2008-13 there were 5 promotions to Personal Chair, 2 Readerships, 7 Senior Lectureships, and 2 Lectureships.

ECRs and PDFs: We support a dynamic ECR and PDF culture, from 2008-13 bringing in 23 PDFs, including 2 BA PDFs (D. Yacavone; Deane-Cox), 2 Leverhulme ECFs (Matthes, Osborne), and 1 Newton Fellow (Godioli). All of our ECRs have benefitted from our mentoring system which, distinct from review, is compulsory for ECRs, PDFs and Lecturers, e.g. in 2010 Matthes (PhD 2008, Leverhulme ECF 2008-10) was appointed Lecturer in German. We have furthermore awarded several of our PGRs, and other young scholars, internally-funded PDFs, helping to bridge the transition from PhD to an open-ended post. In 2009, before her appointment to Nottingham as Lecturer in French, K. Yacavone (PhD 2008) was IASH PDF, while ECR Dawson was DELC PDF in 2012 before being appointed Lecturer in German and Film at Edinburgh in 2013. Two former PhDs successfully competed for internally-funded PDF positions in 2013: Puzey (PhD 2011) is CHSS Career Development Fellow, while Orloff (PhD 2010) is IASH PDF. Research assistants receive the same level of support and mentoring to enable them to develop as independent researchers in their own right.

Research Support in LLC: **(i) Research Office:** The vitality of our research environment is underpinned by the creation in 2011 of a highly effective Research Office in LLC, led by f/t Research Officer Equi (appointed 2011) and f/t Assistant Mourad (2012). The Research Office manages the LLC Research and Impact Funds, coordinates the LLC Research Committee, liaises with ERI and disseminates research news (see (iii) below). Since 2012 peer review has been mandatory for applications over £2.5k or which include the employment of staff and where the lead applicant is LLC staff. The review structure operates from local subject level, where the Research Advisor assesses the application, to School level, where it is forwarded to the internal review panel of colleagues who draw on their experience with the different funding bodies, such as the AHRC. Applicants receive careful feedback on their applications, and can then refine their bid before it is sent to ERI for final review and submission. Since this process was introduced in 2012, the annual number of applications has increased by 37% and the success rate from 30% to 38%. This augurs well for funding applications that are planned for the research cycle 2014-20.

(ii) LLC Research Fund: During this cycle, LLC has increased by 33% the maximum amount of funds (£750) available annually to individuals for research expenses. In 2011-12, for example, a total of £12k for conference attendance was granted and a further £8k for general research expenses. Applications are assessed and approved by the LLC Research Committee.

(iii) Communication: We communicate in diverse ways, complementing email exchange and online sources, such as the LLC Research Wiki which provides one-stop access on information for researchers, with face-to-face communications. The LLC Research Committee meets once per

Environment template (REF5)

semester to review and update research strategies, e.g. in 2011, LLC introduced a separate School Impact Fund to support impact activities. Local Research Advisors attend Research Committee which is chaired by the LLC Research Director who in turn sits on the CHSS Research Committee and cascades essential information to School and departments. The *Edge of Words* Directors, Dayan and Campbell, and Project Coordinator, Dawson, liaise with Research Advisors, individuals and clusters in our Unit about upcoming and potential study days, guest speakers, workshops and seminars. ERI and the LLC Research Office disseminate news about research events and schemes at Edinburgh and developments in research funding at national and international levels.

Equal Opportunities: We are committed to building an inclusive working environment that prioritises equality and diversity at the heart of our people strategies, to best support all our staff to achieve their research goals. Our forward-looking policies in important areas such as sabbatical, maternity, paternity and sickness leave, have resulted in very real successes for our staff, where the support afforded to them, has led to, for example, Bainbrigg's (French) Directorship of the award-winning **Centre d' Études Francophones Belges** (see e) and Campbell's (C&SS) involvement as Co-I on an international AHRC/DFG funded project (2011-14, see b, research group 2), and as PI on a funded research project on Ulster-Scots music for the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, Northern Ireland (2012-13).

We are equally proud of the leadership roles that colleagues in our Unit have assumed on initiatives that aim to promote equality and diversity in the workplace. Our ambition to embed positive initiatives, which our staff have been involved in developing and shaping, is evidenced by our central role in leading the work of LLC's Athena SWAN Committee on our application to the Equality Challenge Unit for their Bronze Award, in October 2014. This charter mark will build upon the existing Athena SWAN framework, to include academic staff, professional and support staff, men, women and gender identity. The applications for these awards further help in bench-marking the existing culture of gender equality and in implementing action plans for improvement over a three-year period. This commitment has benefitted from the leadership provided by the Chair (Burnyeat, C&SS) and also ECR O'Hanlon (C&SS), who used her research expertise to develop staff surveys on gender equality which in 2013 were disseminated throughout LLC.

RESEARCH STUDENTS

Overview: Our Unit is home to a cohort of PGRs to whom we offer regular academic guidance and, through our various research forums and the other PGR activities we encourage, a sense of scholarly community. In the period 2008-13, 140 PGRs have been registered in our Unit: 109 PhDs and 31 MScRs. In the same period 47.20 PhD degrees have been awarded, an increase from an annual average of 8.68 PhDs during 2001-07 to 9.44 PhDs annually since 2008. Between 2008-13, 30 MScR degrees were awarded. Areas of strength are German (10 PhDs, 3 MScRs awarded) and C&SS (6 PhDs, 15 MScRs awarded). Our interdisciplinary ethos is manifest in our supervisory profile since 2008 which shows that 34% of our PhD supervisions are joint enterprises across subjects within our Unit, across LLC and with 8 of the other 10 Schools within CHSS: during the period 2008-13, 15 of our 109 PhD students were jointly supervised within our Unit, involving DELC, C&SS, Film Studies and Translation Studies. A further 6 were jointly supervised with other departments in LLC: Chinese, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies and English Literature. Building on the interdisciplinary profile of our research, we have supervised a further 16 PhDs with subjects beyond LLC: History, Social Anthropology, the Edinburgh College of Art, Law, Political Science, Sociology, Divinity, Linguistics and Geosciences.

PhD Supervision: PGRs are closely linked to the subject most beneficial for their research. Incoming PhD students are allocated 2 supervisors and meet with them regularly. An official progress review is mandatory at the end of year 1, followed by an annual report at the end of years 2 and 3. The focus of these reviews and reports is increasingly on student self-assessment: students submit their reports before the annual review. Supervisors thus receive an accurate reflection of student experience, and students have a greater sense of autonomy. The subject area PG Director and the LLC Director of Postgraduate Studies monitor these forms. Supervisors undertake initial training and are expected to attend follow-up training every 3 years. LLC and CHSS monitor attendance at these sessions. In addition, the Graduate School provides advice to staff regarding practical arrangements and support services (e.g. the Disability Office, IAD) for

Environment template (REF5)

individual research students. Staff must also apply the University's Code of Practice for PGRs.

Professional Development: A further initiative encouraging PGR autonomy is *Forum*, the open access interdisciplinary arts journal based in the University of Edinburgh, co-founded in 2005 by Matthes (then PhD in German) and funded by LLC. *Forum* offers LLC PGRs the opportunity to edit a special issue on a subject of their choice, gaining experience of peer review, editing and publishing. 6 of our PGRs co-edited 6 special issues (2008, 2012, 2013), with 2 arising from PGR-led conferences in 2008 ("Play") and 2013 ("Editing"). The LLC Graduate School also offers financial support for national and international conference attendance, e.g. in 2011-12 9 of our PhD students were awarded an average of £212 each to give research papers at conferences in the UK, Europe and North America. IAD offers bespoke workshops for PGRs on research, writing, project management and career planning skills. PGR students can also attend a variety of language courses under three different schemes: free University-driven "taster" language courses, one-semester "Open Languages" courses and courses via the "Languages for All" initiative offered by the Office for Lifelong Learning. The success of our encouragement of PGRs is evident in the 11 former PhDs who since 2008 have secured posts in the academic sector: 8 of these are f/t, e.g. Caballero Rodríguez (PhD 2009) is Senior Lecturer in Spanish, University of Canterbury NZ.

Integration of PGRs into Research Environment: PGR students are integral to local subject research seminars, where they frequently present their own research, and also in cross-disciplinary School research seminars, e.g. the Edinburgh Film Seminar, *The Edge of Words*. Here they can present their work with other students and academics. The Graduate School also finances, via the student-led Initiative Fund, the Work-in-Progress research seminars which Dunn (PhD student, Hispanic), innovated in 2012 and which offer PGRs the opportunity to discuss evolving research with their peers. Dunn is also one of the co-founders of "LLC Blethers", a showcase event for research within the Graduate School financed by the Researcher-Led Initiative Fund. Since 2008 PGRs have played a leadership role in organizing and hosting international PGR conferences: in 2011 Zwicker and Haeger, both PhDs in German, organized the first UK-based DAAD-funded PGR conference for German Studies which was also financially supported by LLC; Dashkova hosted PGR-led conferences in 2010 and 2012 — the conference in 2012 was supported by the University of Edinburgh's Roberts Fund for Researcher-Led Initiatives. The Roberts Fund also enabled PGRs in Scandinavian to organize a Nordic Research Network conference in 2012.

Funding for PGRs: The number of externally funded PGR awards between 2009-13 is 21 (14 PhDs, 7 MScRs), demonstrating a strong track record, e.g. German at Edinburgh was one of the most successful German departments nationally in the first BGP competition (6 PhDs, 3 MScRs). Funding bodies include the AHRC, the Carnegie Trust, the DAAD, the Principal's Fund and LLC PhD Studentships. The University also helps to finance PGRs: in 2010 three Principal's Career Development Scholarships were offered to PhD students in German, C&SS and Film Studies; LLC offers 10 £1,000 bursaries to LLC PG students, e.g. in 2011-12 two were awarded to DELC MScR students. In 2012, the Principal's Assistance Fund financed a joint PhD position for C&SS and Scandinavian, to be renewed every three years, and 2 PhD positions in Belgian Francophone Studies, one in 2013 and one in 2014. In 2012 LLC invested £500k to create 10 PhD Studentships: we were awarded 2. From 2013, 2 College Research Awards fund PhDs in Comparative Literature and Scandinavian. We aim to capitalise on the success in BGP2 Type A for the consortium of Scottish universities and the BGP2 Type B consortium for Celtic Languages (C&SS) by competing for PhD studentships across the European languages and C&SS.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

INCOME

Totalling just over £2.1m, our research expenditure has increased by 45% since 2008. This step-change is the outcome of continually improving support mechanisms around funding applications within LLC, and also the expertise of ERI (see c). We gain funding primarily from the AHRC, the Leverhulme Trust, the British Academy and the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland. Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Scotland Inheritance Fund, the DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) and ESRC have also funded our projects. This funding helps to finance our centres, networks, collaborative projects with other institutions in the UK, Spain and Germany, individual research, research trips to Europe and overseas conference attendance.

Individual Research: Between 2008-13, 8 colleagues obtained AHRC Research Leave (total: £260k) which helped produce 4 monographs and numerous peer-reviewed articles (see b). DELC is very successful in winning funding from the Research Grant scheme of the Carnegie Trust. This scheme funds short research trips to Europe. Since 2008, 22 colleagues have successfully applied to this scheme (total: £75k). A further 9 colleagues applied successfully to the British Academy Overseas Conference Grants scheme to participate in conferences in North America (total: £3.6k).

Centres and Clusters: These are (co)funded by external bodies, including £689k from SIF for the EERC; for Dashkova £73k from the ESRC, £43k annually from Russkiy Mir, and from 2013-18 £6k annually from the Calvert Foundation for a Visiting Research Fellow in Russian Language and Society; £40k Carnegie Trust funding for the ISRC. The Wallonie-Bruxelles International finances 1 "lecteur" for the Centre d' Études Francophones Belges.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES Scholarly infrastructure: Research in our Unit benefits from Edinburgh's world-class collections. The University Library has rich holdings in manuscript, print and digital access, which staff may supplement by ordering works for their own or PG research. Each subject area has an individual library, some with special collections e. g. the Karin McPherson GDR Library Collection in German, which since 2008 helped attract 2 PhD students. C&SS is home to the Scottish Studies Archives which include a sound archive, a photographic archive, two libraries and a manuscript collection. The archives are a resource of international and national significance and play a key role in teaching, research, and KE/impact (see "Digital Media" below and REF3a). Dashkova contains a library of Russian books, Russian databases, multi-channel satellite television and conference facilities. Scotland's copyright library, the National Library of Scotland, is based in Edinburgh. It contains unrivalled holdings in Scottish material. Its holdings in the European languages subjects enhance what is available in the University library.

Operational Infrastructure: We have access to library and computing facilities provided by the Information Services division. All subjects benefit from the LLC Languages and Humanities Centre which offers language labs, satellite TV, a video and DVD library and a multi-media room. In line with the University Estates Strategy 2010-20, we will relocate in 2014 to a newly refurbished building, No. 50 George Square. The new premises offer more advanced technical facilities, specialist film-screening rooms, and a modern-languages class library. The Graduate School will also relocate to these premises, which include bespoke PGR suites. The new physical environment includes common spaces which, by encouraging freer social and intellectual exchange, are designed to contribute to the vitality of LLC's research environment. Further estates development will support the School of Scottish Studies Archives in its George Square premises.

Digital Media and Research: In 2012 LLC appointed 2 f/t Web Support and Marketing Officers, McGhee and Young, who help academics with webpage design and organisation of the online interface of their research, also increasing its KE/impact potential. There are two areas of notable strength:

1) C&SS, which has initiated and now hosts the following digital projects:

- the **Calum Maclean Project** which digitises the collected archive materials of the renowned folklorist (AHRC Follow-on Funding: £88k, 2012);
- Lamb's Scottish Gaelic part-of-speech tagger project which develops software, database and user / teaching manuals (Carnegie Trust, Bòrd na Gàidhlig: £59k, 2013);
- the digitisation, via "Tobar an Dualchais", of the **Scottish Studies Archives** recordings (see REF3a);
- the availability on the University website of midi files from Campbell's contribution to the **Greig-Duncan Project**, an important resource for folk singers (see REF3b).

2) Italian's **Edinburgh Gadda Projects** (including the open access *Edinburgh Journal of Gadda Studies*).

The University also hosts websites for international projects led by DELC on European authors Michel Butor, Selma Lagerlöf (site under construction) and Carlo Emilio Gadda, and also for research centres. Supported by the CHSS Communications Office, Dashkova uses social media to promote its research activities beyond academia (@DashkovaCentre).

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

National and International Collaborations: Our partnerships (see “centres” in b and d) include HEIs in Hungary, Croatia, Russia, Scandinavia, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, North and Latin America. For example, German co-edited 5 volumes of EGY with the Universities of Manchester, Munich, Oxford, Birkbeck and Royal Holloway. Martin (C&SS) co-authored a study of festivals with the University of Szeged, Hungary, in 2008. Ryazanova-Clarke is currently preparing a publication with colleagues from Princeton University and the Czech Academy of Sciences. She was Guest Professor at the University of Bergen in 2008; Rogers (French) was Guest Professor at the University Teaching Hospital in Grenoble in 2012 and 2013. Grohmann has co-edited publications on Javier Marias with Radboud Universiteit, Nijmegen, and the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona. He has also been Guest Professor at the University of Bern (2009) and the Università Ca’ Foscari, Venice (2011). Schmid was Guest Professor at the University of Sao Paolo (2013).

Collaborative Research: We have led or co-led 8 collaborative research grants since 2008, 6 with external partners: the University of Nottingham (Hispanic); the University of Exeter (Russian); the University of the Highlands and Islands (Scandinavian); the University of Aberystwyth (German); the University of Mainz (C&SS), the universities of Salamanca, UA Madrid, Deusto, Nottingham, Aberdeen (Hispanic). Other collaborative projects within our Unit include those led by McLeod, Dunbar and O’Hanlon, and The Calum Maclean Project (also C&SS). The monies attracted by these collaborative projects amount to £611k.

Events: Since 2008 we have organised 41 conferences (e.g. in 2012 German hosted the annual conference of the Association for German Studies in Great Britain and Ireland), 24 symposia and 5 workshops, national and international. We are represented on 10 international conference committees and 41 editorial boards. 5 colleagues are or have been General Editors of world-leading scholarly journals, e.g. the *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* (Robbins, 2004-); *French Studies* (Duffy 2007-12). We founded and edit 5 publications which showcase international research: in DELC *The Edinburgh German Yearbook* (EGY, Camden House), *Russian Language and Society* (book series, Edinburgh UP), *The Edinburgh Journal of Gadda Studies*; in C&SS the peer-reviewed journals *Scottish Studies* and *Review of Scottish Culture*. Ca. 25 colleagues are members of learned societies; since 2008 4 are or have been AHRC Peer Review College members.

Esteem: Various prizes and awards recognise the excellence of our research and the research of our former PGRs. Robbins’s (Hispanic) *Pocket Oracle and Art of Prudence* was Herald Book of Year choice 2011; Mackintosh (Hispanic) won the Valentina Guevara Prize 2009 for the most original paper on an Argentine topic. K. Yacavone (PhD French) won the Gapper Postgraduate Essay Prize in 2008; in 2009 Ugolini’s dissertation (PhD C&SS) won the Ratcliffe Prize for the Study of Ethnology in Great Britain; the ensuing book (Manchester UP, 2011) won the Gladstone History Book Prize in 2011. Matthes (PhD German) won the IGRS Books Annual Competition in 2009 (see also b research groups 2, 3, 5 and 7).

Centre d’ Études Francophones Belges: The only one of its kind in the UK, the Centre receives funding from the Wallonie-Bruxelles International, which finances a “lecteur” and also contributed €3k to a Belgian Jazz event at the Edinburgh Jazz Festival in 2011. Bainbrigge (Director since 2009) has hosted 3 international conferences, all of which produced publications, and a series of guest lectures. Bainbrigge’s success in promoting the field of francophone Belgian studies in the UK was recognised in 2011 when she was awarded the Belgian **Prix du Rayonnement des Lettres à l’Etranger**. In 2013 the University awarded the Centre 2 Principal’s PhD Studentships.

International Plenaries: Ca. 30 colleagues have given international key note addresses. Invited plenaries include Lyle (C&SS) at Harvard University 2008; Schmid (French) at the Fluminense Federal University, Brazil 2011; Martin (C&SS) at the University of Zagreb 2010. Campbell (C&SS) held two public lectures at the University of Iceland in 2009. Bosseaux (Translation Studies) was invited speaker at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 2009; Grohmann (Hispanic) was Laudator of Javier Marias at the Austrian State Prize for European Literature 2011. In 2013 Bradley was invited discussant, alongside renowned writer Martin Walser, at the Sächsische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Germany.