

<p>Institution: Kingston University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 29, English Language and Literature</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>Embracing the opportunities offered by its location, the Unit has forged partnerships with leading cultural institutions including the Natural History Museum, Historic Royal Palaces, and the British Film Institute: its collaboration with Hampton Court Palace received the AHRC award for the most effective use of Humanities for the Creative Economy in 2011.</p> <p>Staff members within the Unit cultivate relationships with external partners and the strength and vitality of these connections promote and support projects with significant impact in the areas of: 1) creative economy benefiting cultural institutions; 2) community enhancement and public engagement; and 3) political engagement and policy.</p> <p>Literary historians in the Unit have benefited cultural and heritage institutions and their visitors and have explored literary histories through local, regional and national partnerships. Projects targeting specific constituencies from school children to veterans have enriched the cultural experience and quality of life of members of the community. Practice-based researchers have led public debate through publications and performances that intersect with social issues including trauma and ethnic identity. Journalists in the Unit have had impact on national policy through a public campaign that led to the Leveson Inquiry and the Royal Charter on press regulation.</p> <p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>The Unit actively seeks opportunities to engage with cultural institutions, communities and public bodies, making use of its location in Greater London to establish collaborations with national bodies as well as local partners. Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) with major institutions play a central role. These collaborative projects, supported by the university's Enterprise Support Department, have proved effective in establishing lasting engagements with external beneficiaries. In addition, researchers within the Unit have taken the lead in partnering with local institutions or in creating their own organisations for taking their research into the public realm, supported by a variety of external funding sources.</p> <p>1) Creative economy benefiting cultural institutions and their clients. Unit staff have realised significant benefits for their external partners and visitors to these institutions.</p> <p>a. Natural History Museum: The Unit has enjoyed ongoing collaboration with NHM throughout the census period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In 2008, Kingston Professor Brian Cathcart 's report for the AHRC-funded "New Perspectives" initiative led to the founding of Centre for Arts and Humanities Research (CAHR) within the museum. CAHR establishes interdisciplinary research projects that cross boundaries between the sciences, arts and humanities. This centre benefits NHM and its clients by demonstrating the potential for intellectual exchange and cooperation between the sciences and the humanities. ▪ The AHRC-funded 'Museum Lives' KTP (£236,835) between Kingston and NHM embodies the cooperation between the sciences and humanities in producing a documentary on the people behind the museum's departments and collections. Available to NHM clients on the museum's website, the film benefits NHM by revealing to the public the personal motives and affective relationships between curators and their collections. ▪ Since 2011, Mullarkey has collaborated with the NHM on 'Unruly Creatures,' a series of one-day conferences (open to the public) that offer a new perspective on NHM collections by considering how animals have been used in the humanities and contemporary arts. <p>b. Lewis Carroll and Guildford: Since 2010, Brooker has partnered with Surrey County Council and Guildford Borough Council in a project on Carroll and his association with Guildford.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A co-curated exhibition, "The Victorian Child," at Guildford Museum (2012) enabled visitors

to locate Carroll's vision of childhood within local culture and history.

- "Anniversaries of Alice" a website based on Brooker's archival research in Surrey History Centre and field-tested in schools, brings vulnerable collections to a wide audience, revealing to them the role of the archives in preserving cultural heritage.
- A joint ELF bid by Brooker and Guildford Council for £6 million aims toward organising a city-wide celebration of the 150th anniversary of Alice in Wonderland in 2015. This research will benefit the borough and museum through increased tourism and local awareness of Carroll's relationship to Guildford.

2) Community Enhancement and Public Engagement. Unit staff have enhanced the cultural climate in Greater London and the Kingston community.

a. The Centre for Iris Murdoch Studies and Schools Outreach Project: In 2012, the Murdoch Archive at Kingston was awarded Heritage Lottery Funding (£107,000) to purchase the letters of Iris Murdoch and Philippa Foot. This facilitated a fifteen-month community project ending in June 2013.

- Open days at the archives were held in 2012 for the general public and invited community groups including MIND in Kingston, Age Concern Kingston, Kingston Carers' Network and Adults with Learning Difficulties. Direct engagement with the collections highlighted the value of Kingston's archives as repositories of history and biography.
- In May 2013, an exhibition of the letters at the Kingston Museum Art Gallery allowed a wide audience to experience Murdoch's correspondence and learn more about her life.

b. Reading Force: Since 2010, Senior Lecturer Alison Baverstock has led this project to facilitate creative responses within Service families, especially those separated by training and deployment, by encouraging them to read the same book and respond to the book in a scrapbook. The project identifies the stresses of Services life on families, and uses writing as a tool to alleviate trauma and isolation and reading as a means of empowerment.

- In 2012 the Directorate for Children and Young People (DCYP), Ministry of Defence, awarded £80,000 to coordinate the project in four counties.
- Hampshire County Council awarded £10,000. Rushmoor Borough Council contributed £1,000, and included the project their 2012 'Local children's partnership action plan,' confirming project's value as a response to the stress experienced by Service children.
- In May 2012, 310 schools recognised the usefulness of the project by distributing 6,348 scrapbooks to Service children.

3. Political Engagement and Policy. Through political engagement, public debate, and publications in political forums, the Unit has influenced public opinion and policy:

a. Higher Education Policy: Through an active presence on the web, in periodicals and newspapers, and in social media, Unit members have given a public face to critical and cultural analysis as it is practiced at Kingston. The engagement of staff members in political debates on current issues, most prominently McQuillan's commentary on higher education policy, has fuelled discussion of key academic, social, and cultural issues and prompted reflection on values and assumptions attending higher education in Great Britain and the US.

b. The Royal Charter for Press Regulation: Cathcart, co-founder of the Hacked Off campaign, drafted the Leveson Bill in response to the 2012 Leveson Inquiry report. The bill was the model for the Royal Charter on press regulation supported by all three political parties that was approved by the Privy Council on 30 October 2013.

c. The Armed Forces Covenant: In 2012, Prime Minister David Cameron commended Reading Force as a scheme contributing to realising the Armed Forces Covenant, and the project was listed by Nick Carter, Chief Executive of West Berkshire Council, as a key element in the county's strategy to deliver the Covenant.

d. Guildford Borough Council: Brooker's research on Lewis Carroll has significantly shaped Guildford Council policy, resulting in the reorientation of civic events and cultural institutions to

stress the prominence of the Carroll legacy in Guildford.

c. Strategy and plans

The model of developing collaborations by means of KTPs is now well established within the Unit and has a proven record of success. The Unit will use this model to develop new collaborations with cultural and heritage institutions in Greater London, while continuing to sustain and grow its existing partnerships.

The rich exchange between the disciplines of science and the humanities encouraged by the Centre for Arts and Humanities Research is a unique benefit to NHM realised through the initiative of Unit staff. The “Unruly Creatures” and “Museum Lives” partnerships will continue this productive collaboration.

The Unit is committed to investing in its collaboration with the Historical Royal Palaces and has worked with HRP staff to match the Unit’s expertise with HRP’s needs and goals. R. Wilson has developed the Kingston Shakespeare Seminars, a lecture series established in partnership with the Rose Theatre (Kingston), with a conference and public events on David Garrick planned for 2014 that will bring together Kingston University, the Rose Theatre in Kingston and Hampton Court Palace.

Brooker’s Lewis Carroll project in Guildford will realise its most extensive outcomes in 2015 with a city-wide celebration of Carroll in Guildford, involving a range of government, academic and business partners across Surrey.

The Unit’s collaboration with the British Film Institute is ongoing and growing. Mullarkey coordinates Philosophical Screens, a film series exploring the dialogue between philosophy and film, is presented at the BFI in partnership with the Collège International de Philosophie (Paris).

Community education and public engagement activities will also continue: the Centre for Iris Murdoch Studies will present an exhibition of the Harry Weinberger letters and paintings at the Kingston Museum in 2014.

New partnerships will be developed through KTPs with support from the University’s Enterprise Support Department, which assists with liaising with external partners and developing opportunities for collaboration and bids for funding. This process has enabled Phillippy to secure partnerships with the Church of England Cathedral and Church Buildings Division and the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Associations toward the ‘Women’s Monuments Project,’ now in development.

d. Relationship to case studies

1. Historic Royal Palaces. Emerging from the commitment of Unit staff to studying and preserving heritage, this project demonstrates how Kingston’s research strength in the area of early modern literature and culture has enriched the experience of visitors to Hampton Court Palace and has benefitted HRP by increasing tourism of the Tudor palace. Ongoing collaboration with HRP has been ensured since the completion of the KTP through the appointment of research leaders in Elizabethan and Jacobean literature and culture.

2. Press Regulation and the Leveson Inquiry. The commitment to public debate and political activism that characterises the Unit is demonstrated in Cathcart’s co-founding of Hacked Off. The organisation successfully campaigned for a government inquiry into the phone hacking scandal, leading to the Prime Minister’s appointment of the Leveson Inquiry. Following the inquiry’s report, Hacked Off’s draft of the Leveson Bill formed the basis of the Royal Charter for press regulation supported by all parties and now awaiting approval by the Privy Council.

3. Military Writing Network. The guiding purpose of practice-based research within the Unit, to expand the reach of creative writing within non-traditional settings and among diverse communities and audiences, is exemplified by the Military Writing Network (MWN) project. Research into the implementation of creative writing practice in post-combat, post-conflict, and post-traumatic situations and among populations affected by trauma underwrites a joint project between the Unit and Combat Stress UK, the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Family Association, and other partners.