

<b>Institution: CARDIFF UNIVERSITY</b>
<b>Unit of Assessment: UoA23 SOCIOLOGY</b>
<p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>Cardiff Sociology is <i>interdisciplinary, innovative</i> and has <i>impact</i>. In the 2008 RAE the School of Social Sciences (SocSi) was recognised as first in the UK on the 'Research Power' measure, when our Sociology submission included Education (which is being returned separately to UoA25 in REF2014 reflecting its successful growth and research strength). The School is committed to the promotion of public and policy sociology, informed by extensive external collaboration and engagement. Our sociological research is organised around five main themes, all involving interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaborations:</p> <p><b>Advances in Research Methodology:</b> Paul Atkinson, Amanda Coffey, Sara Delamont, Bella Dicks, Karen Henwood, William Housley, Rachel Hurdley, Dawn Mannay, Jonathan Scourfield, Robin Smith, Malcolm Williams.</p> <p><b>Scientific Knowledge, Technology and Risk:</b> Michael Arribas-Ayllon, Paul Atkinson, Michael Bloor, Harry Collins, Robert Evans, Katie Featherstone, Adam Hedgecoe, Tom Horlick-Jones, Helen Sampson, Neil Stephens.</p> <p><b>Crime, Security and Justice:</b> Martin Innes, Michael Levi, Amanda Robinson, Adam Edwards, Rachel Taylor-Swann, Matthew Williams.</p> <p><b>Culture, Identity and Transformation:</b> Finn Bowring, Sara Delamont, Ralph Fevre, Tom Hall, Karen Henwood, William Housley, Rachel Hurdley, Kate Moles, Robin Smith.</p> <p><b>Health, Wellbeing and Social Care:</b> Alex Hillman, Joanna Latimer, Ian Rees Jones, Jonathan Scourfield, Gareth Williams.</p> <p>Since RAE2008, the School's vibrant research culture has continued to grow, surpassing all annual targets set by the University for income generation and postgraduate studentships. It has built a sustainable mass of over 200 staff and has been awarded 236 research grants of £38M during the assessment period. This level of success and investment has provided the basis for the strategic development of our research profile across a number of key areas of Sociology.</p> <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>Our strategic development is promoted at three levels: University, School and Research Theme. The School's Research Strategy has prioritised investment in developing and sustaining our network of Research Centres and Groups, and the development of new Centres. The success of this strategy is evidenced by Cardiff University's analysis (of publicly available data) suggesting the School's per capita external grant capture is one of the highest in the country for any Sociology department over the REF period. This level of funding frames and supports our successful and diverse publication, impact, and engagement activities. Key objectives achieved since 2008 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of further methodological expertise. With funding from ESRC and the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales we established WISERD (Welsh Institute for Social and Economic Research Data and Method), building on the methodological innovations of QUALITI (an ESRC Research Methods Node);</li> <li>• Enhancing graduate training provision and the consolidation of a Graduate School through the award of the ESRC Wales DTC led by the School;</li> <li>• The cultivation and maintenance of relationships with stakeholders, through a School Advisory Group, with membership drawn from a variety of key agencies;</li> <li>• Enhanced research collaborations with scientists, clinical practitioners and other</li> </ul>

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professionals in studies of expert knowledge;

- Research partnerships promoting work on crime, security and justice with the police and other agencies;
- Partnership with the Office of National Statistics;
- The integration of research planning and performance, impact and engagement within the School's policies.

Investment in our research priorities has led to appointments at all levels, including early-career researchers. We have: (1) built on our established international reputation for excellence in qualitative methods by developing capacity in quantitative methodology (Malcolm Williams, Rees Jones); (2) ensured sustainability in our other research programmes, appointing Hurdley, Mannay, Smith (Culture, Identity and Transformation), Hedgecoe, Stephens, Arribas-Ayllon, (Scientific Knowledge, Technology and Risk); (3) appointed other early-career colleagues, who – although not yet ready to be returned individually - contribute directly to our collective strength in key areas (Luke Sloan, in quantitative methods, Rachel Taylor-Swann in Crime, Security and Justice).

At the School level, our strategic priorities for the next 5 years include:

- Expanding our methodological excellence, with new appointments in quantitative and qualitative methods, to extend our collaborative work on social media and big data;
- Developing new centres of excellence, including those on administrative data, and children's social care;
- Taking existing work on 'Place, Space and Community' and developing it into a major new research theme, drawing together current activities on health and wellbeing, exclusion, environment and sustainability;
- Continuing our longstanding excellence in Science and Technology Studies with further emphasis on science, technology, risk and sustainability;
- Investing to build upon our existing strengths in Crime, Security and Justice;
- Increasing Doctoral Training Centre provision through co-funded studentships;
- Extending our formal partnership with SAGE to promote excellence in research methods;
- Targeting further European collaborative research funding in key areas of strength.

At the University level, Cardiff has recently organised its Schools into three Colleges. The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences provides renewed opportunity for further investment in the social sciences (recognised as a major strength in the University). Ambitious plans include major capital investment in the development of a Social Science Park, which will host several major initiatives: an Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences, a Creative Industries Research Hub, to include spin-out and start-up companies; an Ideas Lab that will involve partnerships with production companies to develop research ideas with programme-makers. The new Public Policy Institute for Wales, funded by the Welsh Government, will also be included.

**Advances in Research Methodology:**

Our commitment to methodological excellence is evident in our success in securing a *Q-Step Centre in Quantitative Methods* (Nuffield and ESRC) led by Malcolm Williams. This will support 3 new posts, at Senior Lecturer, Lecturer and Postdoc Research Fellow levels, to be absorbed into the School's regular staffing. It will be a driver for methodological enhancement at all levels, promoting the development of quantitative research programmes. Developments in this area also include CADRE (*Centre for Administrative Data and Evaluation*), led by Ian Rees Jones in collaboration with Swansea, which will create a step-change in the availability and accessibility of powerful, linked data across Wales and the UK. This will connect with DECIPHER's (Centre for the

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Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement) established expertise in developing and applying evaluation techniques for complex multi-level policy and practice interventions.

A collaboration with Cardiff's School of Computer Science and Informatics, 'The Collaborative Online Social Media Observatory' (COSMOS) (Housley, Edwards, Matthew Williams) is a half-million pound joint investment by ESRC and JISC, bringing together sociologists and computer scientists to engage with the methodological, theoretical and policy dimensions of 'big social data'. Projects include co-funding with Google, National Centre for Research Methods and the Department of Health. COSMOS has also been selected as a key case-study by the Office for National Statistics as an Application Programming Interface.

*The Cardiff ethnography group* will continue to develop digital and multimodal ethnography (Dicks, Coffey, Delamont, Atkinson, Housley, Mannay), building on the legacy of the ESRC-funded Quality Node of the NCRM, and ESF-funded EUROQUAL programme. *Biographical and Narrative Research* is a major theme for this group. Henwood leads several projects based on biographical research strategies, and is extending them with the 'Energy Biographies' project (ESRC & EPSRC). A synthesis of biographical research and digital methodology also underpins Scourfield's work, supported by the NIHR National Suicide Prevention Programme, which draws on the COSMOS platform, to explore the possible role of social media in young people's suicide and develop his notion of the *Sociological Autopsy*.

**Scientific Knowledge, Technology and Risk:**

Strategic priorities for this theme include developing our strength in science and bioscience. The Centre for Ethical and Social Aspects of Genomics will continue to play a leading role, by developing studies in the area of Epigenetics. Members collaborate with the MRC Centre on Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics, documenting the implications of new genetically-based diagnostics and risk assessments (Arribas-Ayllon, Featherstone). Hedgecoe's investigations of the conduct of ethics committees ('Trust in the System') exemplifies the convergence of interest in sociological analysis and applied ethics. Hedgecoe also leads research on Direct to Consumer Personal Genomics: examining the shaping of markets and regulatory responses. Past research on stem-cells is now extended by Stephens in a unique study of *in vitro* meat.

Collins and Evans have continued to develop their empirical, conceptual and methodological work on the forms and social distribution of expertise. They have embarked on methodologically innovative explorations, funded by the European Research Council, based on their 'imitation game' to investigate the social distribution of cultural competence, reflecting their 'third wave' contribution to STS. Collins's study of expert knowledge will extend with a new ESRC-funded project on scientific consensus, and a British Academy award (with Hedgecoe) on the social boundaries of scientific knowledge.

Funded by ESRC and EFDA and collaborating with Spanish partners, Horlick-Jones conducted research on processes of reasoning associated with nuclear fusion as an energy technology. The Seafarers' International Research Centre includes significant outputs on maritime risk and safety, embedded in a major programme of work on seafarers' working lives (Sampson). This analysis also extends to the occupational safety of ethnographic researchers themselves (Bloor).

**Crime, Security and Justice:**

The *Universities' Police Science Institute (UPSI)*, directed by Innes exemplifies our commitment to inter-institutional collaboration (with the University of South Wales) and stakeholders. Key contributions include: research on the 'Prevent' counter-terrorism strategy, informing national policy; collaboration with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary that has shifted the policing of anti-social behaviour to be more concerned with vulnerable victims' needs and the harm caused; the ongoing partnership with South Wales Police has devised new and innovative methods for police-community engagement at a neighbourhood level, using a qualitative GIS platform. As the Institute's reputation has grown, significant international research collaborations have resulted, for example with Victoria Police in Australia. Most recently, UPSI has partnered with the Police Academy of the Netherlands on a European Commission funded grant on countering violent extremist radicalisation. The Institute is a co-investigator for the new ESRC 'What Works Centre for

Crime Reduction' led by University College London with the College of Policing.

*The Centre for Crime, Law and Justice (CCLJ)* is a collaboration with the Cardiff School of Law. Key priorities include *Levi's* work spanning the range of serious organised and financial crimes. His research on the enablers of organised crime was published as a World Economic Forum Report in 2012. Amanda Robinson and Ralph Fevre have led an ESRC funded team examining workplace bullying. Robinson's work in the field of violence against women and domestic abuse continues to influence British and European policy, and includes a series of significant European research partnerships.

#### **Culture, Identity and Transformation:**

We are extending this well-established field with new developments in *ethnographies of practice*: Delamont's ethnographies of martial arts have led to significant publications on embodied pedagogy, the disciplines of the body, and diasporic culture; Atkinson is building on his micro-ethnographies of artistic practice with studies of craft studios (potters, printers, glassblowers and jewellers); Housley's ethnographic fieldwork on 'green expertise' documents how traditional skills are sustained and reproduced (British Academy funded).

Early-career researchers (Smith, Hurdley, Mannay) lead key developments in *spatial analysis* providing a growth-point for future work on Community, Space and Place, including Hall and Smith's studies of local knowledge, spatial practice and urban navigation. Hurdley's innovative visual and spatial research is conducted as a Leverhulme Fellowship on 'Corridors of Power'. Mannay is also developing work through mobile methods, while Dicks is generating major new qualitative datasets on the Upper South Wales Valleys, exploring complex processes of Welsh identity-formation. Developments in this area will link with Cardiff's Sustainable Places Research Institute (PLACE), one of three interdisciplinary Cardiff University Research Institutes.

#### **Health, Wellbeing and Social Care:**

This theme incorporates several Centres and Groups taking forward Cardiff's long-standing commitment to empirical research on health, illness and social care. Our work in this area combines sociological imagination, productive partnerships with biomedical scientists and clinicians, and empirical research. It also supports parallel research on social welfare. The theme was enhanced considerably by the appointment of Ian Rees Jones to a Chair in Quantitative Social Research, and by the establishment of several key groupings. The principal strategic plans and initiatives are:

'Social and Economic change and the Local and Regional Landscapes of Civil Society' - an extension of WISERD, led by Cardiff (Rees Jones) and in collaboration with Aberystwyth, Swansea, Glamorgan and other partners outside Wales, this is a planned Centre to undertake policy-relevant, multidisciplinary work on the changing nature of civil society in the context of devolved government, and processes of profound social and economic change.

Spanning Sociology and Education, we shall in 2014-15 establish the *Children's Social Care Centre for Wales*, led by Jonathan Scourfield and Sally Holland (Education), taking forward a programme of research, which currently has £1.3M in grants. Funders include: ESRC, Nuffield, Welsh Government, Big Lottery, NSPCC, and Action for Children. This new Centre will have academic partners and stakeholders in Wales, and extend current collaborations that include Edinburgh, Sussex, Queen's Belfast and Bristol.

*CASciOPE* is an interdisciplinary research network led by Latimer linking the School of Social Sciences with disciplines such as Biosciences, Health Studies, Nursing and Midwifery, Psychology and Geography. Collectively, members of the Network focus on the biology of ageing and diseases associated with later life, together with their social, cultural and ethical implications. Sociological research on social exclusion and social engagement also focuses on ageing (Rees Jones), and community co-production (G. Williams). The election of Mark Drakeford as a Member of the Welsh Assembly in 2010 and his appointment as Minister for Health in the Welsh Government, together with the appointment of Andrew Pithouse as a policy adviser to the Welsh Assembly have been important in strengthening the School's links with the Welsh policy agenda in these and cognate

fields.

**c. People, including:**

**i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

*Workload and staff development.* The School's workload model safeguards research time, and is used flexibly to accommodate specific commitments (especially externally-funded project management). Our research strategy is underpinned by policies on staff development, diversity, and recruitment. Needs are identified through mandatory annual appraisals and probation reviews, resulting in an annual Staff Development Plan.

*Supporting the development of research staff.* University policy is based on the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF), endorsed by the UK Research Councils, that articulates the knowledge, behaviours and attributes of successful researchers. The RDF structures training and development for research staff and postgraduate students. Our policy is also informed by Cardiff's 2009 *Careers in Research Online Survey* and by the *European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers*. Cardiff University has been recognised by the European Commission for its efforts in improving the working conditions and career development opportunities for its researchers through the 'HR Excellence in Research' accreditation. The University also won a *Times Higher Award* for 'Outstanding Contribution to Leadership Development' in 2010.

The School supports professional development for all its research staff, at all stages of their careers. Notable initiatives include:

- *Induction:* The Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers Benchmarking Checklist is the mandatory induction framework for all new staff.
- *Supporting Research Leaders:* During the REF period 8 Sociology staff completed the University's Leadership and Management Development Programme for Research Team Leaders, or the Practical Leadership for University Management Programme. Three members also participated in the Welsh Crucible, a prestigious programme for future research leaders in Wales.
- *Mentoring:* SOCSI has a system for mentoring researchers, ensuring that research mentors are independent of direct line-management. Mentoring is also provided for specific activities, such as grant-writing and publication.
- *Teaching:* On a voluntary basis, SOCSI provides research staff with opportunities to develop their teaching skills, in accordance with Funding Council guidelines.

*Appraisal and promotion.* Annual appraisal is mandatory for all staff, and is conducted by the Senior Management Team or by Research Centre Directors. Research plans are among the key performance issues, as are impact and engagement. The School has had considerable success since 2008/9 in supporting staff promotions. In the three years up to 2010-11, five colleagues applied for promotion to senior lecturer and four succeeded (80%). There have been ten applications for promotion to Reader, eight being successful (80%). Finally, five out of six applications for promotion to Professor have been successful (83%).

*Equal Opportunities.* SOCSI works to implement the key objectives of the Cardiff University Equality and Diversity Policy. In March-September 2012, the School participated in an Athena Swan pilot exercise, involving a detailed self-assessment of the School's performance in promoting gender equality. One output of this was a detailed Action Plan, implemented in 2012/13 with the aim of applying for Athena Swan recognition. The Athena Swan pilot demonstrated growing success in the promotion of female staff to senior levels: a very high success rate for promotion to Reader and Professor in the past three years; women on average are promoted (at each level) at a younger age than men.

**i. Research students**

Doctoral training is focused on the interdisciplinary ESRC Wales Doctoral Training Centre (DTC), a

consortium between Cardiff, Swansea, Bangor and Aberystwyth, established in 2011, under the Directorship of David James. SOCSI led the successful bid, and the Wales DTC is administered from within the School, which is a major recipient of ESRC studentships. In addition to the ESRC funding, the DTC secured £1.5M from HEFCW, to support enhanced infrastructure for the Centre across its partners in Wales, making it one of the best-resourced DTCs in the UK. The School provides the following pathways: Sociology; Science, Technology and Innovation Studies; Socio-Legal Studies; Social Policy; Social Work; Education (reported to Education UoA). Annually the whole DTC receives 33 ESRC studentships, and 3 funded by HEFCW. In 2012-13, external co-funding of £156K has converted those into 53 studentships: 8 are allocated annually to the Sociology pathways in SOCSI. From 2012 there has also been the Howard Jones studentship for criminological research in the Caribbean. Of the doctoral candidates in Years 1, 2 and 3, 33 are ESRC-funded, 8 funded by the Nippon Foundation, and 2 by the Welsh Government. For 2013 Cardiff has been awarded 4 ESRC multidisciplinary studentships, jointly with neurosciences and psychology. In addition to the PhD programme, reflecting the School's commitment to research collaboration with professions and agencies, SocSi offers Professional Doctorates (PD), with pathways in Health, Social Policy, and Social Work. Taught elements of the PD are open to PhD students, offering additional support, especially for part-time candidates.

All full-time PhD students are required to complete the Masters in Social Science Research Methods (or to demonstrate equivalent prior qualifications). Academic staff from across the School provide core, generic modules and specialised pathway-specific options. Quantitative and qualitative methods are equally represented, together with general research organisation and study skills, research design and research management. 'Professional Awareness Sessions' introduce students to a variety of research and employment opportunities through exposure to members of the University's Research Centres. Awareness of Research Impact is also emphasised.

Throughout their doctoral training students are required to undertake further research-capacity development. This is provided at several levels. The University's Graduate College organises an annual series of seminars and workshops that range from advanced research techniques, to generic issues of career-management, strategies for publication, research governance and dissemination. Again, academic staff of the School make significant contributions to this programme. At School level, doctoral students play an active part in the activities of Research Centres and Research Groups, via seminar presentations, or reading-group participation. For example: conference presentations are typically rehearsed in research-group meetings. Student progress is monitored formally on a six-monthly basis. Students submit draft chapters for review annually. They are also required to present their work at Postgraduate Day Conferences. An academic reviewer who is not a supervisor reports formally on progress. All PGR students have two supervisors, selected to complement substantive, theoretical and methodological expertise, and all supervisors receive mandatory training. Vivas are chaired by a member of staff who is not an examiner and has been trained in this task.

All FT graduate students have their own workstation and IT provision equivalent to that for academic staff. They thus access the University's computing provision, including social-science software for the analysis of quantitative and qualitative data. All research students are members of at least one Research Group. With financial support from the School, PGRs organise their own monthly Postgraduate Café, providing a forum for research-focused discussion. University-level support for research staff and graduate students includes PGR/Research Staff Initiative Funding, supporting interdisciplinary initiatives, and SOCSI has attracted more such awards since 2008 than any other Cardiff School. Such PG events include conferences and networks on: 'Young Sexualities'; 'Psychoanalytic Theory and Socio-Political Analysis'; 'Theory and Method in Criminological Research'; 'Hate Crime'; 'Place to Plate: New Directions in Food Research'; 'Discourse Analysis'; 'Shifting Boundaries of Citizenship'; 'The Re-Scaling of Space'. Recent doctoral students' careers have developed through the competitive award of Fellowships (Alexandra Hillman, Wellcome Trust; Rachel Hurdley, Leverhulme; Rebecca Dimond, ESRC Future Research Leaders; Heike Dorling, ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow;). Appointments to lectureships include Dawn Mannay, Kate Moles, Robin Smith Rachel Taylor-Swann (Cardiff), Bambo Soyinka, Corinne Funnell (UWE), Nick Lord (Manchester), Chris Pac-Soo (Plymouth).

#### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The University has made a substantial investment in information resources, with stable annual funding of £3.9M p.a. from 2007/8 to 2011/12, rising to £4.4M for 2013/14. Annual expenditure on journals for Sociology is currently over £62K. Cardiff University's ambitious plans for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences include the building of a new Library as a key element in its Estates Master Plan, as well as the new Social Science Park. In addition to high-quality accommodation for social-science researchers, the latter will also have specialised facilities for data storage and analysis. At School level, the QR resources derived from the 2008 RAE, and our very substantial recurrent income, allow direct investment in our research strategy. We have been able to commit senior academic staff time for major research initiatives and provide generous study-leave and 'buy-out' for research-intensive undertakings. With an annual research income of over £3M per annum for sociological research, we also invest indirect-cost income in research support, notably:

- A Research Office, with 2 FTE administrative staff supporting academic colleagues in preparing, costing and administering research bids. The office also performs a horizon-scanning function, distributing intelligence about new research opportunities;
- A Finance Office with responsibility for the administration of research grants;
- A Graduate Studies Office (2FTEs) supporting PGR recruitment, training, assessment and progress-monitoring, and manages doctoral training;
- A Marketing and Communications Officer;
- A Publicity and Information Officer, supporting academic research dissemination;
- A Web/Graphic Design Officer, maintaining the School's web presence, including our research-based dissemination and engagement strategies.

Through these staffing commitments alone, the School invested **£553K** in infrastructure since 2008. The School also has a rolling programme of IT investment, spending **£216K** on equipment and software since 2008, over and above core University provision. In addition to the posts referred to above, the School employs two full-time technicians.

The School and University have operated a transparent system of research-grant overheads distribution: a set percentage of the overheads returned to the School's Research Committee, and a percentage to principal investigators or Research Centres. This has furnished an income-stream to support research development: travel and conference costs; seed-corn grants in pursuit of external research grants; seminars to develop research collaborations and projects; visitors to the School. 'Overhead' accounts support research of individual staff. Such funding is also used to bridge researchers' contracts between grants. Since 2008 the School has invested **£846K** in research support through overheads. The School's Research Committee has also used over **£137K** to support events, conferences, and research expenses for staff and graduate students. The School has excellent physical facilities and accommodation. The prestigious Glamorgan Building houses generous office space, public spaces and teaching rooms, including an in-house computing laboratory. Several Research Centres have their own bespoke accommodation, with generous space for research staff and graduate students. All research students have their own individual workstations and allocated office space.

#### e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

The size of the School and its substantial recurrent funding through QR and indirect costs means that we commit substantial resources – of staff time, accommodation, and administrative support – to professional service. We regard *editorial commitments* as among the most significant of our contributions. We also regard them as opportunities for the professional development of graduates and early-career colleagues as reviewers and referees. During the current assessment period we are or have been editors/co-editors of: *Sociology*; *Sociology of Health and Illness*; *Social Studies of*

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*Science; Crime and Criminal Justice; Policing and Society; Qualitative Research; International Journal of Social Research Methodology; Methodological Innovations Online; British Journal of Sociology of Education; New Genetics and Society; Subjectivity; Social and Public Policy Review; Policy and Practice in Health and Safety.* Members of the School have edited multi-volume major works in the SAGE series, Handbooks and other significant works of reference.

The School of Social Sciences is multidisciplinary in its orientation, and we actively promote collaboration with other universities and practice communities, locally, nationally and internationally. Many of our major research initiatives are based on collaborations with international partners. Key exemplars are:

- Project URBIS, Urban Manager for Security, Safety and Crisis Management (Leonardo da Vinci EC-funded) is a collaboration with Sinergie (Reggio Emilia-Romagna), Istituto Nazionale Scienze Forensi Formazione e Sicurezza, University of Rome, the Governorship of Izmir, and the University of Maribor;
- PACHELBEL, Policy Addressing Climate Change and Learning About Consumer Behaviour and Everyday Life, is a Cardiff collaboration with LSE, Brunel, CIEMAT and Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain), SYMLOG (France), DIALOGIK (Germany), Swedish National Research College, and MEDA Research (Romania);
- Michael Levi's international work on fraud includes collaborations with Maryland University and The American Bar;
- Until 2010 Atkinson was Director of the ESF-funded EUROQUAL a partnership comprising 14 European Member-States; from 2012 he is a senior board member of the ESA Qualitative Methods Network;
- Harry Collins's current developments of his distinctive work on expertise, funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant, has partners in Palermo, Granada, Wroclaw, Budapest, Rotterdam, Uppsala, and Aarhus.

A great deal of our research is pursued in collaboration with other Schools at Cardiff. Many projects are developed with other Welsh HEIs and through the University-level 'GW4' research partnership with Bristol, Bath and Exeter, and with key stakeholders, for example:

- The Universities' Police Science Institute (UPSI) is a collaboration between Cardiff and the University of South Wales, in partnership with the South Wales Police;
- The Wales DTC is a consortium comprising the ESRC-funded Schools at Cardiff and Swansea, Bangor and Aberystwyth Universities. External partners include: WJEC, Countryside Council for Wales, Shell Global Solutions (UK), South Wales WEA, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Royal Bolton Foundation Trust, Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, Probation Service;
- WISERD is a collaboration between Cardiff, Aberystwyth, Bangor, Glamorgan and Swansea. Within Cardiff University, WISERD's partners include Politics, Planning and Geography, and Cardiff Business School;
- DECIPHER is a strategic partnership between Cardiff, Swansea and Bristol;
- Cesagen has been a collaboration with Lancaster University since its inception in 2002. It also collaborates with the Cardiff School of Medicine and the School of Biosciences, including research partnership with the Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics (MRC).
- COSMOS is a joint research initiative with the Cardiff School of Computer Science and Informatics;
- We have entered into a partnership with SAGE in developing and promoting research

methods; they are co-funding a DTC studentship through COSMOS.

Staff are members of numerous advisory boards and committees, including: ESRC Peer Review College (Horlick-Jones, Hughes, Levi, Malcolm Williams); Malcolm Williams is a member of the ESRC Methods and Infrastructure Committee; Housley is an expert reviewer on Digital Social Research for ESRC, while Delamont served on the ESRC Training and Skills Committee. Our commitment to public and policy sociology is further reflected in expert advice to: Cabinet Office, Home Office (Innes); Home Office, Independent Crime Statistics Advisory Committee (Levi); European Police College, National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (Robinson); House of Commons Select Committee on Transport, European Commission Task Force on Maritime Employment and Competitiveness (Sampson); House of Lords Science and Technology Committee (Atkinson); Welsh Government on Health Impact Assessment (Elliott).

Exchanges and visits are key to our international networks, and our sociological imagination. Influences flow into and from Cardiff. We have held visiting positions since 2008 that include: Atkinson, University of Vienna; Edwards, Chinese People's Public Security University; Horlick-Jones, Spanish Government Energy and Environment Agency, and UCL; Innes, ANU and Griffiths University; Rees Jones UCL, and St George's, London. We host numerous international visitors, who contribute to the research culture, through lectures, seminars and less formal activities. Visiting sociologists who have directly influenced our approach to sociology include: Michael Burawoy, who has helped shape our vision of public sociology over the course of three visits; Gary Alan Fine, whose seminars with graduate students were inspirational; Randall Collins, on the micro-sociology of violence and Goffman.

We believe in bringing sociological and cognate work to wide audiences. Our Foundation Lecture series was delivered by Doreen Massey, Lynne Chisholm, Mike Savage, Adele Clarke, Robert Slavin and Sir Michael Marmot. We hosted the 2009 British Society of Criminology Conference and fund the prestigious Glamorgan Lectures. The latter enabling distinguished guests to address issues of public interest. Lecturers have included: Danny Dorling, Julie Guthman, Madeleine Bunting and Phil George, Robin Murray and Stephen Yeo, Irena Bauman. The 2013 'Why Culture Matters' lecture series has also promoted interdisciplinary debate, while our annual Julian Tudor Hart Lectures provide a platform for the debate of public health issues and interdisciplinary research: lecturers have included George Davey Smith ; David Hunter and Allyson Pollock. Cesagen public lecturers have included Evelyn Fox Keller, Alain Pompidou and Allen Roses. (These are all over and above numerous departmental and research-group seminars.)

Our commitment to the profession is recognised through a range of awards and distinctions:

- Collins, Fellow British Academy;
- Delamont 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award, British Sociological Association;
- Atkinson, Coffey, Delamont, Rees Jones, Levi - Academicians, Academy of the Social Sciences;
- Levi, Rees Jones, Fellows of the Learned Society of Wales;
- Levi, Distinguished Scholar Award from the International Association for the Study of Organised Crime; elected President, US White Collar Crime Consortium 2012; ESRC Professorial Fellow 2010-12.

Cardiff School of Social Sciences was established in 2000 to provide a platform for interdisciplinary research and innovation across the social sciences. The nature and variety of our new strategic collaborative initiatives - such as the Public Policy Institute for Wales funded by Welsh Government, the ESRC 'What Works Centre for Crime Reduction', and the COSMOS social media and big data work – demonstrate our commitment to continuing to play a leading role in helping sociological perspectives and insights engage with the grand challenges of our time.