

## Environment template (REF5)

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| <b>Institution:</b> University of Leicester  |
| <b>Unit of assessment:</b> School of Archaeology and Ancient History [SAAH] (Sub-Panel 17)   |
| <p><b>a. Overview:</b></p> <p>The School combines two distinct but related disciplines, within a fully integrated research environment. SAAH is located in the College of Arts, Humanities and Law (CAHL), and has links across the College and the University. SAAH also operates a professional archaeological unit, University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS), with whom academic staff shared in the award of a Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2013. RAE2008 commended SAAH for its distinctive reputation in Greek and Roman Archaeology, and this has continued in the current cycle, but with added strength in many other periods and thematic specialisms across a very broad geographical range. Continued enhancement of our research environment is demonstrated by strong upward movement of all key metrics since RAE2008, demonstrating our large research footprint: grant income spend up from c.£7.3 million to c.£8.7 million (120%); annual grant awards up from annual ave. £500K in RAE2008, to ave. £900K in REF; ave. annual grant applications up from c.£2 million to £7.5 million, PhD completions up from 27 to 46.5; FTE PGR students up from 29.5 (2008) to 48.5 (2013).</p>  |
| <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>SAAH research strategy is closely aligned with College and University strategy documents and sets out a series of aims and objectives to develop and enhance our research environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capitalising on synergies between identified and emerging research groupings/themes</li><li>• Growing research income and distribution of grants across the staff base</li><li>• Expanding PGR numbers and available PGR support funding, increasing PhD completions, and further enhancing student experience and employability</li><li>• Developing infrastructure, supported by internal and external funding</li><li>• Supporting researcher development and career progression at every level, while promoting equality and diversity</li><li>• Promoting interdisciplinary research/collaboration with other units (internal/external)</li><li>• Underpinning heritage-related themes in College and University strategies</li><li>• Collecting and analysing research data to facilitate effective research management</li></ul> <p><i>Current research themes and developments since RAE2008</i></p> <p>SAAH's research environment transcends the artificial barriers between prehistory and historical periods, as well as between texts and material remains. This has long been, and remains, a key principle. Our chronological range spans every period from Palaeolithic to modern, and spatial coverage includes the UK, Europe, the Mediterranean, North Africa, the Near East, North America, South and Southeast Asia, China and the Pacific Rim. Approaches and methodologies include historical and textual analysis, fieldwork and artefact analysis, iconographic studies, archaeological, social and historical theory, ethnography and oral history, community archaeology, and a range of science-based archaeological techniques.</p> <p>SAAH has expanded and developed, in line with strategic objectives set out in RAE2008, and has achieved the major research goals/outputs highlighted at that time. Although much research activity still falls in the areas of the three 'research clusters' presented in RAE2008 (landscape; historical studies/archaeology; material culture and representation), these have evolved as new staff have joined us and existing staff have developed new directions. The revised cross-cutting research themes pursued across SAAH are as follows (with many staff being active members of more than one group):</p> <p>Investigations into <b>landscape and space</b> involve Allison, Barton, Christie, Edwards, Foxhall, Gillings, Harris, Haselgrove, Hopkinson, James, Mattingly, Merrills, Shipley, Stewart, Taylor, Van der Veen, plus a BA PDF (Rogers), two Leverhulme ECFs (Farley, Legarra Herrero) and Gerda Henkel Stiftung fellow (Van der Eijnden). Research covering both prehistoric and later periods in Britain, Europe, North Africa, the Mediterranean region and the lands bordering the Pacific have shifted the boundaries of these fields. We have won substantial grant funding in</p> |

these areas (see section d), notably Mattingly's €2.4 million ERC award for the Trans-Sahara project (**TS**) and his 'Desert Migrations' (**DM**) project in North Africa, Christie's for Wallingford, Haselgrove's project 'The Continental Background to British and Irish Prehistory' (**CBBIP**), exploiting the research value of grey literature for understanding the prehistory of NW Europe, and Barton's involvement in the 'Cultured Rainforest Project'. Townscapes and urban biography are also strong cross-cutting themes as illustrated by major monographs on diachronic urban patterns (Christie, Mattingly).

**Historical archaeologies of the post-medieval world** continue to develop as an area of strength, signalled by the creation (flagged in RAE2008) of the Centre for Historical Archaeology directed by Tarlow. The Centre has attracted visiting academics from the USA and Australia, and hosted the 2013 Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) conference (only the second time this has been held outside the USA), attracting 750 delegates from 40 countries with a related public event bringing over 1,000 visitors. 'Historical archaeology' involves staff from across the School (Allison, Cipolla, Edwards, Harris, Mattingly, Tarlow, Thomas, Young) and spans work in the UK, South Asia, Iran, Africa, Australia and North America, including a research-based field school with strong community engagement on a native American Mohegan reservation in Connecticut (Cipolla). The 'Mapping Faith and Place' project explored the changing traditions around places of worship within multicultural Leicester, working especially with the local south Asian community (O'Sullivan, Young). The broad remit of 'historical archaeologies', beyond the USA and UK, is a distinctive feature.

**Material culture in societies: analysis, representation, and theory** remains a significant research theme, developing with new staff and the expanding research interests of current staff into a grouping that might now be better characterized as **bodies, identities, communities and networks** covering all periods from prehistory to modern (Appleby, Barton, Cipolla, Foxhall, Harlow, Harris, James, Haselgrove, Hopkinson, King, Mac Sweeney, Mattingly, Merrills, Scott, Shipley, Stewart, Thomas, Van der Veen, Whitbread, Young). This theme captures both the complex and diverse range of relationships between people and the material world, as well as how material objects embody human relationships. Ground-breaking investigations on the human body and its history as a concept have been undertaken by Harris and Tarlow within the 'Changing Beliefs about the Body' programme and 'Harnessing the Power of the Criminal Corpse' [**CC**] (see section d). Other important research has focused on human aging (Appleby, Harlow); dress (Harlow); the body of King Richard III; human-animal relationships and archaeology and emotion. 'Identity' at many levels remains a key interest which now also feeds into notions of community, past and present, and interdisciplinary research on networks of knowledge, cultural encounters and exchange. Research in material cultural networks has been supported by two Leverhulme Programme Awards (Foxhall [PI], Haselgrove, Whitbread), 'Tracing Networks' [**TN**] and 'Impact of Diasporas' [**ID**] (James [CI]). A prominent sub-theme continues to be *food and foodways*, exploring the archaeological, ceramic, environmental, and textual evidence separately and in combination.

The **history and archaeology of ancient Mediterranean and related/adjacent cultures** intersects research in all other themes (Allison, Christie, Edwards, Foxhall, Harlow, Haselgrove, James, Mac Sweeney, Mattingly, Merrills, Scott, Shipley, Stewart, Van der Veen, Whitbread, Young). Our distinctive approach to the ancient Mediterranean specifically does *not* treat the region as geographically or temporally isolated, but explores links with prehistoric and historical cultures in the rest of Europe, Egypt and North Africa, and the Near East, emphasizing the connectivity of Mediterranean societies. Further evidence of our special focus on connectivity appears in, e.g. the **DM**, **TS** and **TN** projects, as well as in the clusters of research activity on ancient geographies, ancient economies, dress and textiles, coinage, urbanism and warfare/imperialism. There is a strong core of research in central topics in Greco-Roman history (including late antiquity), with the major focus on social and economic history, including identities and communities, gender, slavery, place and space and materiality. Several of the ancient historians additionally engage in archaeological and material cultural research and similarly a number of archaeologists cross over into historical research.

The vitality of our research themes is attested by metrics on publications and conferences/papers delivered. During the REF cycle staff have published 35 authored books, 24 edited books (32 authored/edited books included in REF2), 162 papers in refereed journals, 185 book

chapters, 21 papers in conference proceedings, and 188 other publications or reviews (615 items total). ULAS staff published 5 monographs, 27 journal articles and 14 book chapters. A total of 42 conferences have been organized by 24 staff, plus 53 sessions organized/chaired, 29 keynote papers delivered (including Mattingly's 2013 Jerome Lectures) and 147 invited lectures and 299 other academic lectures or seminars in >30 countries.

#### *Future Strategic Aims*

Our medium-term aim is to extend further our reach in world archaeology, through investing in new methodologies and enhancing our research strengths in periods and areas beyond the Classical world and Western Europe, whilst maintaining an appropriate balance between our two disciplines and fostering research-teaching synergies that continue to attract high-quality international and home students. We will achieve this both by developing cogent business cases for new posts and by refocusing some posts vacated through upcoming retirements (or other staff departures) in ways that will simultaneously bring a new dimension to existing research themes and/or foster key emergent areas bridging staff interests within and beyond the School and College. The appointments of Appleby and King (below) which have opened up new directions in human bioarchaeology including the possibility of aDNA research, and Cipolla in New World archaeology exemplify this strategic approach.

Objectives for the next cycle build on the specific themes already outlined, including delivery of final publications on all major current projects. Attracting and supporting young researchers of the highest calibre remains central to our strategy for sustaining a vibrant community, and as well as working to repeat our success in the current cycle in obtaining PDFs, RAs and PhDs via project grants and CDAs, we will seek to develop new funding avenues. The interdisciplinary research initiated via **TN** and **ID** has already led to further collaborative applications with science colleagues (ERC, FP7). We will use our research-led field schools (Burrough Hill/UK; Mohegan/USA) and other collaborations such as the Ardnamurchan Transitions Project alongside the Greyfriars and Hallaton projects (see Impact Studies) to maximize opportunities for enterprise, funding applications and community engagement. In Leicester, SAAH and ULAS are playing a key role in the City's plans for the development and marketing of heritage, also involving collaboration with local business.

#### **c. People, including:**

##### **i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

Our staffing strategy is to sustain and strengthen existing research areas, whilst seeking investment and seizing opportunities to extend the School in new directions. As signalled in RAE2008, we have appointed a further prehistorian (Appleby), who is also a human bioarchaeologist, and a historian specialising in Greek landscapes (Stewart). We have replaced three staff who left: Cowan by Mac Sweeney (Greek Asia Minor), Pluciennik by Harris (theory; prehistory), and Horning by Cipolla (historical archaeology; North America). We anticipate an open-ended replacement for a recent departure (Katsari, Sept 2013). In addition, we have gained a new post in Roman social history (Harlow) and a joint one with Genetics (King). This is a very satisfactory outcome of our strategy.

Our succession planning seeks to retain a reasonable balance between age, gender and subject expertise. We are committed to hiring individuals who show the highest long-term potential, irrespective of career stage. The average age at appointment of five new lecturers in the last cycle was 30, but with 46% of staff aged 55 or more, we anticipate occasions when we will seek to appoint individuals at a senior level with a proven track-record of academic leadership to fulfil key roles or spearhead specific research developments. SAAH is committed to implementing HEI best practice in terms of equality and diversity in recruitment, which has resulted in an international team (including nine non-British of six nationalities). 42% of 26 Cat A staff and 43% of 7 professors are women. Six staff are junior career, two ECRs (both submitted). PDFs and RAs apart, we have no fixed-term staff.

In the REF period, four staff were promoted to Senior Lecturer (Barton, Merrills, Thomas, Young), two to Reader (Gillings, Horning [now QUB]), and two to Professor (James, Tarlow). Individual awards included Leverhulme Major and Research Fellowships (Van der Veen; James) and a Humboldt Fellowship (Katsari), whilst Tarlow's 2006 Leverhulme award provided part of the backdrop for developing her current Wellcome project.

All promoted staff have held major grants in the REF period and employ their experience in mentoring more junior colleagues in funding applications and peer-review. We go beyond the University's formal mentoring and appraisal systems, in order to sustain a supportive and caring research environment for all staff, in all circumstances, and at all career stages. We have supported individual colleagues through complex personal circumstances, life-threatening illness and parenthood. We encourage and assist all staff (including RAs, junior and temporary staff) in developing their research careers and we are particularly concerned to prepare early career academics (RAs, PDFs, temporary and part-time lecturers and teaching fellows) for applying for permanent jobs, through regular monitoring and mentoring. The effectiveness of our support is shown by the high percentage (c.90%) that have gone on to further jobs in HEIs. During the teaching periods we aim for staff to be able to set aside one day in the working week for research, and for all staff to be able to have a period of about two months during the year when at least 75% of their time is available for research. All staff are entitled to apply to CAHL for one semester of study leave after six semesters of service, and during the REF period 23 staff have taken 51 semesters of study leave (28 semesters University funded). Active efforts are made to ensure that all entitled staff at every career stage have the best possible chance of getting study leave, and of supplementing this where possible with externally funded leave. Senior staff and mentors assist younger and less experienced staff to prepare good leave applications with robust plans. Academic staff have regularly won teaching replacement funding through grants and fellowships (23 semesters externally funded in period), though this is carefully monitored, and all Cat A staff (permanent or fixed-term) are entitled to SAAH funding for travel and research expenses.

Academic staff submit research reports in January detailing their annual progress, personal research strategy, publications and other activities, with an update in July. These are considered by SAAH Research Committee which represents all sectors of the School. Where individuals may need support, appropriate action is taken by the Head of School and Director of Research. Both SAAH and the College of Arts, Humanities and Law (CAHL) have well-developed internal peer-review and mentoring procedures for helping all staff find and apply for grant funding, to make applications as strong as possible. We involve all Cat A and other research staff in the monitoring and mentoring process, and in annual appraisal, to assist them in developing their careers. For example, we have read and commented on outputs of all staff, including research staff and teaching fellows not yet eligible for REF submission.

In the REF period SAAH has hosted and nurtured a substantial body of 14 postdoctoral research assistants (RAs) and 11 post-doctoral fellows (PDRFs). This latter group comprises 6 Leverhulme Trust ECFs (Baird, McFadyen, Cooper, Legarra Herrero; Farley, Harris - with a 7<sup>th</sup> fellow, Fenwick, to start in 2014), two visiting fellows (Launaro (Leverhulme); Llaveras-Roca (Generalitat de Catalunya)), 2 BA PDRFs (C. King, Rogers) and a Gerda Henkel Stiftung fellow (Van der Eijnden). Post-doctoral researchers of all types play a major role in sustaining the lively, vibrant intellectual and research culture in SAAH. The existence of a number of large research projects across SAAH and success in national and international competitions has ensured a regular stream of RAs and PDRFs. PIs have been scrupulous about ensuring that research staff are properly credited in collaborative research outputs, as is clear from the list of submitted outputs, and in the SAAH disciplines there is no tradition of formal authorship policies: all contributors are appropriately credited in proportion to their input, in accordance with the University's Code of Research Practice.

Of our 13 post-doctoral staff reported in RAE2008, 12 progressed to permanent posts or other academic or research jobs, along with eight of those in this submission. In addition to the weekly seminars, preceded by an informal social gathering of staff, postdocs, PGRs and MA students, there are a number of less formal reading and discussion groups (some attached to specific research projects, but welcoming other participants). Two lunchtime seminar series (Ancient World and Historical Archaeology) offer opportunities to PGRs and staff to present papers and ideas in supportive informal settings. The externally peer-reviewed SAAH monograph series (section d below) has regularly published conference proceedings and other research outputs of Cat A and other research staff/PGRs. Other CAHL interdisciplinary research centres, notably the Medieval Research Centre and the Centre for Medical Humanities, and two active grassroots University research networks on 'migration' and

'heritage', offer research and career development support and opportunities for research staff. In short, this account demonstrates that our recruitment and staff development practices conform to all seven of the principles of the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers*, which is strongly promoted at the institutional level.

## ii. Research students

Our forward strategy for PGR recruitment is closely linked to the new Midlands3Cities Consortium, a £14.6 million AHRC funded Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP), with 1:1 match funding by the six participating institutions to provide 410 PhD studentships (£29 million) across the range of disciplines over 5 years. The highly innovative aspects of the consortium bid (the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest ranked of the funded DTPs) involve cross-institutional agreements about training and supervision, promotion of interdisciplinary research awareness and a distinctive focus on employability skills ('skills cheques' and placements with a range of heritage sector employers). SAAH provided one of two UoL academic co-leads in the Consortium planning group and development and 'heritage' is an important focus of the resulting DTP (UoL, Nottingham and Birmingham offer archaeology and ancient history within the DTP). This will enhance PGR funding opportunities and experience for SAAH in the next 5 years.

The 25.5 PhD completions reported in REF4a significantly underestimate our achievements due to an incompatibility with HESA return criteria, which excludes international Distance Learning (DL) students. We have 12 additional DL international PhD awards, meaning the REF4a figure should be **37.5**. A further nine PhDs awarded between 1/8/07-31/7/08 have been excluded from both RAE2008 and REF2014 (thus making **46.5** PhDs awarded in six years since RAE2008). SAAH has an active PGR community consisting of about 40 full-time and part-time campus-based (CB) PGRs and about 20 part-time distance-learning (DL) PGRs from around the world. Of 116 students in the REF period, 51 have been funded from a wide variety of sources including 20 OST studentships (NERC, AHRC), 23 institutional bursaries and scholarships, and eight with international funding from US, Canada, Libya, Iran and Pakistan. We have also had visiting PhD students from Spain and the USA, who have contributed to our PGR research community. All starting PGRs are required to attend a full week of induction activities held in SAAH in October, though some DL PGRs attend this in the second year of their degree for logistical reasons. This process includes assessing and addressing individual training needs; initial discussions with supervisors; introducing University, College and SAAH systems, processes and resources; establishing a work plan; as well as meeting each other, staff and postdocs. All PGRs are assigned a main and second supervisor, and there is a PGR Tutor and a PGR Administrator. All CB PGRs are allocated office space and photocopying privileges. SAAH maintains a PGR training fund (administered by our Research Committee) to which students can apply for support for attending/organizing conferences, language tuition and other research training. With academic help and encouragement, SAAH students have also been successful in gaining support from separate College and University PGR support funds.

CB PGRs also attend CAHL doctoral training sessions, including research and employability skills (with many Cat A staff involved), and these are made available to DL PhDs as videos on Blackboard. We aim to give as many as possible of our PGRs the chance to obtain training and experience in teaching, also enhancing career prospects. Our active outreach programme also offers opportunities for developing employability skills and for public engagement. The PGR Tutor and Administrator monitor supervision and student progress, and ensure that all PGRs are in regular contact with supervisors, in person or in the case of DL PGRs also via email, telephone and Skype. After eight months of full-time research or the equivalent for DL/part-time students, PGRs are required to submit a substantial written presentation of their thesis project for upgrade to full PhD status, in line with Graduate School procedures. This is assessed by two independent members of staff, who interview the student. Instructions for writing the upgrade piece are included in the PGR Handbook on Blackboard and in hard copy, and PGRs work closely with supervisors to ensure that they produce research of the required standard. Regular (annual FT, biannual PT/DL) progress reviews are held and all students are required to submit an annual report on their activities.

PGRs play a full part in the research culture of SAAH, and share in many of the same activities as staff (reading and discussion groups, conferences, research networks, etc.). In addition, the

weekly main seminar series is organized by PGRs (usually in their second year), mentored by two members of Cat A staff. This has been a huge success, providing stimulating seminars and discussions in a range of formats (including debates, mini-papers, etc.), and serves as a key venue for informal contact between staff and PG students at all levels. For the PGRs in charge, it offers opportunities to meet scholars from other institutions in the UK and abroad and to develop administrative, organizational, presentation and employability skills.

Thirteen PGRs have organized and published conferences in Leicester and run sessions at major national and international conferences, and in many cases SAAH has been able to offer financial support. Publication and other forms of dissemination by PGRs are encouraged and supported by supervisors and staff more generally across SAAH. In 2012 one of our 2011 graduates, now in a tenure-track post in the USA, won one of two CAHL Doctoral Prizes. Two have presented the University's prestigious Doctoral Inaugural Lectures and three have won prizes at the UoL's annual Festival of PG Research.

#### **d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

##### *Research funding*

Interdisciplinary research has developed strongly, exemplified by a number of major research projects (four grants of £1m+ and two of £500K+ including an ERC Advanced grant, two Leverhulme Programme Awards, a major Wellcome grant, and two AHRC awards). REF4b reports c.£8.7 million in income, with £850K from BIS/RC sources, > £2 million from charities (226% of charity income in RAE2008). Large interdisciplinary programmes have had a major impact on the research environment by carving out additional time for research and bringing in additional staff who play a full role in our intellectual life and research culture. Several of these are programmes running for five or more years, so not all outputs can be completed within a single research assessment cycle. **DM** (Society for Libyan Studies/ Leverhulme Trust, £250K, Mattingly), **TS** (ERC, €2.4M Mattingly), Wallingford (AHRC, £312K, Christie), Dating Danebury (**DD**) (Leverhulme, £242K, Haselgrove) and **CBBIP** (Leverhulme Major Research Award, Haselgrove £201K) all play a leading role within the theme of **landscape and space**. **TN** (Leverhulme Research Programme, £1.724m, Foxhall [PI], Haselgrove, Whitbread), **ID** (James) and **CC** (Wellcome, £900K, Tarlow) both emanate from and contribute to **bodies, identities, communities and networks** and the latter forms a key element of **historical archaeologies of the post-medieval world**, and is a centrepiece of the Centre for Historical Archaeology. The AHRC project with the British Museum on Roman coin hoards in Britain (Haselgrove, Mattingly, £500K) crosses over between these two themes. Simultaneously, **TN** and **TS** play a key role in **history and archaeology of ancient Mediterranean and related/adjacent cultures** and the former has attracted a successful Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship (Legarra Herrero). Joint ULAS/SAAH research projects are included in research grant income (c.£4 million in period, down from c.£5 million in RAE2008).

##### *Strategy*

SAAH staff have played a leading role in the development of a strategy for Arts and Humanities research at UoL, notably through Mattingly serving as College Research Director 2009-2012. In that period the College research environment was transformed with an overall doubling of grant income and new PhD starters. The latter was achieved in part through increased investment in PGR support, and the former by formalized internal peer review processes, improved mentoring of the grant application process and encouragement of interdisciplinary bids – an area SAAH has excelled in. Since the initiation of weekly CAHL research advice and discussion sessions in 2010, SAAH staff have taken a leading role in running sessions on >20 occasions. All SAAH staff are encouraged to apply for grant funding appropriate to their research goals, subject areas and career stage. Within SAAH we set no specific targets for individuals, but offer positive help and support to colleagues in formulating excellent projects and submitting strong funding bids. In the REF period, we have normally exceeded University targets for both applications and awards, with 26 Cat A staff named as PI/CI on >70 separate grants (17 staff have grants worth >£50K; 8 >£250K). Within the School experienced staff proactively mentor others, and there is a strong culture of sharing and discussing ideas for projects and research bids among staff at all levels, as well as reading and critiquing each other's applications. The University Research Office, the CAHL Research Director and the SAAH Research Director all ensure that funding information is available.

### *Infrastructure*

SAAH has its own building housing all lecturing staff, ULAS, technicians and administrative staff. This building also contains our seminar room, drawing office, lab space dedicated to GIS and geophysics, ceramics, human bone, animal bone, archaeobotany, microscopy and wet preparation, along with our mED-XRF, portable X-ray, microscopes, thin sectioning and other equipment. Estate spend to reconfigure and enhance research spaces since 2008 totals £135K, including fitting out new lab space for human and animal bone research and equipping labs with digital projection and presentation facilities. Further space for larger research projects, PGRs and ULAS project staff/labs is provided in buildings less than five minutes' walk from the main building. In total SAAH occupies 20.68% of the total area allocated to CAHL. All university buildings have access to the Eduroam wireless network and all research staff have an office computer. SAAH also owns numerous laptops, scanning equipment and dedicated computers (e.g. for GIS). We have been well supported by the University in terms of accommodation and equipment: the XRF, X-ray and thin sectioning equipment were bought on CIF funding (£240K) awarded on the back of Tracing Networks, and Gillings' outstanding GIS research has leveraged CIF and CAHL awards for equipment.

Increased cooperation with science departments has enabled us to augment our research activity in archaeological science and to obtain CIF and other infrastructural funding. Cooperative arrangements for sharing/accessing equipment include: Geography (e.g. 3D Laser scanning, GPR), Chemistry (e.g. RAMAN and FTIR spectroscopy), Physics (e.g. 3-D printing, satellite images), Geology (e.g. ICP), Engineering (e.g. mCT, SEM suite), the Forensic Research Centre in the Science College, and Genetics and Computer Science (e.g. specialist software, servers). Lab facilities and equipment are available for postdoctoral and PGR research, subject to appropriate technical and safety training. We have a permanent environmental technician, a materials technician and an illustrator.

SAAH curates the archive of the Society of Libyan Studies in dedicated space attached to the **TS** project and we anticipate developing this research resource in the next cycle. Our library holdings have improved on RAE2008, as more material becomes available electronically, and we now have access to a very wide range of journals and other publications across the field in electronic form (c.£22,000) as well as a generous budget for books and other hard-copy-only publications (£46,408, up 200% on 2006 figures).

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

#### *Collaboration*

SAAH has built research collaborations both within specific projects and more generally with a wide range of national and international colleagues and institutions. Of the major research projects in SAAH, Leicester is the lead institution in 'Wallingford' with Exeter; **TN** with Exeter, Oxford and Glasgow; **CC** with Hertford and Oxford Brookes. Other major SAAH collaborative projects include 'Changing Beliefs about the Body' led by Cambridge but involving two SAAH staff (Harris, Tarlow); **CBBIP** is held jointly with Reading, **DD** with SUERC and Oxford, 'Cultured Rainforests' with Cambridge and Oxford, **DM** with researchers from >20 universities, **TS** with Cambridge and **ID** is led by Historical Studies at Leicester and includes Nottingham.

Several major research projects are explicitly interdisciplinary, **TN** also includes Computer Science, **CC** History, **ID** History, Sociology, English and Genetics; **DM/TS** History, Geography, Physical Anthropology, Geology; Richard III East Midlands Forensic Pathology Unit. Outcomes are contributing to all disciplines. Other interdisciplinary research collaborations, formal and informal, have been developed between staff in SAAH and Geography, Geology, Chemistry, Engineering, Management, Museum Studies. CAHL and the University Research Office provide a supportive environment for encouraging researchers to engage with each other across subject domains and fostering interdisciplinary research initiatives.

Our main link to business has been through ULAS, as SAAH academics provide research support for ULAS projects in a collaboration awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize. The close link with ULAS is exemplified in both the research and business-development aspects of our Burrough Hill field school. As well as contributing substantially to outreach and community engagement, the project has already received funding from the BA, Ernest Cook Trust, Roman Research Trust, and NERC (with Geography), while the field school element is being developed for both SAAH student training and as a training enterprise to take fee-paying

trainees from elsewhere. However, staff have also done consultancy work with inter alia the oil industry in Libya, TV and the Romanian government. Another important link to non-HEIs are our six CDA awards (British Museum, Exmoor National Park Authority, English Heritage).

#### *Contribution to the research base*

A total of 42 conferences have been held, notably the Society for Historical Archaeology conference in 2013. Mattingly served on the organizing committee of the Roman Archaeology Conference which, in 2009, was held for the first time outside the UK (in Michigan). Other collaborations include the long-running Nottingham-Leicester Ancient History seminar and conference series, of which the two most recent were on 'Identities in the Ancient Mediterranean' (2009, Katsari, MacSweeney) and 'Sex and Slavery' (2012, Katsari), both in preparation for publication. Major research projects such as TN and Wallingford have also involved multiple conferences. Significant international collaborative publication projects underway include four *Oxford Handbooks* (*Archaeology of Death and Burial* - Tarlow with Emory University, USA, *The European Iron Age* - Haselgrove, with U. of Minnesota, USA, *Agriculture in Classical Antiquity* - Foxhall, with U. Aarhus, DK and *Cities in World History* - Mattingly asst. editor, ancient world). The SAAH monograph series, producing high-quality, peer-reviewed publications, many of which are data-heavy and thus less attractive to commercial publishers, continues to make a substantial contribution to the research base (1,011 sold in REF period).

In addition, many individuals within SAAH are active nationally and internationally in key service roles of the two disciplines we cover. Highlights during the REF 2014 period include Haselgrove's FBA (and Chair of Section H7, with Mattingly also on the H7 Standing Committee and other Academy committees), Mattingly on the Archaeology and History panel of the European Research Council and elected a member of the Academia Europaea, Foxhall on the Leverhulme Research Awards Advisory Committee and the HEFCE Research and Innovation Committee. Two staff are on REF panels (Foxhall, Mattingly) and staff have served on international equivalents to REF (e.g. Mattingly on AERES in France) and external reviews of French laboratories and research units (LABEX-Bordeaux). As well as providing many individual grant evaluations for funding bodies (17 Cat A staff, including 7 members of the AHRC Peer Review College), 8 members of staff have sat on 17 panels including the AHRC (BGP1 Capacity Building, BGP2), ERC, EC FP7, Leverhulme Trust (main grants panel and Philip Leverhulme Prize committee), Commonwealth Scholarship Panel, British School at Athens, British School at Rome, Roman Society Grant Committee, Society of Antiquaries Research Committee, Leicestershire Historical and Antiquarian Society, British Academy (H7 section, Postdoctoral competition, Newton Fellowships, Mid-career and senior Res Fellowships, International partnerships). 17 staff have edited or been members of the Editorial or Advisory Boards of 37 journals including *Annual of British School at Athens*, *Antiquités africaines*, *Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences*, *Archaeological Dialogues*, *Archaeology in Oceania*, *Archaeometry*, *Gender & History*, *Int. J of Historical Archaeology*, *J African Archaeology*, *J Arch. Science*, *J of Anthropological Archaeology*, *J of Hellenic Studies*, *J of Mediterranean Archaeology*, *Libya Antiqua*, *Libyan Studies*, *Medieval Archaeology*, *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany*, *World Archaeology*. Committee service and advisory roles: 15 staff have been officers for 21 bodies, with 21 staff council or panel members for 74 external bodies (includes ESF/ERIH (panel chair), Roman Society, Hellenic Society, BSR, BSA, CBA, Society of Antiquaries, Portable Antiquities Scheme, UK Cabinet Office, Education Honours Committee, Association for Environmental Archaeology. In the REF period 23 staff have examined 106 PhDs, including 36 UK (non-Leicester) and 35 internationally.

In the next REF cycle, we aim to further enhance our already high standing in world archaeology through implementing the detailed research strategy set out above. This will be achieved through publication of definitive high impact outputs from the major projects described; by seeking funding for fresh inter-disciplinary research programmes to follow on from those now coming to a close; by continuing to lead the field in applying cutting-edge methodologies to solve problems, old and new; and lastly by maintaining our present high level of investment and support for the most talented researchers of the next generation.