

## Environment template (REF5)

<b>Institution: University of Glasgow</b>
<b>Unit of Assessment: 17 – Geography, Environmental Studies and Archaeology: Geography</b>
<b>a. Overview</b>

This submission to UOA17 is one component of a two-part REF return made by the **School of Geographical and Earth Sciences** (GES), University of Glasgow (GU). The School's research interests straddle the domains of UOAs7 and 17: and, continuing our approach in RAE2008, we are returning our Earth Surface Research Group (ESRG) to UOA7 and our Human Geography Research Group (HGRG) to UOA17. The School is institutionally located within the College of Science and Engineering, but HGRG also possesses excellent links with staff/initiatives in the three other Colleges at GU: Arts; Social Sciences; and Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences.

Over the assessment period, HGRG has consistently displayed high levels of intellectual and disciplinary leadership belying its small size, making notable contributions to the foundational debates, substantive knowledge base, infrastructural support, human resources and wider impacts of academic geography on national and international stages. HGRG has conducted original research on the entangled geographies of power, institutions, knowledges and practices, consistently translating from the abstract topologies of theory into the social topographies of everyday environments, landscapes and settlements. HGRG has innovated methodologically, finding creative ways of representing (and experimenting with) the lively articulations of nature, culture, politics, time and place, and striving to respond critically and participatively in the face of multiple injustices and silences (see also our REF3a).

HGRG has generated substantial upward step-changes, entailing a doubling or more-than-doubling, in indicators of research income and postgraduate (PG) activity since RAE2008, as well as a growth in research-based monographs from 1 recorded in RAE2008 to 5 for REF2014. HGRG has excelled in developing the potentials of postdoctoral and PG researchers, many of whom have been able to secure academic staff positions elsewhere (in the UK and beyond).

Researchers named in **bold** are the 13 Category A staff returned in REF1; those in *italics* are individuals who left HGRG during the REF assessment period; and those in plain are non-submitted GU staff (RAs, PGs, honorary/retired staff). Superscripts cross-reference to REF2 outputs (eg. **Briggs**<sup>1</sup> refers to **Briggs**'s first listed output).

<b>b. Research Strategy</b>
-----------------------------

*Themes and strategy.* Research focuses around 4 intersecting themes, strategically reworked from those present in RAE2001/2008, and each involving different combinations of HGRG researchers:

**T1 Subaltern globalisations:** Building on pioneering statements about 'indigenous knowledges' (**Briggs** and **Sharp**), feminist geopolitics (**Dixon** and **Sharp**) and geographies of resistance (*Routledge* and *Cumbers*), we are now leading debates about how globalisation (propelled by the forces of capital, 'empire' and 'enlightenment') entangles with multiple forms of subaltern agency/politics arising in and circulating around a diversity of global sites. Following agenda-setting contributions by **Featherstone**<sup>2,4</sup>, **Karaman**<sup>2</sup> and **Sharp**<sup>1,3</sup>, we explore subaltern and non-Western versions of globalisation, urbanism, cosmopolitanism, geopolitics, political economy and environmental justice. Orientated by postcolonial sensibilities, subaltern studies, feminist thought, critical geopolitics and critical urban theory, and purposefully working between past and present, we address: changing geographies of subalternity and networked solidarities; situated geopolitical imaginaries *from* Africa; non-Western forms of owning/farming land and associated gender relations; and distinctive ways of regulating and inhabiting cities of the Global South. See also: **Briggs**<sup>1,2,4</sup>, **Featherstone**<sup>1,3</sup>, **Karaman**<sup>1</sup>, **Sharp**<sup>4</sup>.

**T2 Vital geographies:** Advancing foundational statements from the early-2000s on 'more-than-human geographies'/'new animal geographies' (**Lorimer**<sup>3</sup> and **Philo**) and also 'mad geographies' (**Parr**<sup>2</sup> and **Philo**<sup>1</sup>), we investigate how 'the human' is either augmented or diminished. Deepened by new conceptualisations of 'monstrous geographies' (**Dixon**<sup>1,3</sup>) and 'evental geographies' (**Shaw**<sup>2</sup>), we now ask about the role of spatial relations in either: (i) enlarging 'the human', distributing its capacities and attributes in concert with diverse non-human entities, both material and virtual; or (ii) reducing 'the human', resulting in the abandonment or normalisation of numerous 'othered' humans among us. Operating in-between vitalism and biopolitics (**Philo**<sup>2</sup>), our research explores: 'madness', asylums and the 'psy-'

## Environment template (REF5)

disciplines; missing people and loss; children, schools and power; animal co-habitation and co-mingling; virtual, mediated and mythological life-worlds; and technologies of governmental-scientific surveillance and military intervention. See also: **Dixon**<sup>2,4</sup>, **Gallagher**<sup>2</sup>, **Lorimer**<sup>1,2</sup>, **McGeachan**<sup>1</sup>, **Naylor**<sup>2,4</sup>, **Parr**<sup>1</sup>, **Philo**<sup>3,4</sup>, **Shaw**<sup>1,3</sup>.

**T3 Knowing, creativity and experiment:** We are one of the few geography clusters worldwide enjoying funded engagement from the late-1990s with artists-in-residence, now complemented by **Dixon**'s nature-arts collaborations. Reflecting this sustained engagement with the arts and humanities, and also reaching across to the practices of the environmental/physical sciences, we now intervene imaginatively and evocatively in ways of knowing the world. The results are academic outputs (eg. event reviews by **Dixon** in *Nature* and *Science*; co-writing by **Lorimer** and artists) and 'geographical' experiments, especially by **Dixon**, **Gallagher**, **Last**, **Lorimer**, **McGeachan**, **Naylor**, **Parr** and **Shaw**, spanning: story-telling; visual arts and film-making; site performance, installations and body-work; musical composition and audio-recording; public broadcasting; and museum collections (see also our REF3a). We are pushing at academic 'norms' past and present, traversing conventions and limit-points in practices ranging from the creative arts to arts-for-therapy to archival science, and from experimental field-sites to the ethnographic tradition. See also: **Dixon**<sup>2,3,4</sup>, **Gallagher**<sup>1</sup>, **Lorimer**<sup>1,2,4</sup>, **Naylor**<sup>1,2,3</sup>, **Parr**<sup>2</sup>, **Sharp**<sup>2</sup>.

**T4 Stressed environments and communities:** Leading from our RAE 2001/2008 interest in 'environmental knowledges' (**Briggs** and **Sharp**) and environmental justice (*Routledge*), we now focus on how environments and communities become 'stressed' and with what political-ecological consequences. As physical environments become polluted (maybe toxic or irradiated) and otherwise degraded (maybe due to climate change), resident human communities are having their life-worlds torn apart materially and affectively. Drawing directly on expertise and methods from **T2** and **T3**, we trace how such stresses impact upon the afflicted localities as both *milieux* of more-than-human engagement and assemblages of life, labouring and protest. Additionally, we address everyday practices of coping, as well as how anticipations of future stress feed through into modes of environmental governance that, variously, prioritise insecurity and risk-calculation, resilience and renewal, or therapy, recovery and well-being. See also: **Briggs**<sup>3</sup>, **Karaman**<sup>2</sup>, **Last**<sup>1</sup>, **Naylor**<sup>3,4</sup>, **Parr**<sup>2</sup>, **Sharp**<sup>2,4</sup>, **Shaw**<sup>2</sup>.

*Strategic aims, from 2008 to 2014:* Strategic aims for us relate mainly to *people*, and we request that this section (**b.**) is cross-referenced with later remarks about staffing strategy (in **c.**). In RAE2008, our key strategic staffing aims were: (i) securing 3 new permanent academic staff; and (ii) maintaining the throughput of high-quality postdoctoral researchers. We have more than met these aims, thereby achieving a renewal of staff composition (demographically and academically) rendering us better equipped to meet, in a sustainable fashion, the challenges of changing intellectual, funding and real-world landscapes. One effect is that our REF2014 submission has evolved from that described in RAE2008, with new research directions (earmarked for future achievement) emergent from *within* the 4 themes specified at that time. Thus:

- Resistance organising across global-local networks featured in our 2008 theme of 'Spaces of political-economic governance and engagement', but is now re-animated in **T1**, strengthened by appointments of **Featherstone** and **Karaman**, and with new strategic orientations towards subaltern solidarities and refashioning urban theory from the Global South.
- Vulnerable human cohorts and diverse non-human actors were central to our 2008 theme of 'Other geographies', and their conceptualisation is now deepened in **T2**, with the appointment of **Dixon**, **Parr** and **Shaw**, investigating how material-virtual assemblages (the 'more-than-human') meet the biopolitical regulation of 'troublesome' humanities (the 'less-than-human').
- Innovations in geographical methodology informed our 2008 theme of 'Creative geographies and creating geographies', but are now writ large in **T3**, enhanced by appointments of **Dixon**, **Gallagher**, **Last**, **Naylor** and **Parr**, initiating a fresh focus on spaces of experimentation, past, present and in projected projects with scientific and artistic input (linking across to **T4**).
- 'Stressed environments' were referenced in our 2008 theme 'Environment, knowledge and development', but are now central to **T4**, strengthened by appointments of **Dixon** and **Naylor**, and with a new orientation towards interfacing scientific and artistic environmental knowledge-and-practice (and realising new grant applications, already submitted, with staff from ESRG).

## Environment template (REF5)

A subsidiary aim from RAE2008 was to facilitate collaborations between different pairs or groupings of HGRG members, notably between senior/mid-career staff and ECRs. This aim has been realised, leading to shared publications, grant activity, event organisation and PhD supervision: eg. **Featherstone**, *Cumbers*, *MacKinnon*, *Routledge* and postdoctoral fellows (co-writing on 'progressive localisms'; conference on 'In/against/beyond neo-liberalism'); **Lorimer** and **Gallagher** (fellowship award; 'experimental geographies' work; 'Invisible College' project); **Parr** and **Stevenson** (RA) ('Missing Peoples' project); **Philo** and **McGeachan** (fellowship applications; co-writing on 'words'; symposium on 'asylum spaces'); and **Sharp** and **Shaw** (fellowship award; writing on 'politics of gaming'). All of these collaborations are ongoing, even if individuals are now based elsewhere, and our strategy post-2014 will enhance their facilitation through seed-corn project funding, conference support and workload co-ordination.

A second subsidiary aim from RAE2008 was to author more monographs, thereby to make sustained interventions that not only set intellectual agendas but also provide rigorous, theoretically-informed empirical exemplification of these agendas. In RAE2008 we recorded 1 research-based monograph, but for REF2014 we are recording 5 such monographs, all with major publishers listed in REF2 (by **Briggs**<sup>3</sup> [with **Sharp**], **Featherstone**<sup>2,4</sup>, **Naylor**<sup>1</sup>, **Parr**<sup>2</sup>), while **Featherstone** has co-edited *Spatial Politics: Essays for Doreen Massey* (2013) and **Naylor** has co-edited *New Spaces of Exploration* (2010). Our strategy post-2014 will encourage the authorship/editorship of major books through embedding this activity securely in workload modelling and research leave applications.

*Culture and strategy:* Over the REF period, HGRG has deepened its vibrant research culture. We have fostered a collegial ethos that has encouraged collaborations between varying cohorts of staff, leading to shared paper-writing, grant applications, co-supervision of PhD students, conference organisation and running of workshops/exhibitions. Intellectual and strategic engagement between all HGRG members (from Professors to PG students) is embedded in fortnightly meetings, which include: introductions to current research by internal and external speakers; round-table discussions of writing plans and grant proposals; workshops based on 'data' from ongoing studies; and presentations on research by PhD and MRes students.

*Structure and strategy:* HGRG is represented by its Convenor (currently **Sharp**) on the School Research Committee (SRC). The business of the SRC addresses overall research strategy, 'blue skies' thinking and routine business (eg. allocation/monitoring of research leave, seed-corn project funding, conference support). Annual Performance and Development Reviews are conducted by the HoS (or her delegates, including **Briggs**, **Parr** and **Sharp**) with permanent staff and postdoctoral researchers, particularly addressing achievements against strategic aims in research performance (and in meeting 'targets' set in School/University strategic plans).

*Future vision and strategy:* We plan to be consistently demonstrating (inter)disciplinary leadership across all 4 themes, through publication, research activities, sustained theoretical development, innovating methodologically and presentationally, and the 'worlding' of our academic knowledge in impactful ways (see also our REF3a). Planned future investments (of over £1.0M) in high-quality core staff, ECRs and PG students will assist in securing this strategy. Our vision is constantly to surprise the wider (inter)disciplinary community with what our relatively small research cluster can accomplish at the cutting-edge of contemporary human geography.

### c. People, including:

#### I. Staffing strategy and staff development

*Core Staff:* HGRG has a small but dynamic core, currently 11 permanent staff (**Briggs**, **Dixon**, **Featherstone**, **Karaman**, **Lorimer**, **McGeachan**, **Naylor**, **Parr**, **Philo**, **Sharp**, **Shaw**), alongside 2 postdoctoral researchers returned here as Category A (**Gallagher**, **Last**). Also integral are **Stevenson** and **Straughan** (RAs), together with our PG students and a fluctuating mix of retired staff, honorary fellows and visiting scholars. Throughout the REF assessment period, HGRG has consistently enjoyed a *total* membership of between 40 and 50 human geographers, creating a critical mass not immediately apparent from the formal size of our REF submission. Since RAE2008, *Cumbers* and *Routledge* (from the permanent staff) have recently moved to Chair positions elsewhere, albeit *Cumbers* remains in another academic unit at GU and continues as an active on-site research collaborator, while 2 staff members (**Lowder** [not returned to RAE2008] and **Paddison**) have retired during the current assessment period.

## Environment template (REF5)

In RAE2008 we set the strategic aim of recruiting 3 new permanent (research-active) staff, an aim now secured through a net balance of new appointments over departures and retirements. We note: the 2008 appointments of **Featherstone** (Lecturer) and **Parr** (Reader), strategically proleptic on the retirements of Lowder and Paddison; the 2012 appointments of **Dixon** (Professor) and **Naylor** (Senior Lecturer); and the 2013 appointments of **Karaman** and **Shaw** (Lecturers). Thus, we have grown our permanent staff complement by 3 research-active individuals between 2008 and 2014. For half of the assessment period, before Lowder and Paddison retired, our complement was higher, allowing strategic release (for other permanent staff) from normally high teaching-and-administration loads into research activity. We also note the recent addition of a research component to **McGeachan**'s contract (she was initially appointed as a University Teacher).

The strategic recruitment of **Dixon** to a GU Leadership Chair is indicative of clear recognition from the highest levels in GU of HGRG achievement and potential. Staff development during the assessment period has also been evidenced by promotions of **Cumbers** and **Sharp** to Chairs, **Lorimer** to Reader, and **Featherstone** to Senior Lecturer: their career trajectories have been facilitated by HGRG/GES, and these promotions reflect their demonstrably 'maturing' status (as widely-recognised disciplinary leaders) from their still relatively early-career status in RAE2008.

The demographics of HGRG are now more sustainable, with only **Briggs** scheduled to retire during the next assessment period and only **Philo** also over 50. **Gallagher**, **Karaman**, **Last**, **McGeachan** and **Shaw** are all ECRs (on REF2014 criteria). The gender balance has improved with the appointments of **Dixon**, **Last**, **McGeachan** and **Parr**, and with more female (8) than male (4) postdoctoral research fellows and RAs employed during the assessment period. GES is applying for an Athena Swann 'Bronze' award in November 2013, and substantial preparatory data-analysis and re-specification of internal policies/practices has occurred in the lead-up to this application (GU as a whole already has 'Bronze' status, awarded in April 2013).

*Urban Studies Foundation (USF) staff investment.* HGRG has negotiated a long-term investment strategy with USF, a body instituted in the early-2000s by GU scholars from the then departments of Geography and Urban Studies – and linked to the *Urban Studies* journal founded, managed and edited from GU – to promote high-quality urban research both at GU and elsewhere. One specific initiative during the REF period was the appointment of two fixed-term Senior Research Fellows (SRFs) contributing research in what have now become our themes **T1** and **T4**. **Bryceson** and **Mackinnon** were appointed to these posts in 2008: the former's tenure ended in 2013 and the latter has now moved to a Chair elsewhere. A second, longer-running initiative has been a rolling programme of fixed-term USF-funded postdoctoral researcher appointments, reflecting our commitment to providing strong mentorship for ECRs who energise HGRG activity and subsequently add to the human resources of the wider discipline. During the REF period, we have hosted 9 exceptional USF ECRs (*Bond*; *Derrickson*; **Gallagher**; *Hosler*; *Johnston*; *McKee*; **Shaw**; *Strauss*; *Swanson*) all pursuing their own independent research agendas as well as collaborating with HGRG core staff. The 7 USF-funded ECRs leaving GU during the period have moved to full lectureships elsewhere, in the UK and USA, making their own mark on the back of 'value added' by their HGRG experience. **Shaw** has been appointed to a Lectureship here in HGRG/GES, meanwhile, and both **Shaw** and *Strauss* (now at Cambridge) have recently secured ESRC Future Research Leader Fellowships.

Under a new 5-year USF investment plan agreed in Winter 2012, worth in total over £1.0M, one strategic aim is to appoint a new USF-funded SRF/Chair based in HGRG/GES to start early in 2014. Another aim, coupled to use of unspent funds from previous posts, is to appoint 4 new ECRs based in HGRG/GES, 2 to start early in 2014 and 2 more in 2015-2016. These *assured* investments greatly enhance the future sustainability and vitality of HGRG staffing strategy.

### c. II. Research students

Since RAE2008, HGRG has greatly expanded the scale of its PG activity, successfully graduating 17 PhD students (2 registered as 0.5 *fte*), with a further 28 PhD students ongoing (and with 7 new starts for Autumn 2013). Equivalent figures for the previous assessment period were 11 graduated and 17 ongoing, while the average number of awarded PhDs per submitted staff member has near-doubled from 0.69 *fte* to 1.23 *fte*(. Funding sources for our PhD students (over the period and new starts) include 18 ESRC studentships (including 1 ESRC CASE award and 1 ESRC/Scottish Governmental award), 6 AHRC (including 3 AHRC Collaborative awards [CDAs]), 1 MRC, 1 ORS,

**Environment template (REF5)**

3 awards from overseas governments, 6 USF PG grants (reflecting a strategic investment decision flagged in RAE2008), and 6 (highly competitive) University of Glasgow awards (including 3 prestigious interdisciplinary Kelvin-Smith strategic scholarship awards).

HGRG is well-positioned within the new Human Geography Subject Pathway (HGSP) of the post-2010 Scottish Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) in the Social Sciences, having been centrally involved in the predecessor 'Kindrogan Consortium' of Scottish Human Geography and then, through **Philo**, in the set-up work for the DTC/HGSP. **Featherstone** has also been involved in the set-up and running of the DTC's Environmental Change Pathway. The old Consortium and now the HGSP have an annual quota of ESRC Competition PhD studentships, for which constituent units bid competitively by putting forward their best applicants, and we have consistently been the most successful Scottish human geography unit in gaining studentships by this route (securing 11 [44%] of the 25 awarded since 2008). As a matter of strategy, we have been proactive in supporting the work of the Consortium/HGSP, notably through **Philo** (2010-present) designing and running the annual GU 'Getting Started' event for all new-start PhD human geography students across Scotland (not just those ESRC-funded) and *Routledge* (2009-2012) co-organising the annual 'Kindrogan' residential training workshop for these students once into their second/third years.

We run a successful (ESRC- and AHRC- approved/recognised) MRes in Human Geography. Since 2002, we have successfully graduated 76 MRes students, 46 during the assessment period, including 7 who have just completed, and with 16 new starts for Autumn 2013. Of the 46, 23 have progressed into funded PhD positions, reflecting the maturation of a strategy outlined in RAE2008 of creating a high-quality 'feeder' stream to PhD programmes at GU and elsewhere.

All PG students, whether PGR or on the MRes, are members of HGRG, their regular attendance at meetings being expected as part of research training. All PhD students have 2 supervisors and present annually to HGRG as part of formal monitoring procedures. We have an impressive track record of PhD students presenting (and organising sessions) at major conferences; 11 have recently published journal papers while completing their PhDs, while others have held office in RGS-IBG Research Groups or run GU reading groups. The PhD students attend training days and residential workshops through the DTC/HGSP, becoming networked into pan-Scotland cohorts of doctoral researchers. They are formally members of the GES Graduate Cluster, and they receive training in teamwork, presentation, poster design, publications and career development through the Graduate School of the College of Science and Engineering (as well as being able to access specialist training provided by other GU Colleges). Formal monitoring of performance for progression purposes is coordinated at HGRG/GES level, overseen by the College Graduate School Office, which additionally administers matters of admission, funding and examination.

<b>d. Income, infrastructure and facilities</b>
---

Since RAE2008, members of HGRG have been central in securing research grants to the *total* value of c.£4.8M, three times the equivalent figure stated in RAE2008 (£1.6M). The GU share has more than doubled from c.£1.1M to c.£2.3M, while average income per submitted staff member has more than doubled from c.£68k to c.£177k, a figure comfortably exceeding the median figure (c.£127k) for Geography units returned to RAE2008 (most including both human and physical geography components). Strategically, this income has supported intense research activity mapping directly back to the 4 research themes described above.

Highlights include 4 large grants with an international funding dimension: **Briggs's** [Co-PI] EU (ACP) funding (c.£650k) for 'SAFRASS' capacity-building in research and practice relating to South African river health and biodiversity; **Dixon's** [Co-PI] NSF(US)/AHRC funding (c.£580k) for 'Science in arts collaboration on bodies and environments'; **Sharp's** [Co-I] BBSRC/ESRC/NIH (US) funding (c.£1.5M, UK component c.£550k) for 'Impact and social ecology of bacterial zoonoses in Tanzania'; and **Sharp** [Co-I] BBSRC/ESRC/NSF (US) funding (c.£2M, UK component c.£560k) on ecological and socio-economic factors impacting antimicrobial resistance in Tanzania.

RCUK highlights include 2 sizeable grants from the ESRC: *Bryceson* and *MacKinnon's* [Co-PIs] ESRC/DFID funding (c.£650k) for 'Urban growth and poverty in mining Africa'; and **Parr's** [PI] ESRC funding (c.£420k) for 'Geographies of missing people'. HGRG members have also been involved in securing ESRC Seminar Series grants contributing to cross-disciplinary infrastructure: **Featherstone** ('Publics, public intellectualism and academic life'); **Parr** ('Arts, health and well-

## Environment template (REF5)

being’); and **Philo** (‘Rethinking learning disability’). AHRC successes include: **Naylor’s** [Co-I] recent AHRC funding (c.£840k) for ‘Implications of extreme weather events’, building on **Naylor’s** [Co-PI] AHRC funding (c.£90k) for ‘Weather talk, weather walks’; **Lorimer** [PI] and **Gallagher’s** [Co-I] AHRC funding (c.£110k) for ‘The Invisible College: building communities of creative practice’; and **Philo’s** [PI] AHRC/ESRC funding (c.£80k) for ‘The new urban spiritual’. Small research and workshop grants for **Lorimer** reflect strategic ongoing engagement with AHRC agendas, now enhanced by **Naylor** (with experience of moving from AHRC Network Grant to Follow-on Funding Grant). **Featherstone**, **Cumbers**, **MacKinnon** and **Strauss** gained Joseph Rowntree Foundation funding (c.£45k) for ‘Connection, empowerment and exclusion in contemporary Britain’. Two HGRG members gained prestigious ESRC Fellowships: **Sharp** a Mid-Career Development Fellowship (c.£250k) and **Shaw** a Future Research Leader Fellowship (c.£160k); while **Gallagher** gained an AHRC Early Career Fellowship (c.£90k).

The HGRG’s trebling in total research income has been strategically driven by: the appointment of new staff with a demonstrable capacity for income generation; the deliberate turn to collaborations with colleagues in other disciplines and/or beyond GU; and the sustained engagement with RCUK agendas, particularly following the AHRC’s opening up to inputs from ‘cultural’ geography. These strategic moves will be continued and enhanced post-2014, building particularly on new aptitudes brought to HGRG by **Dixon**, **Gallagher**, **Last**, **Naylor**, **Parr** and **Shaw** (all well-versed in creative working between the sciences and the arts), and also benefitting from the wider development of GES accommodation, computing facilities, audio-visual services and research support infrastructure allowed by College/GU initiatives. Indeed, in 2012 **Parr** and **Gallagher** secured equipment funds for high-quality audio equipment, providing technological resources to support the creative, experimental and media-based work associated with **T3**.

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

*Intellectual leadership:* We have displayed vital intellectual *leadership* in numerous ways, including through 251 outputs (130 journal papers) produced over the assessment period by the 13 Category A staff returned on the Census Date, but also through the following notable contributions:

- **Philo** was the invited/nominated Chair of the RGS-IBG 2012 Annual Conference (AC2012), held in Edinburgh, attended by 2,300+ geographers from across the globe. He set the conference theme, ‘Geography of security/insecurity of geography’, introduced in a *TiBG* ‘boundary-crossing’ essay; and circa a third of plenary and Research Group sessions explicitly responded to this theme. HGRG members also organised 11 sessions and contributed 24 papers at AC2012, testament to our disciplinary leadership role.
- **Briggs** was appointed Member of Research Advisory Group, DFID, 2010-present, with a leadership role shaping UK research activity in the Global South as connected to practical DFID strategy. This role connects with his role at GU as International Dean and Director of Glasgow Centre for International Development (GCID), and also with 3+ decades of collaborative and community engagement across Africa (**Briggs**<sup>3</sup>).
- **Philo**, as an RAE2008 panelist, coordinated/drafted a substantial paper based on the panel’s assessments of UK human geography, used as a key document for the ESRC International Benchmarking Review of Human Geography (June 2008). **Philo**, **Featherstone**, **Lorimer** and a HGRG PG student (*Forsyth*) were invited to meet the Review Team at the RGS.
- High-profile invited keynote presentations, notably: **Philo**<sup>1</sup>, *PIHG* Annual Lecture, RGS-IBG AC2011; **Naylor**<sup>1</sup>, Royal Society Invited Public Lecture, 2010; and **Sharp**<sup>1</sup>, ‘Spatialising the (geo)political’, IGU Commission on Political Geography, Frankfurt, 2011.
- High-profile conference and event (co-)organisation, a small sample being: **Featherstone**, ‘Spatial politics’ (to celebrate work of Doreen Massey), RGS session, 2012; **Cumbers** and **Featherstone**, 6<sup>th</sup> International Critical Geography Conference, ‘Oppositional struggles’ worldwide theme convenors, Frankfurt, 2011; **Parr** and **Stevenson**, ‘Creative methods and encounter’, RGS session, 2013; and **Lorimer** and **Gallagher**, ‘Invisible College’, 3 site-based environmental learning workshops, St Peter’s Seminary, Cardross, various dates.
- We have run several major academic events at GU: **Featherstone**, **Cumbers**, **MacKinnon**, *Routledge* and others, ‘In/against/beyond neo-liberalism’ conference (March 2012); **Featherstone** and **Hasty**, ‘Salty geographies’ (October 2010); **Featherstone** and others, ‘C.L.R. James: beyond a boundary’ (May 2013); **Lorimer** and **Parr**, ‘Excursions: storying

## Environment template (REF5)

journeys' conference (December 2011); **McGeachan** with **Philo**, 'Asylum spaces' symposium with Durham geographers (January 2013); **Parr** with GU Institute of Health and Well-being, 'Arts and health' (September 2012); and **Philo**, 'New spiritualities' symposium (May 2011).

- RCUK Fellowships for **Gallagher**, **Sharp** and **Shaw** (see **d.** above) reflecting acknowledgement of their early- and mid-career disciplinary leadership roles.

*Infrastructural contribution:* HGRG has been centrally involved in developing and sustaining collaborations and networks – near and far, both within our discipline and reaching beyond it – and, in so doing, we have been providing infrastructural *leadership* of UK/global human geography:

- Major editorships during the assessment period: *Cultural Geographies* ('cultural geographies in practice' section, **Lorimer**); *Environment and Planning A* (**Dixon**); *Geographical Journal* (**Briggs**); *Journal of Historical Geography* (reviews, **Naylor**); *Progress in Human Geography* (**Philo**); *Social Geography* (Germany-based) (**Philo**); *Geography Compass* (Political Geography section) (**Sharp**); *Political Geography* (reviews, **Sharp**).
- Major book-related editorial responsibilities, notably: **Lorimer** co-edits *Geographers Biobibliographical Studies* (annual book-length periodical) on behalf of the IGU Commission on the History of Geographical Thought; **Philo** edited the 'Philosophy and Theory' section (c.100 essay entries) for *International Encyclopaedia of Human Geography* (2009), edited *Theory and Methods: Human Geography Reader* (2008) and has co-edited *SAGE Handbook of Human Geography* (2014); **Sharp** was editorial board member for *Dictionary of Human Geography* (2009) and co-edited *Ashgate Research Companion to Critical Geopolitics* (2013).
- Core members of HGRG have contributed 22 essays to the handbooks and 26 entries for the encyclopaedias/dictionaries now forming the discipline's reference-work infrastructure.
- We have contributed fully to Research Group activity of the RGS-IBG, not least as evidenced by our robust engagement with AC2012, and **Philo** (2011-2013) has sat on both RGS Council and RGS Research Committee.

*Internal cross-disciplinary collaborations:* HGRG has research links across GES to ESRG. **Briggs** and **Sharp**'s African research has included collaborations with physical geographers, and **Dixon**'s approach to science-arts collaborations is enlisting GU earth scientists/physical geographers in major research grant applications. Elsewhere in GU, HGRG is closely aligned to the Urban Studies cluster in the College of Social Sciences, particularly through the *Urban Studies* journal, published by SAGE, but managed and edited between HGRG and Urban Studies staff at GU (**Cumbers** and **Paddison** have been Managing Editors for much of the REF assessment period).

Other GU connections arise through **Briggs**'s Directorship of Glasgow Centre for International Development (GCID), which cross-cuts all GU colleges, and through various strands of research grant activity and PhD co-supervision, including with: the College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences, notably epidemiology and veterinary researchers (**Sharp**) and health researchers (**Parr** and **Philo**); the College of Social Sciences, notably critical scholars in business and management (where **Cumbers** is now based); and the College of Arts, notably theatre, performance and visual arts scholars linked into AHRC-facing activity (**Lorimer**, **Gallagher** and now **Dixon**, **Last** and **Naylor**) and also medical humanities scholars (**McGeachan**, **Parr** and **Philo**).

*External (disciplinary and cross-disciplinary) collaborations:* HGRG members are leading a number of external collaborations in addition to the ESRC Seminar Series and AHRC Networks/Workshops noted above: **Briggs** continues his experience of leading research collaboration with Southern scholars in an EU grant with academics at universities in South Africa and Zambia; **Dixon** leads the UK part of a NSF/AHRC grant, with academics at Arizona and Wisconsin; **Sharp** is leading the development of social science involvement in health research for the interdisciplinary BBSRC/ESRC/NIH and BBSRC/ESRC/NSF grants, with academics and practitioners in Tanzania; **Parr**'s research for her ESRC grant is pioneering research collaboration with police and practitioners in both New York and Brussels, while, with **Philo**, she is collaborating in research on urban psychosis with geographers/psychiatrists from Switzerland; **Karaman** has a leading role (with special responsibility for directing PG researchers) in the ongoing 'Comparative urbanisms' grant (2011-2015), jointly funded by ETH-Zurich and the National Research Foundation of Singapore, which is a highly cross-disciplinary encounter between human geography, sociology, anthropology and architecture; and **Last** held a Fellowship/mentoring role at the Metropolitan Observatory for Digital Culture and Representation, University of Michigan.