

Institution: Aberystwyth University

Unit of Assessment: 21 Politics and International Studies

a. Overview

With its centenary approaching in 2019, and its well-established reputation as a major force in the discipline globally, the Department of International Politics continues to develop its traditional strengths while contributing to setting new agendas. The Department has undergone considerable change of personnel since 2008, enjoying a substantial recent uplift in investment by the University (15 new appointments since 2012 alone), that has enabled new opportunities for enhancing its activities. It is organized currently into 13 (flexible and adaptable) Research Groups, alongside 6 (durable) Centres and Institutes. The former have recently included: international political theory; trust in world politics; third world politics; environmental politics; critical approaches to terrorism; security; politics, philosophy and international thought; performance and politics; Europe; citizenship studies; international history; post-international; and critical and cultural politics. The latter comprise the David Davies Memorial Institute; Centre for Health and International Relations; Centre for the Study of Global Transformation; Centre for Intelligence and International Security Studies; Institute of Welsh Politics; and the (cross-Departmental) Centre for European Studies. These sub-units are inter-disciplinary in nature and draw widespread participation from many other Departments in the University, such as History, Theatre, Film and Television, Law and Criminology, and Geography. The Department's continuing vitality is linked directly to its very strong brand-identity as a leading, critical, and agenda-setting voice in the IR discipline: its hallmark is openness and inclusiveness towards new approaches to the subject, while at the same time maintaining its traditional strengths. This is reflected in the broad range of the coverage and theoretical commitments indicated by its many Research Groups. Its sustainability is amply confirmed by its rapid adaptation to turnover in personnel, and its demonstrated ability to attract new staff at the very highest levels of research performance (including two Professors and three Readers in the most recent round). Moreover, the Department has added to its past success in recruiting world-class scholars from around the globe (from the United States, Greece, Germany and Russia as well as two new colleagues from Australia since 2012). As of July 2013, its inter-disciplinary nature was formalised and will be enhanced by becoming part of a new Institute (along with History, Welsh History and Geography and Earth Sciences), in which the Department will retain its individual identity. This forms part of a general regrouping of the academic departments in the University.

b. Research strategy

The Department's aim has been to sustain and further augment its status (recognized in the 2008 RAE) as one of the leading centres in its field globally. The particular strengths identified at the time derived from the combination of its rich and formative research *culture*, alongside those effective research *structures* that directly facilitate delivery of research outputs of the highest standard globally. Accordingly, the Department's current strategy continues to prioritise both of those dimensions. It sees them as mutually reinforcing: the former stimulates the commitment to the intellectual enterprise, and the latter sets in place the processes and resources necessary to translate this vision into end results. The third main objective set out in 2008 was consolidation of the already very high quality of the PhD cohort, along with its further possible expansion, and its achievements in this regard are fully evidenced under c.ii below. These aims have been developed within the overall context of the University's Strategic Plan.

Accordingly, the three broad objectives that have guided strategy during this past REF cycle, and that remain in operation for the next five years, are as follows:

1) Maintaining the intellectual environment for innovative research.

This reflects our intellectual commitment to research as the core activity that informs everything that we do, including the delivery of excellent teaching. We aim to spark excitement and curiosity in a broad IR agenda, not least by fostering a sense of being at the heart of its development. This is clearly demonstrated in the exceptionally wide participation of world-leading scholars across the entire range of our multiple activities:

- the Department's weekly Research Seminar (external speakers have included Chris Brown,

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Robyn Eckersley, Colin Hay, Kimberley Hutchings, Patrick Thaddeus Jackson, Iver Neumann, Baroness Onora O'Neill, Matthew Paterson, Nick Rengger, Chris Reus-Smit, David Sanders)

- the regular international conferences sponsored, hosted or co-organised by the Department that are evidence of continuing success in setting global agendas (recent highlights include *The King of Thought: Theory, the Subject and Waltz* (2008); *Special Responsibilities* (2010); *Globalisation and Civilisation in International Relations* (co-organised with the Department of Sociology, University College Dublin in 2010); *The Cuban Missile Crisis: A Fifty Year Retrospective* (2012); and *International Relations Theory Today* (2013). Other major conferences have included:

Trust-building in Conflict Transformation (2008); *The War on Terror: Perspectives from the Global South* (2008); *Will and Reason: Negotiating the Medieval in Modern International Relations* (2009); *Copenhagen and Climate Change* (2009); *100 Years of British Intelligence* (2009); *Vasily Grossman: Ruthless Truth in the Totalitarian Century* (2011); *A Decade of Intelligence Beyond 9/11* (2011); *Challenges of Security Cooperation in Europe* (2012); *Wales Environmental Leadership Conference* (2013); *Past, Present, and Future of Intelligence* (2013) and *The Human Dimensions of Climate Change: The Politics of Food and Water Security in Africa* (2013).

- the programme of public lectures (annual Waltz and Carr lectures as well as annual lectures for its various Centres and Institutes), given by a host of distinguished invitees (these include Rt Hon Des Browne, Lord Robin Butler, Barry Buzan, Norman Davies, Stuart Elden, Hon Gareth Evans, Cheryl Gillan MP, Prof Lord Hennessy, Andrew Hurrell, Charlie Jeffery, Robert Jervis, First Minister Carwyn Jones, Robert Keohane, Marti Koskeniemi, Ned Lebow, Baroness E. Manningham-Buller, Thomas Melia, and Dame Gill Morgan).
- In any one week, there is likely to be in the order of 5-6 events organised by Research Groups, and many of these activities are led by Research Students. Speakers at Research Groups or colloquia have included Simon Hix, Vivienne Jabri, Lord D. Owen, Cynthia Weber and O. A. Westad.

It is the diversity and intensity of these activities that typifies the Department's research milieu. This culture has been central to the Department's ability to attract high-quality staff, and to generate the intellectual context for work of the highest quality: this distinctive Aberystwyth-brand vitality, in turn, provides the best assurance of the Department's future sustainability. Research students are pivotal to the extremely wide-ranging Research Group activities that take place on an everyday basis.

Equally fundamental to fostering a creative research milieu is the scope of the disciplinary portfolio that we embrace. The Department has recently chosen to consolidate its traditional portfolio of research interests (in diverse aspects of IR theory, security, nuclear strategy and proliferation, intelligence and cold-war history), while selectively expanding into new areas (such as the cyber dimension of international relations and security, post-conflict reconstruction, further engagement with global health governance, and the study of East Asia and BRICs). This traditional/new agenda confirms its commitment to a broadly-based variety of historical, social scientific, reflective, and critical approaches. The key to this diversity in substance and approach is that each sub-field remains fully committed to a collective appreciation of broader disciplinary developments, as expressed through the integrative and encompassing forum of the weekly IP Research Seminar: in this way we seek to maximise the benefits of diversity while avoiding the pitfalls of fragmentation.

2) Promoting the delivery of research excellence

A culture of diversity needs, in addition, to be accompanied by the appropriate structures and resources for actual delivery of research excellence (defined as the highest quality research outputs, along with wide dissemination, engagement and impact). This second dimension of the strategy has three main components: the institutional organization of research; research income

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and resources; and retention of the Department's tried-and-tested system of research leave provision, as detailed under c (i).

On the institutional front, the flexible nature of its Research Groups gives the Department a 'rapid response' capability to set, and engage with, new research agendas, and to maximise the opportunities afforded by new personnel. This is a key feature, and encourages individuals to formulate their own research programmes and grant applications. In some cases, these can result in more durable structures over time (as in the case of the recent transformation of the Politics and Performance Research Group into a University inter-disciplinary Centre). In contrast, its already established Institutes and Centres enhance its sustainability through their structured capacity to undertake long-term research programmes, to develop strategic research funding applications, and to build strong staff profiles around them. This is evidenced, for example, by CHAIR (and the ensuing many publications by McInnes, McInnes and Rushton, Rushton and Williams, Williams and Kay); such CISS research activities as its programme of biennial conferences (resulting in many books and special issues of journals, such as *Intelligence and National Security* 2012, 2013; Scott, Hughes and Alexander; Scott and Hughes; Hughes, Jackson, and Scott); the DDMI research streams on harm (Linklater), legitimacy (Clark), trust (Wheeler and Ruzicka) which have all produced a significant series of books (and the very rare achievement of multi-volume thematic treatments, either completed or in progress) and articles; and the broadening scope of the programmes of the IWP that has enabled the production of a large number of publications, as well as driving significant engagement and dissemination activities (Elias, Lewis, Royles, Wyn Jones and Royles).

Examples of the Department's role in editing special issues of major journals have been noted. Other examples are *Civil Wars*, 11(4), 2009 (Bliesemann de Guevara); *Human Figurations* 1(1) 2012 (Linklater); *Inteligencia y Seguridad Revista de Analisis y Prospectiva*, Jan-June 2013 (Hillebrand, Bennett et al), *Intelligence and National Security*, 24(1) 2009 (Scott et al); *International Relations*, 26 (3) 2012 (Scott); *Journal of Critical Studies on Terrorism*, 3 (1) 2010 (Gol); *Journal of European Studies*, 43(4) 2013 (Finney); *Journal of Intervention and State Building*, 4(2), 2010 (Bliesemann de Guevara), *Peace and Security* 27(2), 2009 (Bliesemann de Guevara), and *Regional and Federal Studies*, 18(5) 2008 (Elias).

A major objective set out in 2008 was to increase research grant income, as detailed in REF4 and further described in d), below. Staff at all levels have indeed enjoyed greater encouragement and success in both small and large research grants during this period, although we see the potential for yet further development in this area. There is now a clearer appreciation of the contribution that success in this activity can make to research excellence. Accordingly the Department is collectively working towards achievement of specific goals for the period 2013-17, namely to raise annual research income from £750k to £980k. The further evolution of its existing Centres will assign to them an enhanced strategic role in this development. The Department is already fine-tuning and extending its grants capture strategy in three other targeted areas. Firstly, we will further tailor support for grants and research development across the range from Early Career Researchers through to Professorial staff. In particular, ECRs will receive additional support and guidance on the application process, targeting both postdoctoral and early career schemes available under ESRC, British Academy, and ERC in particular. Secondly, we will seek also to build in greater opportunities for ECRs and Research Students, within the framework of larger programme and Centre-based grants. In this respect, our Centres will become hubs for both in-house and external collaborations, exploiting our current strengths in such areas as security studies, international political theory, intelligence, global health and Welsh politics. Thirdly, an organic approach to research funding will very much continue to be nurtured under the guidance and support offered to our Research Groups within the broader research culture, especially with regard to the availability of network and conference grants from ESRC, ERC, British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust.

3) Fostering the highest quality graduate school.

One of the Department's major strengths, confirmed in RAE 2008, was its commitment to maintaining a graduate school of the very highest quality. This is the third objective and remains at the heart of present strategy. In turn, this requires preserving current very high completion and

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success rates for PhDs; and where possible seeking to increase fully-funded awards for research students. Since 2007, the Department has seen a modest increase in numbers of PhDs to the recent level in 2012 of 54 PhDs in years 1-4. However, the focus is above all upon retention of the excellent quality of this school.

Departmental investment in research student support stood at an annual level of £130k in the period 2001-7, and is now upwards of £160k. All our PhDs are full-time, and the vast majority (87%) are fully funded:

Funding for PhDs 2008-13

All of our PhD students are full-time, and 84% (an average of 34 per annum) have been funded by studentships from the following sources:

ESRC	9	26.5%
University	11	32%
Department	8	24%
Other external	6	17.5%

Some 22 nationalities are represented in the present cohort, and the gender balance is virtually even. The key strategic objective is quality, and the immersion of the research students into the Department’s internationally recognised research culture. The successful implementation of this strategy is further detailed in c) ii, below.

These three strategic elements – intellectual milieu, structures and resources, and flagship graduate school - position the Department to continue to play a global role in the future of the discipline. This is especially so when viewed in light of recent investment in new staff appointments.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The 2008 RAE statement argued that the Department was then close to its optimum size (around 33 Cat A staff), and envisaged an essentially steady-state condition for the future. This has since been broadly realised, but with the additional bonus of some modest growth to develop new areas. The staffing strategy of the department has been and remains to recruit and further develop researchers with outstanding potential, and with a demonstrated commitment to undertaking high quality, agenda-setting research. This demands and has received a particular focus on nurturing early career researchers, and is demonstrated through systems in place for probation, mentoring, staff development, and special access to University research funding for ECRs. Overall, Departmental staffing strategy is largely shaped by, and always closely coordinated with, research strategy. Accordingly, recruitment priorities have been determined by how best to achieve a balance between innovation and consolidation: recent appointments have added considerably to the strength of our portfolios in health, cyber security, BRICS, and post-colonial and post-secular theory; they have equally augmented expertise in international political, normative and critical theory. At the same time, sustainability in the longer term requires a healthy mix of appointments at all levels. The Department strives to achieve a judicious blend of senior, middle, and early career appointments: at the senior level, for example, appointments have included (to Chairs or Readerships) Craig, Beardsworth, Enemark, Hamati-Ataya, Pasha and Radchenko; at the early career level, Bennett, Bridoux, Carr, Davenport, Efsthopoulos, Hillebrand, Lewis, Powell, Ruzicka, Stoddart and Stullerova); as well as established scholars at the middle level, such as Bliesemann de Guevara.

Since 2008, a significant number of staff have been recruited to senior positions elsewhere (such as Korosteleva (Chair), Gunning, Breen-Smyth (Chair), Death, P. Jackson (Chair), Williams (Chair)). This underlines the important role played by the Department in staff development and in contributing to the disciplinary research base generally. These movements have, at the same time, presented various opportunities to reconfigure the composition of the Department. As a result, the pattern of departures and new appointments has produced a net increase in the proportion of female staff who now, in addition, play a very prominent role in the Department’s management. Additionally, 60% of all internal promotions during this period were female. Turnover overall since

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2008 remains broadly comparable to the period 2001-7. Approximately 16 staff have left or retired since 2008. We have in the same period added approximately 18. There has therefore been a small net gain overall, but more importantly this presents compelling evidence of healthy renewal and sustainability, and of the broad achievement of the 2008 goal of stabilising at an optimum steady-state size. The Department has embraced the 2011 phase out of default retirement age, retains staff who wish to remain in employment at an FTE that suits their needs, and integrates those who are research-active into its core research activities (e.g. Booth as Director of DDMI between 2010 and 2013).

Moreover, the Department uses its sabbatical provision as a strategic element in its recruitment policy: since the policy affords a major opportunity for long-term development of research projects, it is a key element in attracting and motivating new research-driven staff. The research leave arrangements which were established in the late 1990s (namely one semester's leave after three semesters of teaching, or after four semesters in the case of new appointees) have remained in place throughout this assessment period. Members of its Management Team enjoy a distinctive regime of one-year of MT service, followed by one-year of leave. During calendar years 2008-mid 2013, a total of 46 staff semesters of research leave were approved by the University, and there is a demonstrated link between this policy and the objective of achieving research excellence. For example, it makes a major contribution, in particular, to enabling completion of long-term research projects. As evidence of the success of this approach, a total of 25 submitted items from the Department (around one quarter of all nominated outputs for REF) are authored books.

An explicit link is made between past delivery of targets (as monitored through research leave reports by the University centrally) and future leave entitlements. For over a decade, the Department has implemented a system of twice-yearly research monitoring of all staff, undertaken by the Director of Research. The Director, in turn, reports to the University centrally in annual monitoring undertaken by the University Research Committee. Probationary and Early Career entrants are strongly supported by University and Departmental mechanisms. There is a formal University probationary system, and each new member of staff is mentored. New appointees enter into research compacts that clearly set out expectations on both sides. An effective system of grant application support has been established that involves the Departmental Director of Research and the University's Research Office. The Director liaises on a regular basis with the designated University Research Officer, and attends a monthly meeting of all Directors of Research, chaired by the PVC for research. Similarly, the Department has embraced the opportunities of the Impact agenda in a number of ways: by including it as a formal dimension of Research Monitoring; by organising a series of Staff Forums to encourage best practice; and by discussing impact strategies at Away Days. Reflections on strategies are encouraged in the weekly IP Research Seminars. A Departmental Engagement and Impact Fund has been established to provide financial support for colleagues who are developing research projects with significant impact potential.

ii. Research students

The number of PhD degrees awarded during this period has been 17 (2008-9); 12 (2009-10); 18 (2010-11); 10 (2011-12), yielding a total of 57 in less than 4 years, compared to a total of 71 during the 7 years 2001-7. Important as those numbers are, we pride ourselves especially on our unbeatable submission rate of 100% (our last non-submission was in 2006-7), and during the period 2007/08-2011/12 of all 67 submissions, 65 candidates achieved a category (a) or (b) pass, with minor amendments, and none failed.

This quality is carefully maintained and competition for places in our graduate school is intense; we regularly have close to 100 applications annually and deliberately restrict the intake on quality considerations. The success rate has averaged 14.25%. during the REF cycle. As part of its annual admissions round, the Department shortlists and interviews 35 to 45 candidates before offering places. Our enviable submission and pass rate is due in part to the excellent intake that results, but also to our rigorous system of supervisory meetings (these are scheduled on a fortnightly basis and discussions are minuted, with future action plans noted). There is a team of two supervisors for each student, a system of six monthly research monitoring of all students (and annually by the University), and full integration of PhDs into the research community of the

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Department: PhD students are active in the organisation of Research Groups, conferences and workshops. All have the opportunity to teach, and training to do so, as part of their career development.

With respect to research training, over and above the formal University and Departmental training modules they are required to undertake, all PhDs are required to attend the weekly IP Research Seminar, and give thesis presentations to the entire Department in each of their three years of registration. In addition, our annual programme of Doctoral Workshops provides professional development for the PhD community by promoting all aspects of professionalization, including writing and publication strategies, conference organization and participation, and funding opportunities. Research students assess their Continuing Professional Development needs annually. The Department is a participant in the ESRC Wales Doctoral Training Centre. It organized and hosted a PhD workshop on security, conflict and justice in 2012, with participation from Swansea and Cardiff Universities, with a follow-up session on this same theme in June 2013 at Swansea University. With respect to the scheme, international history research students are eligible for AHR/Block Grant Partnerships.

The Department's research students are a major presence at professional conferences. In turn, the value added by this developmental activity is measurable by the fact that, during the period 2008-11, 22 of the PhDs graduating from the Department secured academic positions, not including short-term post-docs or other research positions. Of these, 16 took up appointments in the UK, and 6 abroad. Across the past four years, the Department's research students have typically in each year published about 7 articles or book chapters, and presented about 25 conference papers. The latter have been at major national and international conferences, including ISA, BISA, UACES, PSA, and at many prestigious Universities and Centres across North America and Europe. A significant number of its PhD graduates have subsequently published book versions of their theses: some submitting before 2008 but published afterwards (e.g. Baron, O'Driscoll, Peoples, Vaughan-Williams, and Williams); some submitting 2008 or afterwards and since published (e.g. Bilgic, Death, Mavelli, and Toros); and others have books currently in production (e.g. Lima). Demonstrating the sustained quality of the school, Stephan Petzold won the British International History Group Thesis Prize for 2012, Erzsabet Strausz won the BISA best thesis prize for 2012, and Iain Wilson the prize for the best article in *The Journal of Common Market Studies* in 2011.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The University invested in the establishment of a Research Office in 2010 to provide an improved support service to researchers, including grant development and application, improved research finance processes, large research-intensive project management, and REF and Research Environment Monitoring. Major developments include investment of c. £130,000 in a Current Research Information System (PURE) to support research monitoring and REF. In July 2013 the Research Office merged with the University's Enterprise Office to create the Department of Research, Business & Innovation. With a combined staff of 50, the Department works to deliver integrated and proactive research and enterprise development services whilst reducing the related administrative burden on academics. Various meetings and events are organised by the Department of RBI to encourage interdisciplinary research e.g. a monthly Research Café open to all PGRs, researchers and academics, and interdisciplinary workshops around funding opportunities e.g. Leverhulme Research Programme Grants.

Research grant income has totalled £3.5m approximately in the period between 2008 and 2013: in effect, grant capture in any **one** year since 2008 is very close to **total** capture of all years combined during the period 2001-7. This is a clear measure of progress. Evidence for this is confirmed in the securing of highly competitive research awards, with the successful targeting of ESRC, British Academy and EU streams of funding. The highlights here, by magnitude of grant, are:

McInnes: €2.35m Advanced Investigator Award from ERC in 2009, as well as RCUK/ESRC International Security Research Forum £147k, illustrating the 'structural' route to grant capture through CHAIR;

Kurki: €817,922 from ERC under FP7 (ERC 2008-12), offering a good example of the 'organic'

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route fostered by the research culture in the case of an early career researcher;

Wheeler: £394,850 from ESRC/AHRC Global Uncertainties in 2008 on the challenge of trust building in an age of nuclear weapons;

Clark: £330,000 from ESRC Professorial Fellowship 2007-10;

Suetsugu: BA Post-Doctoral Fellowship;

Elias: Nuffield Foundation Early Career Fellowship;

Scully: £100,000 from ESRC in 2010 for a survey and study of the Welsh devolution referendum.

The Department supports research directly in a number of ways, in addition to its promotion of research grant income. There is an individual Departmental research allowance of £900 annually. There are also Departmental subventions to support the activities of the various Research Groups (with an overall budget of £8,000). Staff can further apply for supplementary support, on a competitive basis, to the University Research and Conference Funds.

The Department is housed in its own iconic building, constructed 8 years ago, bringing together all staff and research students in a single purpose-built space. This has immense benefits in fostering an integrated research culture of which the graduate school is a central part. Research students enjoy office accommodation in the building (usually on a 2-4 share basis), with full IT provision and relevant technical support. There is also space for Visiting Scholars, and as part of its outreach programme, the Department has been host to scholars from China (Dr Dan Li, Xiamen University) and Professor Wang Xingang (Northwest University); from Turkey (Dr Kemal Çiftçi, Atılım University); from Poland (Dr Marcin Kaczmarski, University of Warsaw), and from Spain (Dr Anna Herranz-Surralles and Dr Michał Natorski (Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals).

Most research-based meetings, seminars and conferences take place within the building and this contributes further to a sense of cohesion. The Department continues to enjoy access to Gregynog Hall Conference Centre near Newtown, the former home of David Davies, the founding benefactor of the Department. This venue is routinely used for Departmental conferences and postgraduate training courses.

The Department receives from the University an annual allocation of £82,000 for Library resources. The University's Hugh Owen Library has built its impressive collection of research materials in the field over the past century. Moreover, it is located immediately adjacent to the National Library of Wales (one of the UK's five copyright libraries), to which all staff and Research Students have access, and which provides unique research holdings.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

The Department's kite mark reputation in the field has enabled it to act as the catalyst for, or otherwise to make major contributions towards, various forms of international, national, and local collaboration:

There have been many examples of **international** collaboration, including:

Bliesemann de Guevara, head of the research group 'Knowledge Production under Difficult Circumstances: The Role of International Crisis Group' [with Morten Bøås (Fafo Oslo), Sonja Grigat (Magdeburg University), Sebastian Huhn (Bielefeld University/GIGA Hamburg), Nikolas Kosmatopoulos (Columbia University Paris), Roland Kostić (Uppsala University), Boris Wilke (Bielefeld University)]. This group has now submitted an FP7 application for a collaborative project grant (max. €2.5 million);

Clark, with Christian Reus-Smit, won an initial British Academy Larger Research Grant to form a collaborative group. This was further enhanced through his ESRC Professorial Fellowship and resulted in joint authorship (involving participants in UK, Australia, Italy, United States, and Canada) of *Special Responsibilities* (CUP 2012);

DDMI with Climate Change Consortium Wales, Food and Water Conference, September 2013. This is a major collaboration with IBERS and will bring together academics, NGOs, and policymakers, with scholars participating from Ghana, South Africa, Egypt, and Ethiopia, amongst others.

Edkins, 'Telling Stories' Project, with Naeem Inayatullah (Ithaca), Himadeep Muppidi (Vasaar), Annick Wibben (USF), Michael J. Shapiro (Hawaii), Elizabeth Dauphinee (York), and Maja Zehfuss

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(Manchester);

Erskine and Booth, project on 'International Relations Theory Today' brought together a very distinguished group of IR theorists from the USA, Canada, and Europe, e.g. Patrick Jackson, Ned Lebow and William Wohlforth;

Finney, with Abigail Williams and Mark Damazer (St Peter's, Oxford); Philip Bullock (Wadham, Oxford); representatives of BBC Radio 4 (Martin Sixsmith and Rob Ketteridge); and colleagues in the Centro Studi Grossman, Turin, held a workshop on the life and work of Soviet war correspondent/novelist Vasily Grossman, in Oxford in September 2011;

Linklater, with Professors Stephen Mennell and Robert van Krieken, Department of Sociology, University College Dublin jointly organised a conference on process sociology and international relations held in Dublin in April 2010 that led to a special issue of *Human Figurations* that contributed to broadening the inter-disciplinary research base;

McInnes, with Kelley Lee (Simon Fraser/formerly LSHTM), on an ERC-funded project on 'Transformation of Global Health Governance';

Ruzicka, part of the international research project "Global Prohibition Regimes: Theoretical Refinement and Empirical Analysis". The project is supported by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (project no. 13-26485S), 2013-2016.

National collaboration examples include:

Participation in the HEFCW-funded Climate Change Consortium Wales; inter-institutional PhD research colloquia (Aberystwyth-Lancaster Graduate Colloquium held annually over the past decade, the Aberystwyth-LSE graduate student conference), and the following initiatives:

Bennett, 'The Threat from Below: How Intelligence Counters Irregular Adversaries', special edition of the Spanish journal, *Inteligencia y Seguridad*, co-edited with Rory Cormac (Nottingham), Michael Goodman (King's College) and Claudia Hillebrand (Aberystwyth)

Hillebrand with colleagues from King's College London and Loughborough University co-edited a handbook on intelligence that was published 2013;

Scott, joint conference on Cuban Missile Crisis organised between CISS and the Cambridge Intelligence Seminar, to produce an edited book.

Many of its **local** collaborations take place within the University through its Research Groups (e. g. environmental politics, performance and politics, international history, citizenship). CHAIR works with IGES (New Political Geographies), IBERS, and Law. Global Development and Postcolonial Politics Network involves the Department, along with Law, TFTS, English, Geography, and History. The Department has also, for example, contributed to a Critical Legal Conference with Law.

The Department's contribution to the discipline and research base is demonstrated in a number of ways, and is to be found at all levels of professional seniority. It plays host to a number of journals : *Bulletin of Latin American Research; Contemporary Wales; Critical Asian Studies, Intelligence and National Security; International Relations; Journal of Intervention and State Building; Medicine, Conflict and Survival; Minerva: Journal of Women and War* (2007-10) edited from within Department, and approximately 50% of staff otherwise serve on Editorial Boards (including *Alternatives, American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences, American Political Science Review, Bloomsbury Review, Cambridge Review of International affairs, Critical Asian Studies, Critical Studies on Security, Critical Terrorism Studies, Environment and Planning D, European Journal of International Relations, European Security, Globalizations, Human Figurations, International Journal of International Ethics, International Peacekeeping, International Political Sociology, International Studies Review, International Theory, Journal of Cold War Culture, Journal of International Political Theory, Mediterranean Politics, Memory and Society, Rethinking History, Review of International Studies*, and *Security Dialogue*.

Staff members have been editors of major book series (Edkins: Routledge Interventions; Wheeler: CUP Cambridge Studies in International Relations; Bliesemann De Guevara: 'Zentrum und Peripherie' for Rainer Hampp Verlag), or on their Editorial Boards. Most staff routinely serve as readers for all the major publishers, and as reviewers for the most prestigious journals internationally.

The Department plays a prominent role in the key learned societies within the discipline. For example, it has housed the British International Studies Association national office since 2006. As it has done historically, the Department has continued to supply principal officers of the Association including Chair 2007-8 (McInnes), President 2009-10 (McInnes); Vice-President (Booth); Secretary 2010-11 (R. Jackson); Convenor of Africa Working Group (Death) and co-convenor of CRIPT group (Stullerova). Other members of the Department have played equally prominent roles in the International Studies Association. Pasha was Vice President in 2012-13, Erskine convened its ethics section and has been elected to its Governing Council, and Williams is vice-chair of its new global health section. Moreover, Taylor has been Vice-President and President of the Society for Latin American Studies, and Bliesemann De Guevara is head of the German Political Science Association Working Group 'Orders of Violence'.

With respect to funding bodies, McInnes has been on numerous ESRC/AHRC Panels and Boards and was Director of the influential RCUK Interim Security Research Forum, awarded an ESRC grant to undertake initial scoping of Global Uncertainties; Kurki serves on the ERC Review College and Erskine on the ESRC Peer Review College; Clark served two terms as Chair of Posts of the British Academy, with responsibility for its various research fellowship schemes; Alexander, Scott and Finney have been members of the AHRC Peer Review College; Scott served on the ESRC/AHRC Global Uncertainties Commissioning Panel; Booth is a Trustee of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation; Linklater was Chair of Research Grants Panel in Politics and International Studies of the Finnish Academy, and on the Politics and IR Standing Committee of the British Academy; Taylor sits on the British Academy Latin American and Caribbean Panel.

Building on its already well-established levels of recognition (with 3 FBAs in its ranks), the Department has continued to gain significant measures of esteem. With respect to recognition by learned societies: McInnes was elected to ACSS in 2011; Clark and Linklater became Founding Fellows of the Learned Society of Wales 2010, and Linklater a Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science 2010; Bennett and Hughes were elected to FRHistS. Similarly, members of the Department have been invited to give many keynote addresses (Booth, Craig, Edkins, Erskine, Hughes, Kurki, Linklater, McInnes, Scott, Suganami, and Taylor), as well as annual named lectures (Linklater, first Carnegie lecture, University of Glasgow 2012; Clark, Hinsley lecture (Cambridge) 2009; Martin Wight lecture (LSE/Chatham House/Sussex) 2010).

As evidenced by these multiple collaborations as well as by its strategic role in key professional associations and its widespread recognition within the field, the Department can be seen as a highly effective contributor to the research base in its discipline.

The next phase of the Department's development will include integrating a large number of new colleagues into the research culture, thereby consolidating traditional areas of excellence (international relations, security studies and international history) as well as extending the research base in global health and international relations and building the new areas of specialisation that were listed in Section B (1). The establishment of new research groups and the further organic development of some current ones will be integral to the future direction of the Department. They will play a central role in the further development of research impact strategies and in securing increased external research funding. A central priority is to provide postgraduate training across the broader research base that a new cohort of academic colleagues will bring to the Department from the beginning of the current academic year. We are currently planning major collaborative research projects that will integrate and extend the Department's expertise in the areas of international theory and security studies. The aim is to support that endeavour by securing research funding through major grant applications to such schemes as *EU Horizons 2020*. At the very heart of the Department's plans for the next few years will be the organisation of a major international conference followed by the publication of a landmark research monograph to mark the Department's centenary in 2019 and to consolidate our reputation for promoting world-leading research.