### Institution: University of Winchester



# Unit of Assessment: UoA 17 Geography, Environmental Studies and Archaeology

#### a. Overview

The Department of Archaeology is composed of 6 research focussed academic staff, 2 teaching (academic) staff, 2 research officers, 1 consultancy technician, an Emeritus Professor, 9 Honorary research fellows and 17 postgraduate research students (PGRS). All research-focussed staff have doctorates; one holds a Chair (King); there are three Readers (Finneran, Roffey and Wilkinson), one Principal Lecturer (Thorpe), and one Lecturer (Everill). The Department is relatively small compared to other units entered in UoA 17, but it has an international reputation for research in landscape archaeology and the archaeology of warfare and religion. It is home to a single University research centre (Centre for Applied Archaeology and Heritage Management [CAAHM]) and a major contributor to another (Wessex Centre for History and Archaeology, WCHA). In each previous RAE its grading has improved (from 2 in 1996 to 3a in 2001, and Quality of 47.5 in 2008), while the research profile of the University of Winchester as a whole has also increased over the last three RAEs both in the number of units entered and the grades obtained. The Department has recognised teaching specialisms in archaeological field techniques (excavation, geophysics, geoarchaeology and geomatics) and historic period archaeology.

# b. Research strategy

### **Review of RAE 2008 strategy**

In its submission to RAE 2008 the UoA outlined a strategy for the current REF cycle on the basis of nine objectives. These are outlined below together with an account of progress achieved:

1. Publish Departmental fieldwork projects completed within or prior to RAE 2008.

All analytical work on the Southern Quantock Archaeological Survey and Dinnington excavations is complete, and a draft monograph text for the former has been produced.

2. Complete fieldwork, post-fieldwork study and publish La Balagne Landscape Project.

Achieved and published in Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology (2010).

3. Develop a new site in Hampshire as the focus of Departmental field research in the UK and initiate new fieldwork projects overseas.

Achieved. Magdalen Hill Archaeological Research Project (MHARP), Winchester is the focus for UoA field research in the UK. New overseas research projects have been developed in Armenia (Wilkinson), Barbados (Finneran), Belgium (Wilkinson), Georgia (x2) (Everill and Wilkinson) and Greece (Wilkinson).

4. Develop new individual research plans leading to all Archaeology Category A staff producing at least one monograph by the next RAE.

All Category A staff produced research plans, but the focus for publication changed to journals during the course of the current REF cycle (as a more rapid and widely disseminated means of communication). As a result the majority of the outputs submitted in RA2 are papers in international peer-refereed journals.

5. Increase the number/FTE of research focussed staff submitting to the REF.

Achieved, 6 staff (5.40 FTE) in Category A versus 5 (4.75 FTE) in RAE 2008.

6. Increase the number of postgraduate research students (PGR) studying in the Department.

Achieved. 17 PGR (10.5 FTE) presently research in the Department, compared to 6 (4 FTE) in 2007.

7. Double external research income into the Department.

Research income in the current census period (allowing for the fact that consultancy income could be included in 2008, but cannot be now) has increased by 151%.

8. Expand the activities of ARCA, by increasing income and generating peer refereed papers.

Achieved. Income increased year on year. Publications in *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* and Cotswold Archaeology monographs.

9. Host/organise at least two major conferences.

Achieved. ESF-funded conference on the burial practice in 2008 (Thorpe) and on Twenty-First Century Archaeologists (Everill and Finneran) in 2012.

### A strategy for 2014-2019

As a small UoA our focus is on those areas where we have expertise. Our strategy for 2014-2019

# **Environment template (REF5)**



is therefore intended to firstly expand and make more visible (via publication, media coverage and influence on the archaeological community) initiatives/projects that have shown the greatest promise during the present census. And secondly, foster the development of new initiatives along similar lines. We will prioritise QR money to facilitate and pump prime research likely to be funded by other sources. Our priorities for 2014-2019 are therefore:

# Priority 1: Centre for Applied Archaeology and Heritage Management (CAAHM)

A major focus for the UoA in the current cycle has been in the development and improvement of archaeological field methods and interpretational frameworks, but also the communication of such developments by training, especially in developing countries [e.g. Georgia (Nokalakevi Project), Ethiopia (Lalibella Project) and Barbados (Speightstown Project)]. We will seek to expand our activities in these respects by pump-priming CAAHM training initiatives with QR or consultancy-derived money, using the same to fund a seminar series and an annual thematic conference. As a result we would expect that CAAHM will be a more significant part of both RA2 and 5 in future submissions.

### Priority 2: Archaeological science

During the present census the University has invested significantly in the provision of new laboratory facilities and equipment, the ARCA consultancy has expanded and the majority of UoA staff are now carrying out multidisciplinary research involving the archaeological sciences. The University has also just launched a Forensic Studies degree, partly taught by two newly appointed Forensic Archaeologists. We shall continue the momentum by attracting new PGRs to study in the archaeological sciences (e.g. via MRes fees bursaries funded by consultancy) and using QR/consultancy money to undertake baseline/proof of concept studies as support for applications to external research funds (including as part of larger consortia to research councils).

#### Priority 3: Magdalen Hill Archaeological Research Project (MHARP)

Excavations on St Mary Magdalen medieval (leper) hospital since 2008 have demonstrated the international importance of the site, not least for the study of disease history and past attitudes to the affliction. We shall use external grant and QR money to support the project throughout the next census, particularly to pump-prime innovative methodological developments (e.g. isotopic and aDNA studies) and to further enhance the wider impact of the research.

#### Priority 4: Individuals

We will support research outside the first three priorities by using QR money to fund research leave to publish research projects completed prior to 2013, but also to lighten the administrative and teaching loads of those applying for significant external grants.

#### Priority 5: Research officer

We will continue to use QR money to employ a Research Officer to facilitate staff research, in particular the publication of fieldwork projects.

### c. People, including:

# i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The Department has grown from 7 staff (6.4 FTE) in 2007 to 10 staff (7.55 FTE) at the census. This growth has been on the back of external research funding, consultancy and increased student numbers. At the census there was a 50:50 mix of full and fractional Category A FTE staff with the majority being males in their 30s to 50s.

# Staff support, induction and career development

The University has publicly accessible policies on Induction, Mentoring and Review for New Academic Staff, Staff Development and Review and Procedures for the Grading and Promotion of Staff and equal opportunities (as outlined by the University's Equality and Diversity Strategy), all of which are publicly available via the University's website at <a href="http://www.winchester.ac.uk/freedom-of-information1/public-documents">http://www.winchester.ac.uk/freedom-of-information1/public-documents</a>. The University has implemented in its development of researchers.

# Support of research

Category A staff report annually to the University on their research activities and develop individual research plans as part of the annual review process. Yearly individual research reports are used to produce an annual Faculty Research report, which in turn feeds into an annual University Research report. Just under 25% of the contractual time for all Category A staff is allocated by the University for research purposes, while the Department has been able increase this figure up to c.



40% in all bar two years of the current REF census.

QR and external support of staffing

Using QR money, four academic staff were allocated study leave during the period 2008-2013, which together with one further sabbatical funded from a University RKE grant, means that during the present census all Category A staff (except Everill) have had one semester away from teaching and administration to publish research projects initiated prior to 2008 (Everill has been granted study leave in September 2013-January 2014).

QR money was also used to provide the two former Department demonstrators (Everill and Marter) with Lecturer contracts, with the result that FTE in RA1 is greater for the present REF than in 2008 (the University made these contracts permanent in 2013). The increase in academic staff has also had benefits in terms of providing other lecturing staff with additional time to carry out research and supervise PGR students. The previous technician posts were replaced by two QR-funded research officers [Barrett and Wileman (the latter retired in March 2013)] tasked with preparing Departmental field projects (SQAS, Dinnington and MHARP) for publication. An hourly paid science technician (Watson) paid for by the ARCA consultancy, completes the Departmental technical staff.

Mentoring and Early Career Researchers

Academic (Everill and Marter) and research/technical staff (Barrett, Wileman and Watson) joining the Department during the census were mentored by senior members of the Department (Thorpe and Wilkinson) during their first year in their new role. Everill is a Category A Early Career Researcher (see REF 1b), and Marter is at an early stages of his research career (both having worked in commercial archaeology or as demonstrators since gaining their PhDs). Conduct of research

All research carried out by the UoA accords with University's codes of practice on Ethics (Feb. 2013) and policies on Research (March 2013), as well as the Concordat for Research Integrity.

# ii. Research students

At the census the Department had 17 Postgraduate Research Students (PGRS) (cf 6 in 2007), of which 4 (all international) were studying full-time (FT) and 13 part-time (PT). Three students graduated with PhDs during the census (two further students have completed and have had/are waiting for viva), the small number reflecting the limited cohort at the beginning of the census. The University currently has 162 PGRS (90 FTE) of which 14 are from countries outside the EU. Facilities and management of PGRS research

Research students in Archaeology are managed at Faculty level by the Faculty PGRS Coordinator (currently an archaeologist), while their progress is overseen by the Research Degrees Quality Committee at University level.

FT PGRS have allocated (shared) office space within the same building as UoA staff and laboratories. PT PGRS have access to shared office space and computing facilities in the RKE Centre. All PGRS have the same IT access and library borrowing rights as staff. Research students follow the University's Research Training Programme during their studies, while Archaeology research students can also take modules from the Department's Masters courses (MRes Archaeology and MA Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Resource Management) to improve their archaeological, computer and/or research skills.

# PGRS and Unit research

PGRSs are integral to the UoA's research environment: they play key roles in UoA research projects [e.g. Tucker's publications with Roffey on human bones from the St Mary Magdalen site, Nichols' survey for the HEA of undergraduate archaeological fieldwork opportunities in the UK with Everill], they help organise research seminar series (e.g. Weikert runs the Winchester Seminars on Comparative Medieval Cultures programme for CAAHM [http://www.winchester.ac.uk/CAAHM]), they teach undergraduate and Masters students when topics coincide with their research interests (e.g. Shepherd on GIS) and where these latter coincide with CRM imperatives, they work for the UoA's consultancy arm ARCA (e.g. Payne on deposit modelling in Winchester). Furthermore PGRs are all members of CAAHM and are represented on the Faculty research committee.

#### d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

During the census period the UoA has been in receipt of research council funding in respect of the *Detection of Archaeological Residues through Remote sensing Techniques* (DART) project (http://dartproject.info/WPBlog/, Wilkinson [CI] £890,000 from the AHRC and EPSRC) and for

# **Environment template (REF5)**



argon-argon dating of basalts from the Nor Geghi 1 Lower Palaeolithic site in Armenia (Wilkinson [PI] £18,375 in kind from the NERC Isotope Geoscience Support Fund [ref: IP-1186-0510]). Two British Academy grants have been awarded for study of skeletal remains from St Mary Magdalen Leper Hospital Winchester (Roffey [PI], £7,203, SG113401) and a geoarchaeological investigation of the Classical/Roman site of Koroneia, Greece (Wilkinson [PI], £5,305, SG111214). In addition Wilkinson has successfully applied as a CI on two Leakey Foundation (@ \$11,000), an Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (€60,000) and a Science Foundation of Ireland (€250,000) grants for studying the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition in the Southern Caucasus. Roffey has been in receipt of competitive funding from the Wellcome Trust (£4,400, WT101869MA), Society of Antiquaries (£1,850), Royal Archaeological Institute (£2,350) and Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society (£5,650) in respect of work at the St Mary Magdalen site, while Finneran was in receipt of a grant from the Seven Pillars of Wisdom Trust (£500) for church conservation in Ethiopia, and King was awarded grants from the Association for Roman Archaeology (£1,000) for Hayling Island Excavation Project, and the British Museum (£3,000) for analysis of animal bones from Baldock Roman temple site. The Department of Archaeology's CRM-arm, ARCA, has carried out £280,000-worth of geoarchaeological works since July 2008. While its primary mission is commercial, ARCA has received research funding to model the location of waterlogged deposits of archaeological relevance for English Heritage (EH) (£5,000) and investigate the stratigraphy of the Mesolithic/Neolithic site at Grevlake. Somerset for Somerset County Council and EH (£5,000).

Staff are encouraged to apply for research funding by a £300 External Funding Incentive Fund award made in respect of each application made, while the University allows the UoA to retain all external grant funding it receives (including overhead costs). Thus staff are able to use Directly Incurred monies to pay for replacement teaching/bureaucratic assistance.

### Infrastructure and facilities

All Category A staff have individual offices equipped with regularly (three years) replaced computers and networked access to standard software packages (Microsoft Office, Endnote, PhotoShop etc). Support for this infrastructure is provided by the University's IT department. The University's Library subscribes to a large number of online databases (e.g. British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography), journal repositories (accessed via EBSCO) and other resources (e.g. Edina Digimap) that are vital for modern archaeological research, while the Library is stocked with a good research collection of archaeological monographs. Many research projects involving staff, Masters and research students also utilise nearby archives, for example located at Hampshire Record Office, Winchester Museums Service and Hampshire County Museums.

Since the RAE 2008 submission the University has invested £267,808 in the construction of four new archaeology laboratories (one for teaching, one for palaeoenvironmental, bioarchaeological and geoarchaeological research/consultancy, one for artefact research and a processing laboratory), as well as a purpose-built artefact and human bone store that meets the guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists. Further University grants have allowed the installation of a fume cupboard and wet chemistry facilities in the research laboratory. As a result of the University's financial and logistical support, the UoA has progressed from having one small combined teaching/research laboratory and an artefact work room in 2007, to a suite of dedicated rooms that are the equal of the sector. Furthermore, as a result of combined capital investment (e.g. £50,000 for the purchase of a GPR system) from the University and the use of surplus generated by ARCA, the UoA has been able to continuously update field survey equipment and specialist software. The UoA is thus as well equipped in these respects than any Archaeology department in the UK. The equipment includes a pulse EKKO Pro ground-penetrating radar system (with 4 antennae), 2 Geoscan magnetometers and 2 resistivity meters, a Leica System 1200 RTK and 2 Zeno dGPS GPS, 3 Leica total stations, a Bartington MS2 magnetic susceptibility meter (with 2 field and 2 laboratory sensors), 2 Atlas Cobra/Eijkelkamp mechanical augers ('vibra corers'), 3 sets of manual Eijkelkamp augers, a Russian auger and sufficient excavation equipment to equip a team of 70. Specialist software includes ArcGIS 10.1 (deployed on all staff, laboratory and research student computers, as well as in teaching and open access rooms elsewhere on campus). GeoPlot (on dedicated research laptops) and RockWorks geological utilities software (6 licences) (for further details on facilities and equipment see http://www.winchester.ac.uk/academicdepartments/archaeology/facilities/Pages/Facilities.aspx).



The equipment/facilities are supported by Marter, Everill, Wilkinson, Barrett and Watson.

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

### Collaboration

The UoA maintains formal contractual links with the Universities of Leeds (Computing), Bradford (Archaeology), Nottingham (Geography) and Birmingham (Engineering) in respect of the AHRC/EPSRC DART Project (Wilkinson). A further formal link via joint research grants is with the University of Connecticut (Anthropology), University College Dublin (Archaeology) and the Armenian Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology for work on Prehistoric sites in the southern Caucasus (Wilkinson). Formal partnership agreements are also in place with the Georgian National Museum with respect to the Nokalokevi project (Everill) and with the Universität Osnabrück (Germany) and Saxion Next University (Deventer, the Netherlands) for Erasmus Intensive fieldwork training projects (Thorpe, King). Otherwise links with other institutions are informal and are constituted on the basis of the individual projects. For example King is a contributor to the Fontes Epigraphici Religionum Celticarum Antiquarum (FERCAN) project sponsored by the Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna, in collaboration with colleagues at the Universities of Zaragoza, Paris (Année Epigraphique), Graz, Erfurt and Trinity St Davids (Lampeter). Thorpe's links with Århus, Kobenhavn and Göteborg Universities are long established and are focussed around the theme of the archaeology of warfare. Wilkinson's work on the landscape geoarchaeology of the Mediterranean (Universities of Reading [Archaeology], Washington (Anthropology), Corsica [Archaeology]) and of Palaeolithic caves (Universities of Bournemouth [Conservation Sciences], Liège and those previously mentioned) is inherently multiand interdisciplinary and includes several collaborations. Finneran's work in the Caribbean, Egypt and Ethiopia combines landscape archaeology, excavation, historic building recording and ethnography and includes collaborators at UCL, University of West Indies, BIEA, Egyptian and Ethiopian Departments of Antiquities. Roffey and Marter's research at St Mary Magdalen Leper Hospital is also multidisciplinary and therefore collaboration with the Universities of Surrev (Genetics), Bristol (Archaeology) and Exeter. As previously noted both ARCA collectively and Wilkinson individually have conducted research on behalf of EH. Finally it should be emphasised that strong links exist between the Archaeology and History (UoA 30) UoAs through the Wessex Centre for History and Archaeology, a body that facilitates interdisciplinary seminars and conferences on the region (http://www.winchester.ac.uk/WCHA).

# Contribution to the discipline

*Memberships:* Everill is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London (FSA) and a council member of RESCUE; Finneran is an FSA and an Honorary Research Associate at the Department of Art History and Archaeology, SOAS (1/9/2004-). He is also a member of the editorial board of *Annales d'Ethiopie*, an editorial reviews advisor for *Antiquaries Journal*; King and Roffey are also FSA, while the latter was a member of council for the Society of Church Archaeology (2008-2010), and is presently on the councils of Winchester Excavation Committee and Winchester Archaeology and Local History Group. Since September 2009 King has been Director of the University's Research and Knowledge Exchange (0.6 FTE), is on the Editorial Board of Hampshire Field Club and on the Management Committee of the New Forest History and Archaeology Group. Wilkinson is a on the editorial board of *Levant*. Finneran and Marter are Associate (AlfA), and Everill, Thorpe and Wilkinson full Members of the Institute for Archaeologists (MIfA).

The Department of Archaeology and ARCA are a joint Registered Archaeological Organisation (RAO) with the Institute for Archaeologists. The Department is one of only two academic institutions to be so-registered.

Doctoral examination: UoA staff have examined PhDs at Reading (Economics) (Finneran), Oslo (Archaeology) (Thorpe), Royal Holloway (Geography) (Wilkinson), Stockholm (Archaeology) (Thorpe), UCL (Archaeology) (Finneran and Roffey) as well as in Winchester (Finneran, King, Thorpe, Wilkinson).

*Refereeing:* The UoA is highly active in the peer review process. Wilkinson is a member of the AHRC's Peer Review College and has also reviewed for FWO (Flanders Research Council); Finneran has reviewed for the AHRC, British Academy; NSF (USA); Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; Academy of Humanities, Austria; Roffey for the AHRC



and NWO (Dutch Research Council); King for the European Commission Framework 7 programme and Thorpe for Sweden's Riksbankens Jubileumsonf. UoA staff have undertaken peer-reviewing for African Archaeological Review, Annales d'Ethiopie, Antiquity, Archaeological Journal, Ashgate Press, Azania, Cambridge Archaeological Journal, Cimebasia, Environmental Archaeology, Geomorphologie, Hampshire Studies, The Holocene, Journal of Human Evolution, Journal of Roman Archaeology, Levant, London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, Proceedings of the Geologists Association, Routledge, Taylor and Francis and World Archaeology.

*Conferences:* Everill and Finneran organised (jointly with Dr Kenneth Aitchison of Landward Research Ltd) the Twenty-First Century Archaeologists: day conference on archaeological pedagogy under the auspices of CAAHM in June 2012. Roffey jointly organised with Dr Ryan Lavelle (UoA 30) a conference on the Danes in Wessex in 2011 for WCHA. King organised a session on Roman religion at the Roman Archaeology conference in Oxford, 2010.