

<p>Institution: University of Central Lancashire</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 30 History</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>Research is at the heart of the academic mission of UCLan; its execution is rooted in wider society locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Our commitment to disseminate research to wide audiences is a core principle of the UoA. This mission is supported by our structures and strategies as detailed in the environment template. The University infrastructure supports impact through the policies of the Research and Innovation Office, in particular through the Public Engagement Manager who works to support the development of links between academic researchers and public audiences. Gritt was recently awarded 'Engagement Catalyst' funding to develop his Public History work. The Funding, Development & Support (FDS) unit helps support bids that have led to several projects with public engagement and impact, especially relating to our museums work.</p> <p>In general terms, our approach to impact is twofold:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To inform, empower and culturally enrich the general public. 2. To influence the activities, practice and policy of public institutions, including governments, ministries, museums and archives. <p>This has been achieved through a variety of means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Major museum exhibitions have been curated from within the UoA disseminating research to a large public audience. 2. Museums, archives and professional associations have been advised by UoA members informing collections development and interpretation. 3. Media appearances have reached a large and diverse public audience. 4. Research on language and culture has led to influence on Russian public policy through the briefing of ministers in Udmurtia. 5. The UoA hosts the Institute of Local and Family History, established in 2001 to disseminate research results and methods to the public through events and publications. <p>The research environment template identified three main research groups within the UoA: labour history and identities, social welfare and regional history. Each of these staff groupings have fully engaged with impact as defined above. Regional history and welfare histories have been communicated to large and diverse audiences directly and also through media, museums and archives. Labour history and Identities has similarly been communicated both directly and indirectly with government policy being most strongly influenced in Russia through ministerial briefings.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>The UoA has benefitted from financial commitment and a workload allocation that explicitly recognise the value of public engagement. Grant capture, university funding and school funding have each led to specific impacts.</p> <p>The long-term strategic commitment to dissemination to diverse audiences is most particularly evidenced by the Institute of Local and Family History (ILFH) which was established in 2001 by Gritt and has developed under his continued leadership with dedicated administrative assistance. Since 2008 the ILFH has held 50 conferences and study days to a combined audience of over 2500 local and family historians. We have held collaborative events with a range of regional and national organisations including The National Archives, North West Film Archive, Helmshore Textile Museum, People's History Museum, Co-operative College, Lancashire Parish Register Society, North West Catholic History Society, Lancashire Infantry Museum, Lancashire Federation of Local History Societies, Lancashire Archaeological Society, and a Public History fair with 50 exhibitors including organisations such as Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and Ancestry.co.uk attracting over 450 visitors. As well as a range of academic and non-academic external speakers most members of the cluster have contributed to one or more of these events</p>

Impact template (REF3a)

(Atherton, Counce, Gritt, Mansfield, McAllister, Ó Catháin, Poole, Stewart, Vernon, Westaway). Several current and former postgraduate students have also contributed to these events, ensuring that research activities are closely integrated with public dissemination and engagement. The ILFH also publishes an annual *Bulletin of Local and Family History* (ISSN 1756-7521) which combines the work of UoA staff, postgraduate students, undergraduate students and local and family historians.

Ó Catháin has been particularly active in a range of local, family and community history projects in Derry/Londonderry with Creevagh Women's Group (2009-12) and with Rossville Flats complex with Rossville Flats Community History Project (ongoing) and in County Donegal (Republic of Ireland) with St. Johnston-Carrigans Women's Group (2012). These and other collaborations have led to contributions to several publications (e.g. *Free Derry Wall*, Guildhall Press, 2009). Ó Catháin also researched and help produce oral history publications on the history of St. George's Market in Belfast, the history of Parks in North Belfast (2011) and the Ulster People's College (2012).

Museum exhibitions have been curated from within the UoA. Vernon was awarded a University-funded sabbatical in 2012 to develop work around Preston Guild working with local heritage organisations. This resulted in two series of public lectures delivered by several UoA members to a combined audience of around 500 people. Vernon also developed an exhibition at the Museum of Lancashire on the history of Preston Guild which was open from June to October 2012, attracting 12,000 visitors. McAllister was awarded £49,000 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop an exhibition on the international Preston-inspired temperance movement at the People's History Museum, Manchester, alongside use of social media, a virtual exhibition, a series of talks and a temporary exhibition in a Preston shopping centre. The exhibition at the People's History Museum (open June 2012 to February 2013) had over 25,000 visitors.

Museums, heritage organisations and archives have been advised by UoA members. Mansfield has particular strengths in this area following his career in museums and in recent months has advised several institutions including Imperial War Museum – North, Rochdale Pioneers Museum, Museum of Primitive Methodism, Engelsea Brook, Crewe, Cheshire, Museum of the Fylde, Manchester Cathedral and Manchester Jewish Museum. Atherton has advised the British Deaf History Society museum and also the British Deaf Association at their London headquarters. Counce and Gritt are currently engaged in an Arts Council project advising a consortium of museums and heritage sites in Pennine Lancashire. Work with museums has also received direct financial support from the University. Counce was granted a University sabbatical in 2012 to work alongside the Museum of Lancashire to develop the interpretation of their farm machinery collection. The University also funds a full time PhD student (Jack Southern) to work closely with Lancashire County Council's Queen Street Mill (Burnley) on research into the impact of the cotton industry on local communities. The UoA also has strength in archives policy and practice. Gritt is a long-standing member of the North West Archives Council and is a serving member of the steering committee of the recently founded North West Archives Network. He has advised the Archives and Records Association on public engagement; he has previously published in the professional magazine of that organisation.

All members of the UoA have discussed their research on television and radio networks. McAllister, for instance, has highlighted her work on temperance across the BBC networks: BBC 1 *The One Show*, BBC 1 *Age of the Do-Gooders*, BBC1 *North West News* (3 times), BBC Radio 4, *Woman's Hour*; *You and Yours*, BBC Radio Lancashire, (4 times), BBC Radio Manchester, *Breakfast Show* and *Drive Time*). Mansfield appeared on BBC 2's *Wartime farm* whilst Ó Catháin has contributed to Irish media on aspects of the 1916 Easter Rising: Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ TV) *Réabhlóid* and on Radio Lancashire on the anniversary of the 1993 Warrington bomb. Poole's diverse interests have led to numerous media engagements locally, nationally and internationally. His work on north-west regional history has been broadcast on Radio Lancashire, Radio 4, BBC 4 and ITV; his work on the history of the space age has resulted in broadcasts on Radio 4, BBC World Service, US National Public Radio and Radio WILL (Illinois).

In addition to these activities members of the cluster have regularly spoken to public audiences through the University lecture series, the annual UCLan Lancashire Science Festival and to numerous local history societies across the north west and beyond. With a combined audience reaching several thousand individuals during the REF cycle this is an important method of disseminating our research.

The 'real world' value of our research strategy within the region is complemented by international work. Williams' unique combination of expertise, research and language skills and close collaboration with pioneering UCLan scholars in the field of corpus linguistics enabled him to conduct research on language policies in Udmurtia and on ethnic tensions in former Soviet Republics (Williams took up employment at another institution in 2013). Drawing on experience of the Welsh language and language policy, Williams' research directly contributes towards the revival of language and culture in Russia, not least through government review and reform of educational and language policies. This is amplified in one of our impact case studies, but is a clear outcome of a deeper commitment and strategy within the cluster of seeking diverse audiences beyond the academy for our research.

c. Strategy and plans

The research of the UoA is closely integrated with external networks, including private individuals, institutions and organisations (see below). External partners are fully integrated with the entire research process, from research assistance to dissemination. This will continue to lead to significant and diverse impact.

Labour history

The UoA's considerable strength in labour history is significantly enhanced by our connections with the People's History Museum and Co-operative College. Mansfield's experience as the former director of the PHM and his current role as senior research fellow at UCLan is key to this collaboration. Both organisations have extensive, internationally significant archives backed by considerable expertise. However, both organisations have a clear public service mission to inform and educate, especially around labour history, working class history and political history. UoA members will continue to work in this area, utilising the archives, organising Public History events and other means of public dissemination, and curating exhibitions. This is an area of considerable strength, and will continue throughout the next REF cycle, which will incorporate work around the commemoration of the First World War, growing interest in co-operation, and the bi-centenary of the Peterloo Massacre in 2019.

Regional history

The Institute of Local and Family History will continue its varied programme of events and publications. This will provide a means of disseminating the diverse research of the UoA to a large public audience, but it will also seek to develop that audience as active participants in the research process. Counce will continue his work with a range of museums across the North West, assisting with the development and interpretation of their collections. Gritt and Poole will develop projects in association with local and family historians, building on their long-term work in this area. Poole's British Academy funded project on Home Office disturbance papers will make use of volunteer researchers whilst the recent launch of a public history project on nineteenth-century pauper narratives will lead to the largest collection of pauper life histories with clear academic and public benefits. Much of this research will be undertaken by local and family historians, supported by postgraduate students and members of the UoA working on various aspects of welfare history.

d. Relationship to case studies

In both of the case studies the impact was an intended consequence of the research, indicating that this is the result of strategy and policy devised within the UoA. Indeed, the case studies are a direct product of an impact strategy that extends back before 2008. Our formal connection to the People's History Museum and Co-operative College go back at least as far as Stewart's appointment in 2006, cemented by Mansfield's appointment in 2010. These and other appointments have had a considerable influence on the culture and direction of the UoA, providing not only strength in depth in the field of labour history, but also evidence of a firm commitment to the public relevance and institutional engagement with academic research. Public engagement and dissemination might have formed the basis of another Impact Case Study through the work of the Institute of Local and Family History, which, after 12 years in existence also demonstrates our long-term commitment. However, the impact on language policy and culture in Russia is a very powerful example of how public impact, empowerment and enrichment can be achieved as a consequence of historical research disseminated to the right audiences.