

<p><b>Institution: SOAS</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Unit of Assessment: 30 History</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>SOAS is a specialist institution focused on the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Within this context, the Department of History has a combination of expertise that makes it highly distinctive in the UK. Our goal is to ensure a prominent role for non-European subjects within the discipline of history in the UK, and to maintain the thriving research culture that lies at the core of our identity and informs our teaching and wider public engagement. This is based on dialogue with researchers across the globe, an active programme of PhD training, interdisciplinary engagement within SOAS and beyond, and a strong focus on the excellence of research outputs, including the prioritisation of research monographs.</p> <p>The department's eighteen full-time members of staff and two research professors are organized into five regional sections: Africa, the Near and Middle East, South Asia, East Asia and Southeast Asia. Within these regions, the department covers the history of West, East and southern Africa, the Arab Middle East, Turkey, Iran, India, China, Japan and Burma. Our chronological range is broad, stretching from the emergence of Islam to the medieval Middle East, early modern India and China, and on to the age of European empire and its demise across Africa and Asia in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The department's particular concern, however, lies with the modern period, with a majority of colleagues specializing in nineteenth- and twentieth-century history. We undertake research on a broad range of social, political, economic and cultural themes, which has resulted in the production during the census period of fourteen major monographs, as well as numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and contributions to edited collections. Particular specialisms include cities and urban culture, religion and belief, warfare and violence, the environment, colonial encounter, and literacy, reading and intellectual endeavour.</p> <hr/> <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>The department's research strategy centres on the maintenance of research capacity across as wide a geographical range and chronological span as possible within our focus regions of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. However, across this broad sweep of space and time we also seek to develop clusters of shared interest and innovative thematic projects which will help to set intellectual agendas in the broader discipline as well as in the trans-disciplinary study of our respective regions. Our strategy from 2008 included the seeking of external research income, development of new MA programmes that would act as pathways to doctoral research, and the strengthening of our doctoral programmes. In doing this, we have sought to draw on the dense concentration of regional specialists across a range of arts, humanities and social science disciplines at SOAS, as well as on the SOAS Library, which includes important archival collections, and is a major international research resource.</p> <p>Since 2008, the department has met with some success in attracting major external grants to fund research initiatives. Notable awards have been a three-year grant from the AHRC in support of the project <i>The Indian Temple: Production, Place and Patronage</i> (in collaboration with the University of Cardiff and the British Museum), a three-year grant from the AHRC for the project <i>Urban Violence in the Middle East: Between Empire and Nation State</i>, a three-year grant from the Leverhulme Trust in support of the project on historical culture and consciousness in Uganda, and funding by the German Research Foundation for the project <i>Premodern Monarchic Modes of Rule in a Transcultural Perspective</i>, which drew together scholars working on Latin Europe, the Orthodox world, the Middle East and India. In 2009, our East Asia section received a significant boost when the department was selected as one of those to host a lectureship in Japanese studies to be funded for its initial five years by the Sasakawa Foundation. This award resulted in the appointment of Christopher Gerteis as Lecturer in the History of Contemporary Japan. In 2010, Gerteis was the recipient of a three-year grant from the Nippon Foundation in support of the School's Translation Initiative in Japanese Studies.</p> <p>In terms of MA programmes, in 2011, the department added a new interdisciplinary programme to</p>
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its existing postgraduate taught offerings: MA Film and History. Another programme is currently at development stage and scheduled to be inaugurated in 2014: MA South Asian History, an innovative two-year degree in which students will spend the second year at a partner institution in India. In common with our established MA in Historical Research Methods, both degrees are in part aimed to attract and to train potential high-quality students who may go on to doctoral research in the department.

We indicated in 2008 that we would seek to raise funds for collaborative research projects, while recognising the importance of the 'lone scholar' model in our discipline. We have met with some success with regard to the former, but nonetheless it remains the case that the majority of historical research undertaken at SOAS is the product of individual scholarly endeavour. In this context, a priority for the next five years is to develop a more structured approach to external collaborations. In doing this, we can draw on a number of existing individual collaborations with external bodies. For example, staff in the department have been involved in a variety of collaborative and trans-disciplinary projects: in 2009-12, William Clarence-Smith was part of a team working with the British Library which assembled a travelling photographic exhibition on 'Islam, Trade and Politics across the Indian Ocean', whilst Lars Laamann has participated in public talks and discussions on the history of China at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich and at the Barbican Centre in London. Marie Rodet was involved in a project aimed at the reorganisation and preservation of archives in Mali and has gone on to contribute to similar projects in Senegal. Rodet has also been involved in the history of slavery on film: in 2013, she co-organised a series of 'Slavery on Film' workshops in London, bringing together a range of international scholars and film-makers.

In this context, the key aim is to ensure that strategic partnerships are developed at institutional level by SOAS, both with key archives where collections are increasingly available in digital format, and with collaborating institutions overseas, that draw on and build the capacity for historical research.

More broadly over the next five years, the department will continue to build on its core strengths while acting to improve those areas where performance has been less strong. With regard to the latter, a particular aim is to increase levels of external funding and more systematically to encourage and support staff in applying for research grants. We will develop targets for the raising of external funds and will enhance our system of mentoring and monitoring with these targets in view. We will employ a robust peer-review system for assessing grant applications and seek a broader range of potential funding organisations internationally. We aspire to create a framework in which colleagues are more fully supported as they develop research initiatives, apply for grants and aim for maximum impact in outputs.

In terms of our geographical spread, while seeking to consolidate and expand the study of our core regions, we aim also to put greater emphasis on exploring historical connections between them. In doing so, we aspire to continue to shape shifting intellectual trends in the discipline of history following the end of the short twentieth century: the growing interest in trans-national cultural and economic flows, in fluidity, hybridity and in the networks connecting the global to the local. The department's unique identity puts it in a strong position to achieve this goal. The diversity of our interests and approaches promises a host of fruitful new directions in research and a range of opportunities to push beyond the current boundaries of historical knowledge.

In keeping with SOAS's vision and strategy, the department supports interdisciplinary and collaborative research both for its own members and for the broader academic community in the School and beyond. Within the School, we actively participate in the diverse activities of the regional centres, including those for African Studies, Chinese Studies, Korean Studies, South Asian Studies, Southeast Asian Studies, the London Institute for the Middle East and the Japan Research Centre. Close intellectual liaison is also maintained with colleagues in the area studies departments of the Faculty of Languages and Cultures. These interactions are reciprocal. The department remains a focal point for the many scholars across the School who are either historians themselves by training or are concerned to incorporate historical methodology into their research. A primary point of contact is the department's range of weekly research seminars, which also

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regularly attract historians and other scholars from across the country and the globe. Participants typically include members of the large cohort of scholars who have been offered academic hospitality for set periods of time by the School (including library access) in order to take advantage of its concentration of human and documentary resources. Seminar participation also forms a crucial part of the training of our own doctoral students, who present an initial 'project paper' as part of their upgrade portfolio to full PhD status at the end of their first year and a second paper on their return from fieldwork in their third year. The Africa, Near and Middle East and South Asia seminars have especially formidable international reputations as arenas for the dissemination of ground-breaking research and critical discussion. In 2009, the department also added to its established portfolio a dedicated History Seminar, specifically designed to encourage trans-regional engagement and collaboration.

In addition to full-time teaching staff, a number of other scholars are affiliated with the department, including two Research Professors (Ian Brown and Peter Robb), two Professorial Research Associates (Tim Barrett and B.R. Tomlinson,) and a number of Emeritus Professors and Readers (Richard Rathbone, Gerald Hawting, Shula Marks, Michael Brett and Avril Powell). We also have a group of Research Associates, including ex-colleagues who have moved to other institutions across the world, as well as professionals from related fields such as consultancy and policy-making.

**c. People, including:****i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

Despite a significant drop in the number of staff submitted for assessment since RAE 2008, we have largely succeeded in maintaining the profile of our established areas of expertise. A number of colleagues either retired or departed in that period, but the department has been energized by a group of new arrivals. We have appointed seven lecturers, covering the Middle East (Teresa Bernheimer), South Asia (Eleanor Newbigin and Roy Fischel), East Asia (Lars Laamann – who previously held a postdoctoral position – and Christopher Gerteis), West Africa (Marie Rodet) and Southeast Asia (Mandy Sadan). In terms of age and career structure, we are therefore now a strikingly 'young' department. Recent appointments have served to consolidate existing strengths while at the same time opening up important new directions in research. The appointment of Bernheimer has maintained the department's long-standing expertise in early Islamic history following the retirement of Professor Gerald Hawting. Likewise, the arrival of Fischel has renewed an established concern with the history of Islam in South Asia, while that of Newbigin has enhanced an emerging focus on the social and intellectual history of India in the late colonial period and era of decolonization developed by the work of Shabnum Tejani. Rodet brings new perspectives to the history of slavery, Islam and migration in West Africa, as well as providing an important link with francophone scholarship on the continent. The work of Gerteis extends an established expertise in modern Japan into the histories of labour and consumption. Finally, Sadan's research on the historical ethnography of Burma's minority peoples has served to consolidate our established expertise on the history of that nation while extending it in a contemporary and trans-disciplinary direction. The focus on Burmese history is likely to become especially significant as that country opens up to external collaboration.

Academic promotions during the census period indicate the quality of research being done across the department. Senior Lectureships have been awarded to Andrea Janku (China), Shabnum Tejani (India) and Christopher Gerteis (Japan). We have three new Readers: Michael Charney (Burma), Nelida Fuccaro (Middle East) and Konrad Hirschler (Middle East), and two new professors: Benjamin Fortna (Middle East) and Richard Reid (Africa).

Mentoring is provided to all staff. Research direction, training needs and specific writing projects are the subject of annual staff development review processes supported centrally by the School. Collaborative relationships that underpin research are complemented by the provision of teaching opportunities for research students as graduate teaching assistants and, in some cases, course convenors. The staffing policy of the department and of SOAS more broadly is to use teaching-only contracts to provide opportunities for early-career researchers and to maximise research time for

other staff.

In particular, since 2008 the department has had a considerable number of early career academic staff, and it takes the task of supporting them seriously. Early career staff, each of whom has a personal mentor, are initially given lighter teaching loads (typically two courses as opposed to the normative 2.5) and during the course of their three-year probation period are excluded from holding administrative offices. The organization of the department further facilitates integration, with the regional sections acting as an intimate support network and the head of section as a primary source of advice and good practice. A wide range of staff development courses are provided centrally by SOAS to complement the liaison between individual colleagues on the one hand and their head of department, designated mentor and head of section on the other. SOAS abides by the Concordat to support the career development of researchers and in 2012 it successfully applied to the European Commission under the HR Excellence in Research Badge, confirming this commitment to the support and development of research staff.

More broadly, SOAS has a research leave policy that provides one term of leave after twelve terms of teaching (i.e., four academic years). This is complemented by project-funded leave, while additional support is provided to colleagues who have taken on major administrative roles and need additional time to strengthen their research profiles, such as a year after a term as HoD or Dean. In recognition of the particular difficulties in maintaining a research profile over periods of maternity leave, the School treats terms of maternity leave as if they were terms of teaching for the purposes of calculating leave. Early career researchers who have successfully completed three years of probation are provided with leave that covers the two main teaching terms in the subsequent year. This is intended to boost the next stage of their research careers.

A yearly promotion round requires HoDs to review all members of academic staff and discuss the case for promotion. A Faculty Promotions Committee considers and puts forward the case for those who are deemed to meet the necessary criteria and a School Promotions Committee meets each year to assess all nominations against stated criteria, with external monitoring and published processes and criteria. Demonstrating achievement in research is central to successful applications at all levels. Feedback and review is provided to unsuccessful candidates in order to enhance the chances of success in later applications.

From 2007 to 2010, the department hosted British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow Valentina Boretti, who made a significant contribution to our East Asian research cluster and teaching programme. Other externally-funded postdoctoral researchers have also joined the department for shorter periods to participate in particular projects, including Mattia Salvini, Aparna Balachandran, Sanchari Dutta, and most recently Rasmus Elling

SOAS's academic staff is diverse in terms of nationality and ethnicity. Equal opportunities are embedded in all recruitment activity throughout the institution.

The School's Research and Enterprise Office provides a central facility to support the engagement of academic staff with a range of governmental, public and private sector organisations through briefings, consultancy and commissioned research. Department members have conducted country and regional briefings for government departments and units, including DfID, the FCO and the UK defence forces. Colleagues have also been involved in such activities beyond the UK and have advised the US State Department, the US Army, and the UN. UK and European ambassadors and their staff en route to countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East regularly come to SOAS for briefings by department staff.

## **ii. Research students**

Doctoral students are an integral component of the department and make a major contribution to its research culture. Training for postgraduate research begins at masters' level with the MA Historical Research Methods, which is designed to prepare outstanding graduates for research degrees. All students take the course Historical Research Methods and the one-on-one seminar course with their supervisors titled Sources and Research Design, in which they develop their

research agendas and lay the methodological and evidential groundwork for a dissertation. Entry into this programme is limited to those applicants judged to possess the potential to proceed to doctoral research. Although enrolments are low (a yearly average of four), results are outstanding, with 84 per cent of students attaining a distinction and a large proportion going on to our PhD programme.

The department has historically recruited large numbers of research students: between 2007-8 and 2012-13, the average yearly enrolment has been 12 (50 per cent of which are on average overseas students). New MPhil students are immediately immersed in our research culture. All attend a weekly History Methodologies Seminar convened by the department's Research Tutor. Students are also required to attend their respective regional seminar and in Term 3 present to that seminar a paper outlining their research project. The resulting paper is one component of a portfolio of material submitted to the student's three-person supervisory committee. If the committee is satisfied that the work is of accepted PhD standard and that the project can viably be completed within four years, then the student is recommended for upgrade to full PhD status. If not, then the student is given a further three months over the summer to refine the material in the portfolio on the basis of written report by the committee. In the vast majority of cases, students successfully upgrade. A notable innovation introduced in 2009-10 is a PhD 'writing-up seminar', which students are required to attend in their third year on return from fieldwork and which aims to provide support and guidance in the process of completing their theses.

In terms of broad research culture, the department's doctoral students enjoy all the advantages of being at SOAS that staff do. Students too are free to attend the wide range of seminars, workshops and conferences and to take advantage of the interdisciplinary expertise in other departments, including for language training. Researching the history of Africa, Asia and the Middle East often demands a high degree of specialist linguistic competence – both in European and in vernacular languages. Crucial to the department's research environment is the proximity of scholars based in the Faculty of Language and Cultures and in the School's Language Centre. The library also holds materials for the personal study of many languages, while neighbouring colleges of the University of London offer training for the languages of European empire often needed by historians of Asia and Africa, such as Dutch (University College, London) and Portuguese (King's College).

A total of 67 doctoral dissertations were completed in the department between since 2008, representing a 50% increase in PhD completions since the previous assessment period (2001-08). The gender balance of research students in the department over the census period has been 55 per cent male and 45 per cent female. Forty-four per cent were declared BME. Overseas students are provided with additional support through the ADD, the student welfare office and our relations with a range of housing and support organisations such as Goodenough College, International Students House and others who provide scholarships in the form of accommodation.

The department takes seriously the issue of completion rates for research students, who are monitored throughout their degree and particularly closely supervised in their final year. The writing-up seminar noted above has served to facilitate the production of draft chapters to specific targets. The result has been a substantial improvement in completion rates, with a significant majority of students now submitting their theses within the stipulated four years: 80 per cent of the 2007-11 cohort and 64 per cent of the 2008-12 cohort.

The establishment of a Doctoral School in 2012 has reinforced the coordination of research training across the institution and provided extensive dedicated workspace in a new discrete hub. Training in generic skills such as academic writing, project design, fieldwork methods and ethics is now coordinated at the institutional level, while departments focus upon specific disciplinary skills. A wider range of training courses is provided through the Bloomsbury Skills Network, a cross-college collaboration, and through the ESRC Doctoral Training Centre centred in Bloomsbury, of which SOAS is a member. The department has access to funds to assist research students to attend and make presentations at conferences as part of their transition into academic careers. Funds are also available for courses in European languages.

**d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

During the census period, the department has been successful in maintaining external funding. External grants totalling £1,276,944 – either in existence by 2008 or received since then – have sustained research of international standing in the department during the census period. Total external research expenditure since 2008-09 has totalled £772,781 (£189,947 in 2008-09, £183,916 in 2009-10, £94,263 in 2010-11, £129,923 in 2011-12, and £174,732 in 2012-13), representing a total of £42,989 per research-active staff for the whole of the census period.

At the heart of SOAS is its library: one of the five National Research Libraries, with an unparalleled collection of materials amounting to more than 1.2 million volumes in a wide range of languages as well as a growing body of electronic resources. A range of journals are produced and edited within SOAS. Of particular importance in terms of the department's involvement are the SOAS Bulletin, SOAS Bulletin of Burma Research, the Journal of African History and Japan Forum. In addition to our own library, there are a number of other important libraries in close proximity, some of which cooperate with the School in terms of collection policies. The University of London's Senate House Library has long been a major resource for SOAS researchers, as have two other collections also located in neighbouring Senate House: those of the Institute of Historical Research and the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. The other colleges of the University of London offer our staff and students reciprocal rights, while specialist collections such as those of the Warburg Institute (art history) and the Wellcome Institute (history of medicine) are a short distance away. The School is also in close proximity to the British Library, which includes the archives of the India Office. Many London museums include significant library and archival resources, while the National Archives at Kew are also readily accessible.

The SOAS archives are part of the library's Special Collections, which also contain old and rare published works. These holdings are a precious asset for historians, serving to attract research students and visiting scholars to the School. Organizations and individuals have donated papers, or placed them on permanent loan, accompanied by substantial amounts of printed material. This important and expanding collection relates not only to Africa and Asia, but also to the Caribbean and the Pacific; East Asia is an area of special strength. Approximately two-thirds of the holdings document the activities of British Protestant missionary societies, making SOAS a leading world centre for mission studies: there are some 950,000 mission documents, 19,000 photographs and 20,000 published memoirs, histories, reports, magazines and translations. There are also significant business archives and administrative and diplomatic papers; papers of individual scholars, writers, travellers and administrators are actively acquired. In addition, the library holds more than 2,500 individual manuscripts in many languages.

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

Department of History staff have been involved in a range of collaborative research projects, networks and partnerships. These include Clarence-Smith's work with colleagues at McGill University in Canada on the Indian Ocean world, funded by the Canadian Social Science Research Council; Fuccaro's work with the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin on urban violence in the Middle East, funded by the AHRC and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft; Gerteis's participation in the Translation Initiative in Japanese Studies, funded by the Nippon Foundation, involving colleagues from Cambridge, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and the University of Rhode Island; Reid's work with colleagues at Makerere University on historical culture and consciousness in Uganda, funded by the Leverhulme Trust; and Hirschler's organization since 2008 of the annual workshop on Arabic Past: Histories and Historiography, with the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations at the Aga Khan University in London and Oxford University (in 2007-10 Hirschler was also a member of the Research Network on Modes of Pre-Modern Rulership in a Comparative Perspective, funded by the German Research Foundation). Janku was from 2006 to 2009 part of the network Historical Research on Natural Disasters in a Cultural-Comparative Perspective, also funded by the German Research Foundation, with collaborators from the University of Heidelberg and the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Essen. Sadan is a leading member of the Asian Borderlands Research Network.

Membership of Research Councils and other national or international committees, university

advisory, review and strategy panels outside: Booth was a member of the 2008 RAE Panel for Development Studies, served on the British Academy East Asia Committee for several years until 2012 and was also on the Commonwealth Universities Association's panel of assessors for graduate research applications; Clarence-Smith has served on the Advisory Board of Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, since 2009; Hirschler has recently served as an external assessor for the Research Excellence Framework 2014 for a Russell Group university. Professional subject associations and learned society membership: Bernheimer serves on the board of the British Institute for the Study of Iraq; Booth chairs the History and Economic Development Group (affiliated to the Development Studies Association), which holds workshops in London at two-yearly intervals; Robb is president of the Council of the Royal Asiatic Society, a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and has served as a member of the British Academy South Asia panel. Parker and Reid are members of the British Academy Fontes Historiae Africanae committee.

Journal editorships: Clarence-Smith (*Journal of Global History*); Reid (*Journal of African History*); Laamann (*Central Asiatic Journal*); Charney (*SOAS Bulletin of Burma Research*); Hirschler (deputy editor of *SOAS Bulletin*). Editorial advisory board membership: Booth (*Journal of Development Studies*, *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*, *ASEAN Economic Bulletin*, *Southeast Asia Research* and *Journal of Contemporary Southeast Asian Studies*); Fortna (*Turkish Historical Review*); Janku (*Environment and History*); Parker (*Africa and the SOAS Bulletin*); Newbigin (*South Asia Research*); Reid (*Uganda Journal*); Robb (*New Perspectives in South Asian History*). Book series editors: Fortna (SOAS-Routledge Studies on the Middle East); Gerteis (SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan, published by Bloomsbury); Hirschler (Brill's The Muslim World in the Age of the Crusades series and Bonn University Press's Mamluk Studies series); Reid (History, I.B.Tauris).

SOAS historians regularly serve as external examiners of doctorates nationally and internationally, notably at the LSE, King's College, London, Birkbeck, Royal Holloway, SOAS itself, Cambridge, Birmingham, Manchester, Oxford, Bristol, Leeds, Cardiff, Geneva, Granada, Chicago, and the European University Institute.

A selection of conferences, seminar series, scholarly events and exhibitions would include: Fortna: History of Childhood workshop, Ankara, 2011; Fuccaro: Urban Violence in the Middle East, SOAS, February 2013, workshop on Rethinking Public Violence in Modern Middle Eastern Cities, December 2011, workshop on New Perspectives on the Persian Gulf, Birkbeck College, February 2009; Gerteis: After the Shock: Prospects for Recovery and Reconstruction in Post-Quake Japan, a roundtable panel co-hosted by the Japan Society of the United Kingdom and the Japan Research Centre, SOAS, May 2011, workshop on Mirror of an Uncertain Age: Japan at the Dawn of the Post-Industrial Era, SOAS, November 2010, Revisiting Postwar Japan: A Twenty Year Check-up on the State of the Field, Institute for Comparative Culture, Sophia University, Tokyo, May 2009; Hirschler: Manuscripts as a Source in Islamic Studies: State of the Art and Future Research Perspectives, Kiel University, April 2008; Janku: Communicating Civilisation and Global Order, SOAS, September 2011, The Puzzle of National Markets and Standards of Living: China's Economic History Revisited, SOAS, May 2009; Lockyer: SOAS Japan Research Centre annual lectures, British Association of Japanese Studies triennial conference, September 2010; Newbigin: Rethinking the 'Urban' in late Nineteenth and early Twentieth-Century South Asia, SOAS Dec 2012; Reid: The Life and Afterlife of David Livingstone', SOAS Brunei Gallery exhibition, October 2013-April 2014, launched by one-day symposium, November 2013; Rodet: Religion, Media and Marginality in Africa since 1800, SOAS, March 2013, History on Film: Slavery and the African Diaspora from a Global Perspective, SOAS January-February 2013, Children and Migration in Africa: An Interdisciplinary Perspective, SOAS, May 2012); Sadan: Northeast India and its Transnational Neighbourhood, Guwahati, India, January 2008, Asian Borderlands: Enclosure, Interaction and Transformation, Chiang Mai University, Thailand, November 2010; Tejani: Money and Wealth in South Asian History, SOAS, October 2008; Ideologies and Institution: A Conference to Celebrate the Career and Works of Professor Peter Robb, SOAS, September 2013.

SOAS historians undertake a wide range of peer review activities for leading journals, publishers, and national and international funding bodies. They also regularly undertake consultancies and

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engage with a range of external users of research. A number of colleagues work through the Research and Enterprise Office at SOAS to provide bespoke briefings to diplomats and security professionals on their countries and regions of expertise. Others have undertaken consultancies on an individual basis. Rodet, for example, advised the US Army on Mali in 2013 and has also been consulted by the UN Al-Qaeda Sanctions Monitoring Team; Sadan has provided expert witness reports on Burma asylum cases; Reid wrote a widely-cited report for the International Crisis Group on Eritrea in 2010, continues to work with the diplomatic corps on the Horn of Africa through Oxford Analytica and Chatham House and recently briefed senior UN personnel on Eritrea.

Colleagues engage with regularly with the media, film and television: Gerteis has been historical advisor on a movie project ('47 Ronin', to be released December 2013) and for Nintendo on Samurai warriors; Parker and Reid were historical consultants on the BBC series 'Lost Kingdoms of Africa' in 2010-11; Fortna was historical consultant on the BBC series 'Who Do You Think You Are', as well as on a three-part programme on the Ottoman Empire. Many staff regularly appear on radio and television news programmes.

Scholarly honours, awards and fellowships: Charney won the Choice Book Award for his volume on Burma, 2009; Gerteis won the Second Prize Book Award from the European Association for Japanese Studies for his book *Gender Struggles: Wage-earning Women and Male Dominated Unions* (Harvard, 2009), 2011; Hirschler won the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies book prize for *The Written Word in the Medieval Arabic Lands*, 2012; Clarence-Smith and Hirschler have recently become fellows of the Royal Historical Society.

A list of invited keynote or other prestigious lectures would be extensive, but an illustrative sample would include: Charney (opening seminar for the University of Michigan's 50th Anniversary of Southeast Asian Studies Seminar Series 2010); Clarence-Smith (Global Slavery: Definitions and Debates, at workshop on Silences and taboos: ethical dilemmas in making African slavery visible on film, SOAS, 30 January 2013); Fortna (conference on From Millet Communities to Minorities: Greek Orthodox in the Ottoman Empire/Turkey and Muslims in Greece, 1830s-1939, University of Athens, 2010); Fuccaro (conference on Gulf Cities: Space, Society and Culture, American University of Kuwait, March 2013, Hirschler (Authorship and Compilership in Medieval Arabic Historiography, University of Göttingen, May 2012); Janku (The Outsider's Gaze: Reading Chinese Images of Disasters, Lecture series 'Imaging Disaster' at the Research Cluster 'Asia and Europe in a Global Context', University of Heidelberg, June, 2012); Lockyer (Japan Exchange and Teaching 25th Anniversary Symposium, UN University, Tokyo, September 2011); Reid (Eritrea's External Relations', launch of edited volume *Eritrea's External Relations*: lectures delivered at Chatham House in London, Council on Foreign Relations in New York, and Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington DC, January 2010); Robb (Maulana Azad Memorial Lecture, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, 2011); Sadan (What Asia? Epistemological and Methodological Geographies, Stockholm University, May 2011).