

<p>Institution: University of Glasgow</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: D30 – History</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>History's practice of impact at the University of Glasgow (UoG) rests on our core belief that historical insights enlighten modern citizenship. We consider citizenship on a trajectory from local to global, encompassing relationships between individuals, institutions and government; communication among citizens; and the links between past, present and future that help define identity, society and culture. Thus, as historians and citizens, we engage with and promote civic, community and cultural literacy in broad public arenas. As public historians we seek not simply to inform a broader audience about our historical scholarship, but also to interrogate, historicise and theorise the many meanings of 'public' and the ways in which collective identities are established. Drawing on research spanning from early medieval to late modern times, historians at UoG engage in consultative work to offer perspectives from the past to a wide range of user groups including politicians and civil servants; teachers and students; grass-roots community organisations and professional groups, ranging from medicine to the heritage sector, government to voluntary organisations. Thus we shape public debates and decision-making in dialogue with fellow citizens and policy-makers.</p> <p>Our commitment to citizenship encompasses global concerns but begins at home with a particular duty to address Scottish affairs. In addition to our case studies on Scottish independence and teaching history in Scottish schools, we have worked with <u>heritage sector partners</u> to disseminate historical perspectives on the history of Glasgow, and on topics in Scottish history and culture as varied as housing, the textile industry and participation in early modern plantation slavery. However, this local context is only one facet of our broader civic interests. Our historians have <u>influenced policy at UK and international levels</u>; several individuals have established themselves as premier experts in their fields – eg, Marshall on Afghanistan, Cohn on epidemic disease in history, Schen on monetary reform, international and trans-national fiscal policy and O'Brien on the defence implications of Scottish independence for Britain and other nations. Working both individually and as a strong collaborative groups of historians, our major activities centre on issues of global and national security, primarily defence and intelligence, world monetary systems, cultural heritage, gender history, and medical history. Our historical scholarship in these and other areas underpin our contributions to civic, community, and cultural understandings of citizenship in contemporary society.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>Our impact activities demonstrate <i>reach</i>: geographically across Scotland, the UK and globally; and institutionally across a wide range of beneficiaries in the heritage, policy and community sectors. Their <i>significance</i> is evidenced by the depth of engagement with the facets of citizenship and the degree to which individuals have been sought out to provide expert advice.</p> <p>Our approach to impact is informed by a re-evaluation of the UoA's research strategy post-RAE 2008 and by adjustments made in light of the UoG's 2020 Global Vision and Knowledge Exchange Strategies developed by both our home Colleges. This led us to prioritise the following objectives: <u>promoting civic, community and cultural literacy in broad public arenas by means of knowledge exchange and public engagement; contributing to policy debate, development and implementation by working with the widest range of stakeholders locally, nationally and internationally; and embedding systems of support for maximising the impact of our research, including targeting resources toward this work</u>. As a UoA we have always encouraged staff to play leading roles in a variety of public arenas and our research centres, networks and groups provide the foundations for individual and collaborative impact activities. This has been catalysed by enhanced support from UoG resources, especially since the UoG's internal restructuring in 2010 that created four new Colleges, including the College of Arts (CoA) and College of Social Sciences (CoSS), where there had been nine Faculties. Restructuring has delivered new infrastructural supports – including dedicated research administration and support – within Colleges and in their constituent Schools. We seek to achieve impact by focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <u>Civic engagement and public affairs</u>. Aided by UoG's media office, a number of UoG scholars

are now recognised as national or world experts in public affairs relating to their research areas. In addition to the expert contributions of Schenk and O'Brien highlighted in our case studies, Marshall regularly provides confidential briefings to the RAF, SAS and the UK Defence Academy on Afghanistan and international security, and he provides analysis and comment to the national media. Schenk and Tomlinson are members of *Policy Scotland*, UoG's new Public Policy unit – <http://policyscotland.gla.ac.uk/> – augmenting the impact of the History UoA in public affairs. Cohn's research on epidemics has influenced the views of medics and social scientists on disease vectors in history. Recent appointments consolidate these areas and establish new hubs of expertise – eg, Jackson as Professor of Global Security on intelligence and decision-making in international security; Brown as Professor of Late Modern European History on trends in religious adherence and the rise of secularisation in the western world; and Scoop as Senior Lecturer in Contemporary Citizenship with a public humanities brief.

- Community engagement that shapes current debates. UoG historians regularly draw upon their research in order to provide analysis of current affairs in national and international media, reaching a variety of audiences through appearances at festivals, societies and in schools. As befits our role as a leading civic university in Scotland, we have made particular impact on the debates about the 2014 Scottish Independence referendum through a programme of public talks and activities in traditional and new media. In 2012-13 C.Macdonald and Bowie worked with the UoG media office to secure a unique agreement with the *Scotsman* newspaper for print and online publication of essays in a flagship series of nine research seminars on the referendum, 'Vox Populi: Voice of the Scottish People in History'. Promoting the series on Twitter and Facebook drew a varied audience, who responded to the essays in the online edition, sparking public debate. To maintain the momentum of this dialogue beyond the life of the series, podcasts of each seminar paper were published on UoG's website and iTunesU – <http://www.gla.ac.uk/events/voxpathuli/>. More specialised activities included a high-profile series of international speakers, organised by O'Brien, addressing questions of security and international affairs relating to Scottish independence; and an online article by Schenk and Ross on currency in an independent Scotland at <http://www.nationalcollective.com> which has received over 1000 'likes'. Underpinning these contemporary debates, Broun's *Breaking of Britain* project has shared findings on medieval Anglo-Scottish relations through the media – *Sunday Times*, BBC News online, *Metro*, *Evening Times*, *Scotsman*, *Herald* – and a project blog and monthly features highlighted through Facebook and Twitter at <http://www.breakingofbritain.ac.uk/>.
- Cultural engagement including consulting on heritage agendas. Grant funding has been used to initiate new research and to deliver exhibitions in collaboration with heritage partners. As detailed in our case study, Abrams and Moskowitz used an AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award (CDA, 2010-13) with Shetland Museum and Archives to enhance the Museum's presentation of historic knitted textiles. A series of workshops and a public study day related to this research area was funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) and engaged amateur knitters, small businesses and heritage professionals in a discussion focused on the value of textiles to the Scottish economy. Moskowitz's CDA with the Glasgow Allotment Forum expands our heritage remit to the environmental heritage of our city. The RSE also supported Newman in the organisation of a symposium on Scotland and the Atlantic slave trade involving archivists and librarians, and Abrams and Shepard in a workshop series on Scottish masculinity that reached across university, public and third sectors. All of these events have continuing influence through video podcasts on iTunesU. A number of UoG scholars have helped to shape major historical exhibitions: Newman and C.Macdonald have contributed to 'How Glasgow Flourished' for the 2014 Commonwealth Games; Johnston has consulted on the redevelopment of the Polytechnic Museum of Moscow's holography gallery (2013) and a *Shaping Our World* gallery at National Museums Scotland (2012); Strickland has advised the Tower of London and Master of the Royal Armouries on events to mark the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt. In addition to these specific events, UoG historians have ongoing consultative relationships with the heritage sector: Macgregor has advised the European Ethnological Research Centre, Western Isles Council and Taigh Chearsabhagh, an award-winning museum and arts centre in North Uist; Strickland has advised the English Heritage Battlefields Panel on the inclusion of sites in

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the English Heritage Battlefields Register and has been a member of the Board of Trustees of *Triquetra Services (Scotland)*, a heritage enterprise.

- Resources for engagement that support staff. History's commitment to good citizenship in its impact strategy is supported by corporate structures across UoG. The *School of Humanities* 'Public Humanities' strategy is predicated on the understanding that civic and community engagement is a first step toward broader public, and global, understanding. This underpins a new Senior Lectureship in Contemporary Citizenship and a Public Humanities Officer post, both taken up by Scroop in 2013, and our ongoing engagement with grass-roots community groups – eg, the Girl Guides, Glasgow Allotment Forum, Scottish Humanists – as well as professionals and policy-makers. A visit by Steven Lubar, Professor of Public Humanities at Brown University, initiated discussions about how History and the Humanities could better engage with the community. Historians have developed a close working relationship with UoG's *Communications Office*, benefiting from a new media training programme for staff and postgraduates, and better targeting public audiences for our research. In 2012 the Centre for Scottish and Celtic Studies used a *College Intern* to establish a presence on Facebook and Twitter for its public events and online outputs. A team of historians working with Scottish teachers and educational authorities has capitalised on resources available in the *College Business Development Office* to construct a *History in Schools* website and has used UoG's 'Enlighten' open access publications website to share research with teachers. The *College Business Development Office* supports knowledge exchange (KE) activities through initiatives such as: Industry Day, which introduced private and public sector organisations to researchers in the CoA – the 2013 event featured historians in heritage and in textile research); a CoA KE magazine *Reach*, <http://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/arts/knowledge-exchange/newsletter>; a KE blog <http://www.keblog.arts.gla.ac.uk/>; and a fund to support KE initiatives. UoG *First Step Awards* supporting innovative collaborative research with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) funded an oral history study with the East Kilbride & District Housing Association resulting in a report made available to tenants. This collaborative project on *Long term experiences of tenants in social housing in East Kilbride* informs present social housing policy and design and has spawned collaboration between History and Urban Studies at UoG on living in high flats. The UoG's *Collaborative Framework Agreement with Glasgow Life* facilitated heritage consultation with Glasgow Museums. Since 2012 postgraduates in History have been able to participate in *Graduate School* programmes providing museum training and have benefited from internships with the Scottish Government.

c. Strategy and plans

The UoA's impact strategy focuses on: developing and supporting new relationships, particularly in the areas of politics and citizenship; developing and enhancing existing relationships with key user groups, particularly in education; maximising the impact potential of our externally-funded research projects and disseminating History research more widely; and integrating training and staff development towards an embedded impact agenda. We will pursue civic, community, and cultural impact through innovative team approaches and outstanding individual efforts, with the active support of UoG. As a UoA we will:

- deliver greater influence on public affairs and policy. We aim to develop the civic impact of our research expertise through UoG's new Policy Scotland unit and new appointments as noted above. In Global Security Jackson will draw on his networks with British, French and Norwegian defence and intelligence communities to influence policy. Marshall's EU FP7-funded research on the unintended consequences of anti-narcotics measures will involve policy-makers from EU Justice and Home Affairs. White will work with the Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet) and national and international policy groups as he develops his research into statelessness and refugees. In Contemporary Citizenship, Scroop will draw on past experience in political and cultural engagement to develop Public Humanities initiatives across the School, including a blog and a new PGT programme. Ferguson aims to influence medical confidentiality policy through collaboration with the Scottish Privacy Advisory Committee and a 2014 workshop with academics and professional advisory and regulatory groups. Broun will use AHRC Follow-on Funding to work with teachers to develop new 'learning journeys' for the

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Scottish Wars of Independence. Dupree's Leverhulme-funded project on the history of hospital infection will create a web-based archive of oral testimony available to practitioners and policy-makers.

- target our research to shape current debates. Through 2014 History will continue to promote dialogue around the Scottish independence debates through media and advisory work as well as a second major public initiative 'How British is Scotland?' in partnership with *The Herald* newspaper. Regardless of the result of the Independence referendum, issues of Scottish and British identity, the range of devolved or independent governmental powers and Scottish relations with countries outside of the UK will remain of central significance, and the UoA will continue to help inform public awareness and national debate and policy-making. We will apply historical scholarship to address major contemporary social issues, such as Gordon, Hughes and Elliot's AHRC-funded project *History of Working Class Marriage*; Shepard's new research will provide an historical perspective on contemporary concerns with childcare as essential infrastructure in a well-functioning economy; and Brown's expertise on the decline of organised Christian religion in the western world and the rise of humanism, atheism and scepticism will inform current and future policy debates around the influence and place of religion in modern societies.
- provide expert consulting on heritage agendas. We will expand our heritage sector partnerships, seeking appropriate grant capture to support collaborative initiatives. As part of a Wellcome-funded research project on the 'cultural toxins' of pandemics, Cohn will develop a public exhibition for the Wellcome's London museum. Moskowitz is leading a new AHRC CDA in partnership with the Glasgow Allotment Forum, and Abrams and Moskowitz are developing a series of collaborations in the textiles and design fields including with the Singer Archive and Sewing Machine Collection at Clydebank and the Marion Donaldson fashion design collection at Glasgow Museums. Mukherjee is working with the Colonial and Postcolonial Discussion Group at UoG to develop public talks and a blog linked to the 2014 Commonwealth Games – at <http://glasgowimperialcity.wordpress.com>.
- target resources to support staff in achieving their impact goals. Since 2012 attention to impact has been embedded into UoG's criteria for promotion and addressed in annual Performance and Development Reviews (P&DRs). It will be incorporated into History's internal research reviews from 2013-14, directing colleagues towards internal resources such as media training, knowledge exchange grants, and new UoG staff appointed to promote social and new media. Our postgraduate experience will be enhanced by embedding internships and collaboration with non-HEIs in the new AHRC BGP2 partnership programme and in new PGT courses as well as impact training provided by the Graduate Schools.

d. Relationship to case studies

History's case studies grow organically from the established research interests of members of the UoA and span its full range of expertise, from medieval to contemporary and from local to global. They have been chosen to reflect particular areas of success in civic, community, and cultural impact. The selection emphasises the UoA's long-running commitment to supporting meaningful civic engagement (Gender History; the History curriculum); the speed and agility with which UoG historians respond to changing world events (Schenk; O'Brien); and our concern for cultural heritage in the twenty-first century (Knitting). They indicate the role of grant-funded projects, individual consultancies, collegial teamwork and community outreach as diverse but complementary pathways to impact. They have delivered impact via an equally wide choice of routes, from private ministerial briefings to the activities of Girl Guides, from school curricula to international economic policy-making.