

<p>Institution: Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU)</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 30 (History)</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>Specialising in post-1750 history, we host international expertise in cultural, social, imperial and business history and in the histories of Ireland, Nazi Germany, the contemporary US, Middle East and Southeast Asia. History staff take the lead in inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional research centres and networks – the School-wide Centre for Liverpool & Merseyside Studies (CLAMS) and Celtic Studies Network (CSN), and the co-institutional Centre for Port & Maritime History (CPMH). History at LJMU sits within the School of Humanities & Social Science in the Faculty of Arts, Professional and Social Studies. We are 9.5 FTE staff: in addition to the 7 submitted, the team includes Drs. David Clampin, Katherine Harbord and Alex Miles. External collaboration is a key element in sustainability and the group's wider contribution to the discipline. A number of staffing changes since 2008 (involving an increase in staff numbers) have further developed an intellectually vigorous, innovative and enterprising department, with an upward trajectory of high-quality publication and income generation.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p><i>Action on RAE2008</i></p> <p>Our aims as set out in 2008 were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Production of high-quality research, of international standard and significance. 2. Support for existing areas of research strength, but also for areas of potential new growth. 3. Promotion of high-quality research training. 4. Maintenance of a high-quality research environment, including the provision of appropriate facilities and research infrastructure. 5. Appointment of high-quality research students and assistants. 6. Appointment of staff with high-quality research achievement and/or potential. 7. Increased external funding of research. 8. Targeted, evaluated and monitored allocation of available research funds to viable research projects. <p>1, 2 and 6 have been met by a careful staffing strategy. The research profile and potential of applicants have been major criteria in the recruitment process (see c.i. below). 4 has been boosted by the emergence of LJMU's Research and Scholarship Strategy 2012-17, placing research excellence and environment at the core of institutional aims. Research infrastructure and environment is also supported by LJMU History's leadership in CLAMS, CSN, and CPMH. 3 and 5 have been supported through the introduction of our MRes in Modern History. Through the study of historiographical trends and source analysis, plus the writing of an 18,000-word dissertation, 10 students have been trained since 2010 for doctoral study (and two more are expected to graduate in 2014). The department has used QR funding for a full-time PhD bursary, completed successfully in 2013. Returned under UoA29, an English PhD was co-supervised and co-funded in History (completion 2013). On 8, the allocation of research resources is in line with the University's strategic priorities and is scrutinised for approval by the School Director, the Faculty Dean, and LJMU's Director of Research.</p> <p>On 7, UoA30 has pursued a diverse range of funding sources for the period 2008-13 but with limited success. However, latterly, two actions designed to address this have been taken. First, the appointment of a School-based Research Support Officer (Jan 2012) with a remit for UoA30. Second, from 2013, a Faculty-based peer-review process to improve the success rate of applications.</p> <p><i>Plans and aspirations, 2014-20</i></p> <p>Our priorities are to:</p> <p>Expand production of high-quality outputs. Sustainability is confirmed by publication plans. Staff have already secured contracts for a significant number of publications, including 6 monographs, 5 edited collections, and 3 refereed-journal articles. For instance, McDonough: <i>The Gestapo</i> (Hodder & Stoughton); O' Brien: joint ed. <i>Cities of Empire and Maritime Cities</i> (Four Courts Press); Vickers: joint ed., <i>Lessons of War: Gender History and the Second World War</i> (Palgrave); Matthews-Jones: joint ed., <i>Material Religion in Modern Britain</i> (Palgrave); Davies: 'The</p>

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crowd in the 1911 Liverpool General Transport Strike', *Labour History Review*, 79, 1 (2014) (with R. Noon); idem (with R. E. Morley and Benbough-Jackson) volumes 5 and 6 of the Country Boroughs of England and Wales series (Ashgate); Clampin: *Advertising and Propaganda in World War II: Cultural Identity and the Blitz-spirit* (Tauris); Harbord: *Human Rights in New States: comparative historical perspectives on Eritrea, Somaliland and South Sudan* (Oxford University Press); Benbough-Jackson: 'Celebrating a saint on his home ground: St David's Day in St David's diocese during the nineteenth century', in *Religion and Society in the Diocese of St David's 1485-2011*, ed. Bill Gibson and John Morgan-Guy (Ashgate, 2014); Miles: 'Anthony Lake from Vietnam to the Clinton NSC', *Diplomacy & Statecraft* (2014). Support for completion of this work will include appropriate allocation of QR funding, and mentoring, for ECRs especially, by established researchers.

Increase the success rate of funding bids to support research, particularly with external partners. Utilising the Research Support Officer, and the faculty-based review system, there will be increased bidding activity but also enhanced internal peer review prior to submission of bids. Bids in motion include: White (via CPMH): to the Heritage Lottery Fund in collaboration with the Merseyside Maritime Museum on the Elder Dempster shipping line, generating both original research publications and a website repository open to the general public; Harbord: a British Academy Partnership Funding application, between LJMU, the University of Tokyo and the University of Haifa, in order to pursue comparative work in the role of history and memory in foreign-policy behaviours. O'Brien, meanwhile, has submitted a British Academy grant proposal (2013) to organise and host an online exhibition on Thomas Nast's illustrations for *America* (a Chicago-based periodical of the 1880s and 1890s). McDonough, Benbough-Jackson and Vickers are preparing a bid to Heritage Lottery Fund in partnership with Culture Liverpool for a large-scale project documenting the Merseyside experience of the First World War.

Expand the postgraduate research community. Building on the success of the MRes, PhD numbers will be expanded. The School has committed to five to ten full-time/part-time fee bursaries for 2014-17. The current academic year has already seen the successful recruitment of three full-time PhD students in Middle East history, while a joint PhD programme with University of Shanghai is being actively pursued. These initiatives will also support the career development of ECRs through experience of PGR supervision in partnership with established supervisors.

Continue and develop interdisciplinary networking, seminar, conferencing and publishing activity. This is supported by LJMU's Research and Innovation and Library Services, which organise events to promote inter-disciplinarity and networking (e.g. the University-wide Research Café initiative). CPMH, for example, will continue its highly-successful annual conferences; CLAMS plans a conference on Merseyside and World War One; CSN will organise a number of inter-disciplinary workshops and symposia. All of these initiatives will involve wide participation from academics and heritage practitioners within and beyond LJMU.

Establish a History Research Centre. This dovetails with LJMU's Research and Scholarship Strategy for 2012-17, which seeks to focus research around recognised research institutes and centres. *Perspectives: Research Centre in Modern and Contemporary History* (launching September 2014) will develop and co-ordinate historical research across LJMU while providing a focal point for existing and future external partnerships in collaborative research projects (e.g. Culture Liverpool, University of Liverpool, Merseyside Maritime Museum). The centre will be the main vehicle for developing and delivering the research strategy outlined above.

c. People, including:

(i) Staffing strategy and staff development

Staffing Strategy

The period 2008-13 has witnessed growth in staff numbers, increasing our FTE from 8 to 9.5. Our overall approach has been to recruit a balanced portfolio of staff in terms of their specific expertise (alignment to research themes and objectives, growth of new areas) and experience (established and early-career researchers). The appointment of 2 established researchers added new depth in business/imperial history and in Irish history (Webster, Jan 2008; O'Brien, Feb 2012). These were complemented by a further 4 ECR posts: Miles and Harbord (Sept 2011), Matthews-Jones (Feb 2012), and Vickers (Jan 2013), expanding the range of expertise to include US political, Middle East, Victorian cultural, and sexuality/gender history. Through recognition of his high-profile research, Webster has recently taken up a chair at Northumbria University. He still retains strong links to LJMU, however, through on-going collaboration with White in imperial, Asian and business

history, his membership of the CPMH board and the unit's hosting of Co-op archive material. He will be replaced as subject leader by a research-active scholar in Jan 2014, complemented by a new history lectureship in European, international or transnational history (from Jan 2014).

The development and career progression of new and established staff is a key element of our approach. ECRs are supported through reduced teaching and administrative load and are assigned a mentor and extensive career support (outlined below). The University invites applications on an annual basis for conferment at Reader and Professorial levels. In this REF round, McDonough and White were appointed as Professors, and Webster as Reader, in recognition of their research excellence at national and international levels. In terms of equality and diversity, academic appointments and promotions to Readerships and Chairs are routinely monitored (equality impact assessment) and reported.

Career Development Support

Institutional policy for researcher career development is wide-ranging and delivered in modes that allow flexibility. LJMU fully supports the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. The University's provision is underpinned by the EC HR Excellence in Research award (from May 2012) and informed by outcomes from the Careers in Research Online Survey (CROS). Events targeted at ECRs include coaching, sessions on 'being an effective researcher', workshops on collaboration, creativity, writing skills, all of which are mapped against Vitae's Researcher Development Framework (RDF). The University's Research & Innovation Services (RIS) operates an ECR Fellowship fund to specifically foster collaborative research and mentoring with some of the best academics at other institutions or research centres world-wide, from which 2 ECRs in History have benefitted thus far (Miles, Harbord). Centrally-provided training and support for experienced or mid-career staff is more intensive and focussed, for example, grant bid clinics and incubator workshops for principal investigators and research leaders.

New starters to the University attend research induction and gain an overview of relevant professional services alongside the policy and procedural frameworks that underpin research at LJMU (research strategy, grant funding and management, research ethics, library resources, REF, RDF and associated training needs analysis etc.). History staff are encouraged to take up training in grant writing provided through RIS. LJMU's annual Personal Development and Performance Review (PDPR) recognises research and related career development as distinct elements, enabling discussions around career training and guidance and identifying areas for development and support.

A formal workload allocation model operates and is rigorously monitored across LJMU. History staff workloads take research productivity into account when assigning non-research duties. The research allocation abates the required teaching time for staff members. The allocations are reviewed annually by the Faculty.

History staff are encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunities afforded by the University's sabbatical scheme to pursue significant projects, particularly archival research. The unit has recently begun a series of monthly 'brown bag' seminars, whereby staff will present research papers as preludes to conference presentations and/or journal article submissions. Additionally, we participate fully in the seminars and workshops organised as part of CPMH (based at LJMU, University of Liverpool and Merseyside Maritime Museum). For example, Clampin and White first aired their 'Visual Voyages' research at a CPMH seminar in 2013. Staff have access to QR funding, supplemented by internal staff development funds to facilitate archival research, conference attendance and relief from teaching (c. £1.5k per annum per member of staff; all History staff have benefitted). The effective use of research monies is carefully reviewed as part of PDPR.

ii. Research students

PGR training and support

PGR students are supported by a supervisory team of 2-3 History staff with detailed knowledge of the project area. This is a strategy that also ensures the maximum sharing of supervisory experience (particularly between ECRs and more established researchers). Postgraduate research student induction is compulsory and provided by RIS (induction sessions are run on six occasions throughout the academic year). All research student supervisors are required to complete the University's Research Supervisors Workshop. Institutional data from the Postgraduate Research

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Experience Survey (PRES) is analysed at Faculty levels and available at School level.

At unit level, QR funding has been used to provide PGR support for conference attendance and archival research. Moreover, PhD students have benefitted from the use of research funding to free academic staff from teaching duties, thus providing these students with vitally important and supervised teaching experience, and income to support their studies. RIS manages (from 2011-12) a competitive conference travel fund specifically to enable eligible postgraduate research students to present at an international conference (UK or overseas) and disseminate the findings of their research. To date, and following an application and review process, 3 students from the unit have been awarded funding. Concurrently, PGRs have made successful applications for bursaries and other forms of support from funding bodies. For instance, Simon Hill, supervised by White, has secured +£3k to fund presentations at overseas and domestic conferences, as well as undertake research in archives. The funding bodies include: The Royal Historical Society, Economic History Society and the Institute of Historical Research. Our PGRs have also benefitted from training courses provided by outside bodies, for example, Economic History Society. The MRes programme, meanwhile, acts as a feeder to PhD providing M-level PGRs with the skills and expertise to embark upon full research careers, and has contributed greatly to the establishment of a small but supportive community of research students.

Progress monitoring

The University's Research Degree Regulations require that all postgraduate research students and their Directors of Study report annually on progress in line with the University's Code of Good Practice for Annual Monitoring. Annual Monitoring reports are collated at Faculty level and reported to the University Research Degrees Committee.

Most PGRs register on an MPhil degree initially. After one year they apply to register for a PhD using an internal transfer report, which requires an extensive research plan and literature review. As part of this process, transfer reports are moderated and reviewed by the Faculty Research Degrees Committee and examined by an appropriate internal examiner.

As part of the monitoring process, students present work to staff and other PGRs (a practice which is built into the assessment for the MRes programme). CPMH, meanwhile, runs a series of seminars and workshops with attendance and presentations by research students.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities*Research Income*

The unit has redoubled its efforts to secure external research income. The full impact of this is not readily apparent in the REF4 data.

Hence, in Webster's co-operative business history project (included in this REF submission as an impact case-study), the Co-operative Group provided £135k for 4 years from 2009 to support a Research Assistant and to meet essential project expenses. Although administered by the University of Liverpool, Webster was the joint-applicant. Webster received support from the Economic History Society (£2k) for a conference at the International Institute for Social History, Amsterdam on 'Mercantile Networks in the Asian Maritime World since 1750' (Sept 2012). An edited collection with Palgrave Macmillan is planned, including a jointly authored chapter by White.

In 2011 White and Clampin received £3k from Merseyside Maritime Museum for their project 'Visual Voyages: Marketing in British Merchant Shipping, 1870s to 1970s'. Journal articles and a monograph (to be submitted to Liverpool University Press) are planned. In 2010 White was funded (£2k) by the Association of South East Asian Studies in the UK Research Committee (via the British Academy) and in 2012-13 by the Economic History Society (£3.8k) to research 'British Business and Malaysia's NEP in the 1970s and 1980s'. Output in the form of a co-authored monograph is anticipated.

Considerable funding has also recently been attracted to the World War One on Merseyside project. In 2013, McDonough received £5k from the Merseyside Lord Lieutenantcy Special Fund Committee of the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund to develop an online Merseyside research tool on the conflict. This was followed by a £12.5k award (again just outside of the REF2014 accounting period) to McDonough and Benbough-Jackson from the AHRC to act as academic advisers for the North-West area on the BBC's 'World War One at Home' project. Scholarly work will develop from this – e.g. Benbough-Jackson plans for refereed-journal articles on St. George's and St. David's Day celebrations during the conflict; McDonough an edited collection on the origins of World War One.

In 2013, Vickers was awarded (with Dr Corina Peniston-Bird) £300 from the Royal Historical Society and £1000 from the Economic History Society to run a joint conference, 'Lessons of War: Gender History and the Second World War', at Lancaster University, 12-13 September.

Research Infrastructure & Facilities

The unit has used Research Capital Investment Funding (RCIF) to develop both the archive and digitisation suite (with UoAs 29 and 34) as well as to secure LJMU's archives. In 2008 £270k was spent on creating a new facility for research activities, including expanding the archive storage, the preservation, cataloguing and expansion of the existing collections and digitisation projects. In 2010 the facility was further developed by the creation of a £90k new suite for digitisation activities. Research, technical and professional staff can now work close together in purpose-built accommodation, with space for additional staff to work on specific projects. Collections acquired and utilised for ongoing research within the department include those of the Co-operative Group, featuring a full-run of *Co-operative News*. Significant investment in research materials included £13.8k for nineteenth-century periodicals. A further £270.4k was invested to purchase (in perpetuity) digital archives relevant to the UoA's research activity – particularly that of Benbough-Jackson, Clampin and Matthews-Jones - such as Nineteenth-century British Library Newspapers; Daily Mail Historical Archive; Mass Observation Archive Update II; Early American Newspapers Nineteenth-century collection; Victorian Popular Culture Archives.

The unit also leads in two bodies heavily engaged in collaborative research (both inter-institutional and inter-disciplinary in nature): CLAMS has been in existence since 2003, during which time it has organised four major conferences (the most recent in 2008) and produced three edited volumes (one of which is entered into REF2014). CPMH organises academic seminars and conferences, and will publish with Liverpool University Press a series of monographs on Port & Maritime History. The new research centre, *Perspectives: Research Centre for Modern and Contemporary History*, from 2014, will act as overarching facilitator of research for the unit. In line with the University's Research and Scholarship Strategy 2012-17, the UoA will focus its work more closely around the centre.

The role of the Research Support Officer involves identifying and disseminating appropriate funding streams, preparation of bids and submission in collaboration with staff and RIS. The administrative support provided enables staff to target suitable funding opportunities for their research. It also entails advising on methods and design of research, and developing relationships and contacts to facilitate collaboration. Support for bid writing is also inherent in the review of applications within the faculty prior to submission to RIS. The pool of reviewers includes both academics experienced in writing grant applications, and ECRs who will develop their own skills by reviewing a range of applications.

LJMU's RIS is responsible for co-ordination of university-level research strategy, providing leadership for staff and quality assurance support for research and PGR programmes. In addition to its Code of Practice for Research, RIS operates formal procedures for research governance (including research ethics), and the investigation of alleged research misconduct. Additionally, core principles and expectations with regard to the curating of publically-funded research data and research outputs are explicit in LJMU's research data management policy. LJMU's Research and Scholarship Strategy 2012-17 details specific objectives for infrastructure and support.

Internally, the unit has played a wider role in the research activities of the University. Webster was chair of the Faculty RCIF committee which prioritised projects and allocated funds. Benbough-Jackson chaired the School of Social Science Research Committee between 2009 and 2011, while White has succeeded Webster on the Faculty Research Strategy Committee.

Physical infrastructure has been enhanced by the refurbishment of the John Foster Building which houses the department and brings the unit geographically closer to the rest of the Faculty. Significant improvements to the Faculty's physical environment have also involved the creation of dedicated space (in John Foster Building) for the expanding numbers of post-graduate researchers.

In addition to LJMU's three libraries, including an extensive collection of e-journals and online databases for use on and off campus, Liverpool offers an enviable location for historical research. The city boasts the revamped Liverpool Record Office as part of the Liverpool Central Library (the UK's second most visited public record office next to the National Archives), as well as one of the world's leading repositories of maritime history at the Merseyside Maritime Museum. LJMU staff

also benefit from full access to the libraries and archives of the University of Liverpool. We have strong working relationships with all these organisations (see below), including joint initiatives (notably, CPMH).

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Collaborative arrangements, partnerships, networks and joint research projects (including conferences organised)

Given its small size, a key element in the unit's research strategy is collaboration with colleagues at other institutions. CLAMS and CPMH (a joint enterprise itself) are bodies designed to foster collaborative initiatives. Davies and Benbough-Jackson organised the 2008 CLAMS conference on Merseyside, Culture and Place, which incorporated cultural studies, historical and social science perspectives, and which generated an edited book. Haggerty (Nottingham University), Webster and White's edited volume, *Empire in One City?* (MUP, 2008) was the fruit of an earlier CLAMS conference.

CPMH is an inter-institutional body, in which LJMU is a partner with the University of Liverpool and Merseyside Maritime Museum. White is co-director with Prof. Andrew Popp of the University of Liverpool, and Clampin, O'Brien and Webster sit on CPMH's academic board. Under the umbrella of CPMH, 'Visual Voyages' (Clampin and White) is a striking example of internal and external collaboration, and of how such collaboration is utilised to secure financial support. The Celtic Studies Network will follow this pattern. Founded by O'Brien and Benbough-Jackson with LJMU colleague, Dr David Tyrer (Reader in Critical Theory), it offers opportunities for cross-institutional collaboration and cooperation, is interdisciplinary in nature and will organise workshops and symposia. O'Brien and Tyrer are due to submit a bid for AHRC Network Funding in order to facilitate this collaboration.

Individually, members of the unit work closely with academics both inside and outside the university. White has collaborated internationally with Dr. Shakila Yacob of Universiti Malaya in the 'Becoming Malaysian' project, producing a jointly authored article in *Modern Asian Studies* (submitted to REF2014) and with a co-authored monograph on foreign investment in 1970s and 1980s Malaysia planned. With Shakila, he is a member of Universiti Malaya's Malaysian Business History Flagship, an initiative dedicated to archival research and its dissemination and application to contemporary scenarios. Webster's work on the Co-operative Business History project (2009-13) was collaborative (with Prof J.F. Wilson, now Director of the University of Newcastle Business School). Webster jointly organised with academics from other universities and the Co-operative College two major interdisciplinary and international conferences on Co-operation in 2009 and 2012.

The recent appointment of O'Brien has provided added direction and experience in our collaborative approaches. With Dr. Finola O'Kane (University College Dublin), and support from the Irish government, O'Brien was involved in organising interdisciplinary and international conferences, and the co-editing of two collections (*Georgian Dublin* and *Portraits of the City: Dublin and the Wider World*). Davies, meanwhile, is establishing a research collaboration with the University of Reading: 'The rise of Labour and the decline of Liberalism c. 1906-1950: local, national and international perspectives.' McDonough, Benbough-Jackson and Vickers are collaborating with Culture Liverpool (Liverpool City Council) on a large-scale, 5-year project documenting the Merseyside experience of the First World War (launching November 2013).

Other examples of collaborative work include McDonough's editorship of *The Origins of the Second World War* (submitted to REF2014) and White's (with leading Japanese scholar, Prof. Shigeru Akita), *The International Order of Asia in the 1930s and 1950s* (Ashgate, 2010), both with international and eminent groups of scholars. An additional aspect of this outward-facing strategy has been the accommodation of visiting research fellows (with whom collaborative work is developing) from France, Spain and Japan, the latter bearing particular fruit in Webster's and White's international collaborations on 'Asian Mercantile Networks'.

Collaborative approaches are also being taken towards PhD supervision – links are being pursued with the University of Shanghai to foster a jointly-supervised programme, co-funded through LJMU's PGR bursary scheme, to develop a project on historical linkages between Liverpool and Shanghai.

In addition to examination of doctorates, refereeing for academic journals, and reviewing

manuscripts for publishers, staff make wider contributions to the discipline in the following ways:

Positions in professional subject associations and learned societies

Clampin: Conference on the Historical Analysis and Research in Marketing (elected board member; programme chair, 2015 conference); Matthews-Jones: History UK (Steering Committee); North West Network of Modern British Historians (co-organiser); British Association of Victorian Studies (Treasurer); Vickers: Imperial War Museum Working Group for Academics (member); White: Historic Society of Lancashire & Cheshire (council member; President, 2009-13; Acting President Jan-April 2013); Association of South East Asian Studies in the UK (executive council, 2007-12; Treasurer 2009-12; Research Committee [administering BA funds])

Editorial positions

Matthews-Jones: *Journal of Victorian Culture* (editorial board and blog editor); McDonough: *History* (editorial board); White: *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* (international advisory board).

Scholarly Awards and Fellowships

Matthews-Jones: AHRC/Radio 3 New Generation Thinkers Scheme (short-listed); McDonough: Honorary Fellow, White Rose Society; Miles: Public Policy Scholar in Residence, Woodrow Wilson Centre, Washington, Spring 2010; Harbord: Schusterman Centre for Israel Studies Summer Institute Fellowship, Brandeis University (2010); University of Tel Aviv (2012); O' Brien: Scholar Award, 2008-9, Newberry Library Chicago; Hibernian Travel Award 2012, Cushwa Centre, University of Notre Dame.

Invited Keynotes and Lectures

LJMU historians have delivered 28 externally funded papers to academic audiences, including:

Clampin: Consumer on the Home Front conference, German Historical Institute, London, Dec 2013; Harbord: Association of Israel Studies Annual Conference "Political Economies of Separation in the West Bank", 2011 (funded by travel grants from Association of Israel Studies and Schusterman Centre for Israel Studies); Matthews-Jones: North American Victorian Studies Association/ British Association of Victorian Studies/ AVSA supernumerary conference in Venice on social media and blogging, April 2013 (part funded by North American Victorian Studies Association); McDonough: 'Poland 1939: The Nazi Attack on Poland', Warsaw, September 2009 (funded by University of Warsaw and Polish History Museum); O' Brien: 'Crime of the Century: The Murder of Dr Cronin', New York University, April 2009; 'Truth in Essentials: Newspapers and Sensational Crime in Chicago', University of Wisconsin Madison, April 2009; Vickers: International Oral History conference, Prague (funded by British Academy overseas travel grant); 'New Perspectives on the Second World War' conference, University of Calgary, 2009 (funded by Palm Academy travel grant); Webster: lecture/seminar series on British imperialism in Asia, Universities of Keio (Tokyo), Toyama and Osaka, Dec 2009 (funded by Japanese Association for the Study of British Imperial and Commonwealth History); paper and commentary on Asian commodity chains, pre-conference for World Economic History Congress, Kyoto University, March 2012 (funded by Contemporary Indian Area Studies programme, National Institutes for the Humanities, Japan, and the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan); commentator, World Economic History Congress, Stellenbosch, RSA, July 2012 (funded by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan); cooperatives in Burma, 'Philanthropy, State and Globalization' conference, Hong Kong/Guangzhou, Dec 2012 (funded by University of Hong Kong); White: 'The Formation of the New International Order in Asia and the International-Aid Plan', Tohoku Gakuin University, Japan, March 2009 (funded by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Japan); 'Diversification and Decolonisation: the case of British international shipping and Liverpool's Ocean Group', Harvard Business School Business History Seminar, Nov 2011.