

Institution: The Open University

Unit of Assessment: D30 History

a. Overview

The Open University (OU) is the UK's only university with staff, students and physical assets in all four nations of the UK. Historians at the OU use this national reach to collaborate with a wide range of institutions (HE and non-HEI) and to organise research events across the UK. Most historians in this submission are based within the History Department in the Arts Faculty, but other historians (two of whom have been submitted under D30) work within the Faculties of Social Science, Education and Language Studies, and Business and Law.

The History Department comprises 21 members (19.1 FTE), including three recently appointed junior members of staff and four professors. Research focuses on post-medieval British, Imperial and European history, with particular strengths in the history of policing and crime and in colonial and post-colonial history. The Department maintains successful research groups in these core areas, alongside more fluid and emergent research clusters.

b. Research strategy

Research in history at the OU is characterised by the work of two established, internationally excellent research groups, by successful collaborative and interdisciplinary research across a range of other research clusters, and by investment in extensive public engagement and impact activities. Since the 2008 RAE, the research strategy in History has had three main priorities: (1) to increase and diversify external funding to enable the further development of research in key areas of strength; (2) to foster links with non-HEI and HEI partners to enable innovation in collaborative and interdisciplinary research; (3) to maximise impact by targeted engagement in a broad range of online and broadcast activities.

In order to realise this strategy, research within the History Department has been actively managed by a Research Steering Group (RSG), established in 2008. This group has coordinated research in the Department, provided mentoring for less experienced researchers, managed doctoral student admissions, training and provision, and provided peer review and strategic guidance around external grant applications. This managed approach to research has enabled significant success during the census period across all three strategic priorities outlined above.

1. External funding to develop key research areas

The UoA has more than doubled its external research funding across the census period from £326,083 (RAE 2008) to £774,922. The bulk of D30 income is derived from RCUK bodies but income has also been secured from more specialised sources, such as the Wellcome Trust, the European Commission, the German Historical Institute (Washington and London), the Scouloudi Foundation, and business funders. This has enabled its two largest research groups – *The International Centre for the Study of Crime, Policing and Justice* and *The Ferguson Centre for African and Asian Studies* – to develop a series of long-term research projects that have impacted on their respective fields of criminal justice history and imperial/post-colonial studies.

The International Centre for the Study of Crime, Policing and Justice (**Crone, Dodsworth, Emsley, Lawrence, Sinclair and Williams**), a well-established research group with a significant international reputation, has secured over £330,000 of external research funding. Grants from the AHRC, ESRC, British Academy and the European Commission have supported research into the history of criminal justice systems (particularly the history of policing) around the world, resulting in extensive publications (including six monographs) and a number of major international conferences (including CrimPrev, the culmination of a 10 country EU FP6 collaboration). These outputs, together with successful seminar and visiting fellow programmes, have enabled this group to grow its activities significantly since 2008. Members are internationally recognised experts and are frequently asked to comment on contemporary and historical topics related to crime and policing.

The other main research group, the interdisciplinary *Ferguson Centre for African and Asian Studies* (directed by **Hack**, with support from **Hazareesingh and Hughes**), has secured over £400,000 of external funding, which has enabled historians in the group to build research expertise and capacity in fields such as counter-insurgency in Asia, heritage and conflict in Kenya and global

histories of commodities. This funding, along with accompanying seminars (at the OU and in conjunction with partners such as the Institute of Commonwealth Studies), conferences (in Kenya and India) and publications (including a special issue of the *Journal of Global History*) has meant that the research of this group has significantly broadened its reach since 2008. In October 2012, **Hack** testified as expert historical witness on communists in the case of Mohamad Sabu versus *Utusan Malaysia*, in the Penang High Court, Malaysia. Group members also make frequent appearances in the media.

2. Collaborative research with Non-HEI and HEI partners

The two principal research groups continue to cultivate a wide range of research collaborators (e.g. the Association of Chief Police Officers, UK; the Centre for Excellence in Policing Studies, Griffith University, Australia; Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium; the British Institute in Eastern Africa; the University of Gothenberg, Sweden; the UCL Institute of the Americas, London; and Wageningen University, Netherlands). Smaller research clusters have also built partnerships since 2008. For example, the History of Medicine Group (**Brunton, De Renzi and Grell**), with its dual focus on European early modern medicine and the politics of public health in Britain, has developed collaborative research with the University of Copenhagen, which resulted in a 2013 Wellcome Trust funded workshop ('Religion, natural philosophy and medicine in post-Reformation Scandinavia') and a forthcoming edited volume.

Likewise, the newly-formed interdisciplinary *Localizing Emotions* research group (**Bailey and Vincent**) will submit an AHRC networking grant in winter 2013 in conjunction with Goldsmiths, the Freud Museum and Golden Lane Estate Foundation. This group sits alongside other interdisciplinary groups. The *Financial History Group*, for example, links historians (**Laurence, Loftus and Mackie**) with colleagues in the Faculty of Business and Law, and has developed events in conjunction with the Economic History Society, the Social History Society and the British Association for Victorian Studies.

Alongside these initiatives and other collaborations by individuals with HEI and non-HEI partners, a set of larger strategic relationships are managed at faculty level. The Arts Faculty has developed strategic partnerships with the British Library (BL), the National Library of Wales (NLW) and the National Library of Scotland (NLS). In the census period, these relationships have resulted in two full-time PhD studentships in History with the BL and the NLW, and the broader exchange of research expertise among staff (e.g. **Hazareesingh** joined BL staff at an AHRC-funded Care for the Future workshop in Bangalore). The Faculty is also a member of CHASE (the Consortium for Humanities and the Arts, South-East England), which links the OU to the Universities of East Anglia, Essex, Kent, Sussex, Goldsmiths (University of London) and the Courtauld Institute of Art. The consortium was recently awarded AHRC Block Grant Partnership (BGP2) funding worth circa, £17,000,000. Under the BGP2 scheme, the constituent members of CHASE will receive 232 fully funded studentships over five years, with the first cohort commencing in October 2014.

3. Investment in public engagement and impact activities

The OU's mission statement, 'open to people, places, methods and ideas', has ensured that it is committed to life-long learning and has always sought to disseminate its research as widely as possible. The development of the impact agenda since 2008 has meant that this broad aim has become a key component of our history research strategy. To this end, research groups and individuals have been supported financially, in workload planning, and through training and mentoring to incorporate public engagement and impact-generating activities into ongoing research projects. Examples include *The International Centre for the Study of Crime, Policing and Justice* securing Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) and AHRC funding for the online resource *History from Police Archives: Study Courses and Resource Material for Students of Social History*. Drawing on original research and unused sources discovered by members of the Centre, this website provides study courses for history students working towards Key Stage 3 and higher. Also, AHRC-funded Ferguson Centre research programmes have enabled a network of community peace museums in rural Kenya to develop curatorial capacity and generate new interpretations of a contested past, and have helped fund **Hazareesingh's** *Commodities Online* website. **Byford's** work on the Semlin concentration camp in Serbia, and the associated online materials he has produced, has led to significant public debate in Serbia over the place of the Holocaust in Serbian national memory.

Our strategy also focuses on significant anniversaries to create public engagement and impact.

Moore, an internationally recognised expert on Charles Darwin, played a prominent role during the 2008–09 Darwin anniversary, delivering 96 invited presentations in 13 countries, and publishing a co-authored book, *Darwin's Sacred Cause*, with simultaneous Dutch, Portuguese and Japanese translations. **Mombauer** has prepared publications for the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. In 2014 and beyond, we will enable **Mombauer** to reach large audiences with her research via her involvement with the BBC, the OU's OpenLearn provisions, with the BL, primary and secondary schools, online encyclopaedias, and numerous invited public lectures.

All historians at the OU are encouraged to generate impact through the institution's defining partnership with the BBC and the OU's unrivalled online presence. Our unique relationship with the BBC means that OU historians are bought out of other duties to make major contributions to the planning, writing and production of high-profile television and radio programmes, often drawing audiences of millions (details of audience numbers in REF3a). During the REF period these included *The History of Scotland* (**Donnachie**), *Empire* (**Hack**), *The History of the World*, (**Chant, Mombauer and Williams**), *Wartime Farm* (**Williams**), and *Britain's Great War* (**Mombauer**, for screening in February 2014). Public engagement and understanding is further enhanced by the strategic use of follow-up activities to these broadcasts, with tens of thousands of interested viewers accessing free educational materials online and in print, written by academics, based on their research. Viewers are also offered pathways to cognate History courses.

Future Plans

Looking forward, the 2014–20 history research strategy will continue to focus on the management of research around the same three primary objectives, while recognising the enduring importance of curiosity-driven research and the continuing relevance of the individual researcher model within history. Regarding externally funded research (1 above), the 2014–20 strategy aims for the Department's two primary research groups to continue their growth in levels of external funding (with a subsidiary aim that mid-career researchers in these groups – specifically **Lawrence, Williams, Hack, Hazareesingh** – should be mentored to secure grants in the c. £100–250,000 range). **Hughes** has submitted £640,000 application to the ESRC; **Hack** has submitted a Leverhulme Fellowship application for £44,500. In the History of Medicine group, **Grell** will submit a Wellcome Trust grant for a further symposium in collaboration with University of Cambridge and the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas in Barcelona. This will be followed by a larger collaborative project (with the University of Copenhagen) on natural philosophy and medicine in post-Reformation Scandinavia 1550–1650 with funding to be sought from the Wellcome Trust and Carlsberg Foundation. **De Renzi** is part of an international network of historians working on the research project 'Diseases and dissections: practices, uses, histories, 1500–1800' (with collaborators in Rome, Geneva and Ferrara). Following a first meeting funded by the University of Geneva, a second workshop will take place in early 2014. Wellcome funding has been applied for, and **De Renzi** will take a lead on developing the 'Pathologies in Practice, 1550–1800' network involving further external partners.

Other colleagues (particularly the recently recruited **Bailey, Allen and Goodrich**) will be assisted to bid as appropriate to the research plans they are developing, with the overall aim that the level of D30 externally funded research should increase over the assessment period, with involvement from OU historians in at least one Horizon 2020 bid. **Crone's** ambitious research project on reading in prisons is another strategic priority. She has submitted a £178,000 bid to the AHRC's early careers' scheme. **Byford** is preparing an AHRC funding bid 'Remembered Futures' with Loughborough University, due to run from 2015 to 2020.

The collaborative and interdisciplinary partnerships (2 above), developed since 2008, will be nurtured via the allocation of staff time and funding where necessary. A number of initiatives are already planned. The *Localizing Emotions* research group will seek to expand its work on the social and cultural aspects of emotion via the development of more extensive links with Goldsmiths and other relevant non-HEI institutions. **Bailey** will be encouraged to apply for follow-up funding following the 2013 networking grant application. The Department will build on existing collaborations brokered by the Faculty with the national libraries, e.g. with research bids and links with jointly supervised studentships.

Moving from a public engagement agenda to developing a specific impact strategy (3 above), the Department will ensure that its Research Steering Group facilitates impact-related activities by

(a) requiring that such activities are part of the annual work plans of individuals and of the design and monitoring of major funded research projects; (b) developing more sophisticated mechanisms for collating data on the impact of broadcast and online activities (the group already tracks viewer and listener data and web traffic in detail, but will move from using this as a marker of success to a means of shaping future activities); (c) making the development of impact a responsibility of the Director of the History Research Steering Group.

In addition, a series of podcasts showcasing the impact of specific research projects in history at the OU will be placed online from 2014 onwards, and historians will make aspects of their research available to national and international audiences via FutureLearn, an innovative learning platform owned by the OU that offers free life-long learning courses (Massive Open Online Courses – MOOCs) designed by the OU and leading partner universities.

c. People

i) Staffing strategy and staff development: In 2008 the Department of the History of Science Technology and Medicine (HSTM) was merged with the History Department. Research into the History of Medicine remains an integral part of teaching and research in History at the OU. Retiring staff who conducted research in the History of Science and Technology areas have been replaced by staff with specialisms which strengthen our successful research groups and curriculum (**Allen, Bailey, Crone, Goodrich**). These newer members of staff have ensured that key research areas are maintained. In addition, the Department has been strengthened in the field of non-European history by absorbing staff from the *Ferguson Centre* (**Hazareesingh, Hughes**) and by the appointment of **Sinclair**. Looking ahead, the Department will continue making strategic appointments which will enhance current and developing research strengths.

The Department recognises that colleagues starting their academic career require extra research time and guidance. Such appointees are given lighter teaching loads and are able to take research leave from the start. They are also encouraged to join existing research groups and to become involved in postgraduate supervision. Three of the four new appointments in the period since 2008 (**Allen, Bailey, Crone**) were in the early stages of their career on appointment and all three have produced monographs within this cycle. The fourth appointment (**Goodrich**) had no research in her teaching contract prior to her appointment in 2009, and has already written two peer-reviewed articles for front-rank journals (*Historical Journal* and *Journal of British Studies*).

All historians at the OU are research-active, and are allocated 79 days p.a. for research (one day per week and 44 days study leave to be taken by arrangement). Due to the OU's unique teaching model, historians are not restricted to taking their study leave at particular times of the year, but are able to 'book' study leave at any time, enabling flexibility in attending conferences and undertaking research. In addition, it is possible to accumulate leave, and workloads are managed to allow colleagues to work more intensively on particular time-critical projects where appropriate (e.g. **Moore**, Darwin anniversaries; **Mombauer**, First World War centenary).

The OU holds an 'HR Excellence in Research Award' from the European Commission, demonstrating its strong commitment to improving working conditions and career development for research staff. Since RAE 2008 there has been some re-grading to allow staff on research-only contracts to make career progress: one research associate (**Sinclair**) and two lecturers (**Hazareesingh, Hughes**) have been re-graded to research fellow. **Sinclair** and **Hughes** have received internal bridging funding to allow them to secure longer-term, externally funded research contracts. The University Research School provides an extensive programme of training events for researchers, including the effective use of library resources and ICT. Subject-specific guidance on developing research projects is provided by the RSG, chaired by **Mombauer**, and the Faculty provides advice on external bidding with a Research and Enterprise Support Team and the Associate Dean Research (ADR), **Lawrence**.

ii) Research students: The University infrastructure for PhD research meets or exceeds the requirements of all research councils and Quality Assurance Agency specifications, with a comprehensive induction programme and workshops and seminars pertinent to every stage of the doctoral programme and to career preparation. The History Postgraduate Officer manages admissions and offers advice on the preparation of research proposals. All students have at least two supervisors plus a named third party academic monitor who may be consulted independently

of supervision arrangements. Progress is monitored via bi-annual written reports (reviewed by the Research Degrees Office and the ADR), and a robust probation process including a 'mini-viva', assessed independently of the supervisory team. OU Research Degree Supervisory Training is a prerequisite for any supervisor, regardless of their experience before joining the OU, and a regular Research Supervisor Forum offers further training in all stages of the supervisory process.

A research aim in RAE 2008 was to increase the number of full-time funded students in History while retaining the flexible and successful supervisory arrangements which make the Department attractive to part-time applicants. This aim has been met. During the census period, 16 research students were awarded doctorates in History (one of whom was resident overseas and is not returned in REF4), an average of 3.09 awards per annum in contrast to 2.14 returned for RAE 2008. Fifteen PhD students are currently registered with History (eight f/t, seven p/t), and the FTE headcount has been consistently higher than during the last period of assessment. Funded studentships were obtained via the AHRC's Collaborative Doctoral Scheme (with Nottingham Galleries of Justice and with the Irish Temperance League) and via the AHRC's BGP:CB scheme (with the BL and the NLW).

The Department has also secured eight internally-funded studentships since 2008. Looking forward, the CHASE Block Grant Partnership (BGP2) bid contains provision for 230 studentships over a five-year period, and securing at least one history studentship p.a. from this allocation is written into the History research strategy. Throughout, the Department's postgraduate research student strategy ensures high standards of training and timely completion for all PGRs via three main mechanisms:

(1) High-quality generic and subject-specific skills training: The OU's Research Degrees Office provides an innovative mix of generic skills training. The existing student support, encapsulated in Potter, *Doing Postgraduate Research* (Sage in conjunction with The Open University, 2002), supplied to all OU students, has been a model that other universities have followed. From October 2013, doctoral student training is delivered via the OU's newly-developed Virtual Research Environment. It is a sector-leading online platform providing a reflective skills-audit tool, a suite of training modules produced to the OU's world-leading distance education standards, and discussion forums. The Arts Faculty complements this with a series of face-to-face training events, including a three day residential conference targeted specifically at part-time postgraduate research student (PGRS). Fully funded, including accommodation and subsistence, postgraduate students can meet their peers and Faculty on campus. Specific training days for History students are run annually, including media training and presentation skills, and all students have access to an annual £1000 expense budget (£500 for p/t students) and can bid for funding for additional specialist training not supplied in-house.

(2) Integration with the Department's research culture: All academic staff are involved in the supervision or monitoring of doctoral students. Research groups host regular events that doctoral students are required to attend where appropriate. Students can also help run their affiliated groups and organise associated events.

(3) Collaborative provision/partnership working: The History Department's collaborative studentships with the British Library, the National Library of Wales and the National Library of Scotland have opened the in-house training programmes of these institutions to History PGRS at the OU. This has been particularly beneficial for students interested in curatorial or archive careers. More significantly, the launch of the CHASE consortium in 2012 has already substantially enhanced the training opportunities available to history PGRS at the OU as partner institutions pool their resources and expertise for postgraduate training. CHASE institutions have committed to sharing PGRS training programmes and supervisory expertise, thus significantly enhancing the environment for doctoral students at all member institutions. The consortium has already run a number of AHRC-funded skills development programmes, and members have taken advantage of two in particular, 'Going Digital' (2012–13) and 'Becoming a Public Intellectual' (2013–14). CHASE is running seven other AHRC skills development programmes (both academic and student-led), a number of which are targeted specifically at historians (e.g. 'Beyond the Archive'). Following the announcement of CHASE's successful funding bid, the Department will aim to secure at least one funded PhD studentship in History annually over the next five years from the CHASE allocation (in addition to studentships which may be secured via Collaborative Doctoral Awards and

Partnerships or other routes). Historians at the OU will also aim to develop joint research seminars and conferences with colleagues within CHASE and will build on the two existing CHASE/AHRC Skills Development Programmes to foster innovative and shared training for history PGRS. The Department will also explore co-supervision arrangements across the consortium where this helps to build PGRS capacity.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The bulk of the UoA's doubled research funding has been won from RCUK sources (particularly AHRC, ESRC and the British Academy). However, as a result of a strategy of targeted diversification since 2008, grants have been secured from more specialised funders (including the Mark Fitch Foundation, The Wellcome Trust, the Society for Research into Higher Education and the Leverhulme Trust), overseas bodies (including the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia in Portugal, the Australian Research Council and the European Commission), and business funder Santander. As detailed in (b) above, much of the income is associated with the work of our larger research centres, and the amounts awarded, and the repeat funding allocated, are evidence of both the quality of research conducted by these groups and their ability to deliver academic outputs and broader public impacts.

The *Ferguson Centre*, for example, has built research capacity over the census period via initial and follow-on funding (**Hughes** – AHRC: £359,178; BA: £35,691; **Hazareesingh** – BA: £48,887; **Hack** – BA: £11,224). The *International Centre for the Study of Crime, Policing and Justice*, too, has built capacity and expertise in the history and recent practice of overseas policing (**Emsley** – AHRC: £73,564; ESRC: £78,715; Leverhulme: £2,350; **Williams** – Santander: £1000), as well as in ethnicity/gender and crime (**King** – ESRC: £45,287; ESRC: £98,440). Historians of medicine have a good track record with Wellcome Trust funding (**De Renzi** – £20,424; **Brunton** – £3,778; **Grell** – £4,800), while historians working outside of these groups on individual projects have also been successful in bidding for funds from a range of funders (**Bailey, Byford, Harrison, Lawrence, Pittaway, O'Day** – £20,745 in total).

The Arts Faculty maintains a Research and Enterprise Support Team (2.5 FTE) providing pre- and post-award support, ensuring effective delivery of RCUK and other externally funded projects. Historians also benefit from internal funding of their research. In addition to a personal allowance of £500 p.a., it is possible to bid for additional funds to support research trips and conference attendance, and to have some external bids underwritten by the Faculty. The Arts Faculty's Research Sub-Committee (FRSC) allocates 20% of QR (REF-related) funding directly to Faculty research projects and studentships (the rest being allocated to research via the staffing budget). Research groups also receive additional funds from the Departmental budget to run seminars and conferences. These sources are complemented by the OU's Research School which also supports international collaborations and impact activities (financially and administratively) and offers strategic funding (including staff resource) in support of bidding activities.

The OU houses an internationally significant collection of primary materials related to the history of policing. These include collections of interviews and personal papers from senior police officers of the twentieth century, runs of significant UK police publications and the archive of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). This collection is supported by a full-time archivist, and is used by academic, media and public enquirers. The archive is housed in specialist facilities within the OU Library. The Library combines the best traditional library facilities with the latest technologies and learning opportunities to provide a modern, spacious environment for research and collaboration. Open University researchers have access to one of the largest university collections of online resources in the UK, including more than 94,000 ejournals, more than 300 databases and nearly 550,000 ebooks. The Library manages the University's institutional open access repository ORO (Open Research Online, one of the UK's largest), which provides a platform to showcase research publications to an average of 500,000 online visitors per year.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

OU historians actively contribute to the discipline in the UK and beyond. They have examined 18 PhD theses and six MPhil theses at 16 national and international universities during the assessment period, and serve as members of the AHRC and ESRC Peer Review Colleges, as panel members and strategic reviewers for the AHRC and as referees for the Wellcome Trust and

the Swiss National Science Foundation.

They have developed a series of fruitful relationships with HEI and non-HEI partners during the census period. The CHASE initiative, as outlined above, links OU historians to colleagues in six other institutions, and a range of other HEI partnerships have also been developed to support specific research projects. The relationships formed with the national libraries have been and will continue to be significant in securing studentships and external funding. In addition, partnerships have been developed with a range of cultural heritage institutions in the UK and abroad. These new and strengthened relationships have allowed research groups and individual historians to contribute significantly to the support of their discipline.

Members of the *Ferguson Centre* have worked with a range of institutions, including Birkbeck College, London (on the AHRC-funded 'Managing Heritage' project) and with the US International University, Nairobi (on a British Academy UK-Africa Partnerships Scheme project on Kenyan heritage). Both of these have materially enhanced capacity in Kenya's museums sector. Other colleagues have also engaged productively with heritage institutions. For example, **Holmes** has worked with the Ulster Museum to help shape their display on the Troubles, and with the Down County Museum. **Goodrich** acted as an adviser for the British Library's Georgians Exhibition (November 2013 to March 2014) to mark the tercentenary of the Hanoverian Succession. **Williams** secured an AHRC studentship for a project on the miner's strike in conjunction with the Nottingham Galleries of Justice; **Mombauer** collaborated with the German Historical Institute, London, in organising an international conference (October 2011).

The *International Centre for the Study of Crime, Policing and Justice* has used its ongoing relationships with the *Groupe Européen de Recherches sur les Normativités* (GERN), the *Institut des Hautes Etudes de la Sécurité Intérieure* (IHESI) and the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Polizeigeschichte*, along with its close links to UK policing bodies such as the Association of Chief Police Officers, to run a series of high-profile events bringing together academics and police practitioners. These include the AHRC-funded 'The Metropolis on Trial' launch conference for the complete 'Proceedings of the Old Bailey Online' (July 2008); 'Deviance, Crime and Prevention in a Punitive Age' (June 2009), which marked the culmination of the CrimPrev FP6 programme and drew speakers from 10 European countries; and the British Crime Historians Symposium (September 2012), the main conference in the field, part-funded by Manchester University Press.

During the census period, members of the Department have served as executive committee members of the African Studies Association of the UK; Economic History Society; German History Society; Historical Association of Kenya, History UK; History & Policy; and the Social History Society. **Holmes** is President of the Ulster Society for Historical Studies, **Emsley** was co-founder and co-director of the International Centre for Comparative Criminological Research and President of the International Association for the History of Crime and Criminal Justice.

Colleagues serve on the editorial boards of *Irish Historical Studies*; *Women's History Review*; *The British Journal for the History of Science*; *Annals of the History & Philosophy of Biology*; *Crime, Histoire et Sociétés*. **Hughes** is reviews editor of *African Affairs* and editorial board member of the Historical Association of Kenya, **Grell** edits Ashgate's 'History of Medicine in Context' series and **Lawrence** is general editor for Pickering and Chatto's 'The Making of the Modern Police' series; Mombauer is a section editor for the international encyclopaedia '1914-1918 online'. **Sinclair** is Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Criminology at Hong Kong University and **Crone** was academic member of the advisory board for the Mapping Crime project for the John Johnson Collection at the Bodleian Library (2010–11). **Moore** was Visiting Distinguished Nat C. Robertson Professor of Science and Society at Emory University in 2011, and President of the History of Science Section, British Science Festival, British Science Association (2008–09).

Looking ahead, and building on our recent successful CHASE partnership bid, we are exploring how to develop significant collaborative research projects with our CHASE partners and other potential links during the next census period. We will continue to encourage colleagues to contribute prominently to the discipline and to conduct exciting and innovative genesis research, and we plan to reach even greater audiences with our research by making use of the unique possibilities afforded by the OU's extensive online presence.