

<p>Institution: De Montfort University (DMU)</p> <p>Unit of Assessment: 30 History</p> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>History at De Montfort University is a vibrant, inclusive and diverse subject area, from which 14 staff have been selected to be returned for the REF. The unit is particularly distinct because it combines deep research clustering in the areas of both sport and migration histories with an internationally recognised research expertise in a broader range of medieval and modern historical themes. Seven History staff included in the latest REF submission (Carter, Collins, Colls, Holt, Porter, Taylor, Williams) are based in the International Centre for Sports History and Culture (ICSHC, led by Collins), allowing for a critical mass in sports history research; five staff are attached to the Migration History Group, working on different interdisciplinary aspects of migration, refugee and minority history (Dee, Lambourn, Panayi, Virdee, [Burrell]). Balancing this is rich research investigating the modern history of Southeast Europe (Morrison), 20th century British agriculture (Martin) and the contemporary history of the United States (Harrington). Since RAE 2008, the unit has extended its geographical and chronological range, both inside and outside its research groups, although its expertise remains broadly in the area of European, British and South Asian history from the 18C to the late 20C. The thematic focus of the unit's research remains diverse, but particular expertise in the histories of movement, migration, nationalism, transnationalism and globalization connects staff between and beyond the research groups. NB: [] indicates a member of staff who left DMU during the census period</p> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>Since RAE 2008, our strategy has refined and coalesced around the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate and support the development of innovative research of international significance • To increase the volume of world-leading publications • To consolidate and increase History's international profile through publication, impact activities and public engagement • To forge new national and international collaborations and partnerships • To develop research funding opportunities • To build up numbers of research students and enhance the research student experience <p>More specifically, the unit has aimed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the national and international research profile of the ICSHC and further harmonise its work with the mainstream themes of social and cultural history through a programme of research and publication and the creation of international networks and collaborations • Continue a strong focus on both social and cultural histories, with migrant communities providing a central prism through which to view these stories <p>The successful fulfilment of these aims is evidenced first of all by the individual publication records of staff. Between January 2008 and October 2013, History staff have published 16 single or co-authored books, 8 edited books and 4 journal special issues, 44 refereed journal articles, 31 book chapters and numerous other working papers, short articles, reviews etc. Strong new collaborative links have also been developed, which have led to many fellowships and partnerships. The unit has also fulfilled these ambitions in many other ways: in obtaining external research funding from diverse sources, through the high numbers of research students within the unit, the career progressions of staff and the growing impact of staff research outside of the academy. The ICSHC has grown in strength, creating new local, national and international partnerships and, as the accompanying Impact documents demonstrate, has reached out to a more mainstream audience. The small cluster of researchers working on migration has matured and drawn in additional expertise, contributing both to research excellence in the unit and impact activities. This success is evidently sustainable; several new publications, for example, are already in process for 2014 and beyond. Panayi's study of German migration to India, Taylor's cultural history of sport and recreation in World War Two Britain, Williams' history of British Women Olympians, Lambourn's study of mobility and identity in the medieval Indian Ocean, and Morrison's study 'Civic and Uncivic Values in Montenegro' are all planned for publication in the next year or so. We continue to expand our annual seminar series and conference programme, attended by both staff and research students and focusing particularly around our key strengths in migration and sports history. They provide an excellent forum for internal and external speakers to present their research findings and discuss ideas with a well-informed and engaged group of</p>

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established scholars, and PG and UG students. The annual 'Historians on Sport' conference, held every October, has been running since 2000, attracting a stream of illustrious social and cultural historians as speakers, such as, since 2008, Ross McKibbin, David Kynaston, Lynda Nead and Tom Devine.

The ICSHC and Migration History Group have convened a series of conferences and events during this census period. For example, in June 2011 **Panayi** organised the workshop 'Germans as Minorities during the First World War' and, with **Virdee**, co-convened the conference 'Refugees in Britain: Cultural and Political Transfers Since 1830' in 2008. **Lambourn** organised two international workshops on 'Routes, Networks and Communities in the Medieval Indian Ocean' at the British Library (October 2012) and DMU (June 2013), the latter attended by scholars from Belgium, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Oman, Qatar, Singapore, the USA and the UK. As one of the leading international centres for sports history in the world, the ICSHC has strengthened its position as a dynamic hub for innovative sports history research. Since 2008, it has hosted 20 conferences, symposia and workshops, and jointly organised a further five, most with international dimensions. In September 2010 and July 2012, for example, it hosted two symposia looking at comparative perspectives of the history of sport in Japan, with speakers from the Universities of Hokkaido, Kobe, Kokushikan, Ryukoku, Yamaguchi and Waseda, while its 'Sport and Global History' workshop in 2012 included participants from Australia, France, Japan, the USA and the UK. In addition, the 24th Annual Conference of the British International History Group was held at DMU in 2012.

The History team has developed clear aims and strategies for the next five years, consolidating our successes and building on the impact of our work. More specifically the aims of the unit over the next census period are to:

- continue to support diverse, innovative and interdisciplinary historical research and further consolidate and grow the distinctive research clusters in sport and migration history
- support staff in producing excellent research publications
- maintain our strong focus on external partnerships and collaborative initiatives
- continue to seek and diversify external research funding opportunities
- sustain and build on the impact of research in key areas of the unit
- continue to develop staff members to ensure both sustainability, career progression and a strong research base in the face of a challenging research landscape nationally
- maintain healthy postgraduate numbers and a lively postgraduate environment

These aims will be realised through the continued active support for research within the subject area, faculty and University. History is well supported within the institution, fully embedded in the research strategies of the University and Faculty, which emphasise particularly the centrality of research to the University's mission, the commitment to sustaining and strengthening the University's international profile, reputation and collaborations, supporting staff research and nurturing postgraduate students.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

History sustains a strong commitment to keeping and building its vibrant staff base, supporting staff research and promoting equality and diversity in all its staffing policies. Key developments in History staffing during this census period demonstrate this. The appointment of **Colls** as Professor of Cultural History within the ICSHC in 2012 has strengthened the unit's expertise in 19th and 20th century history. It has also been important in realising the ICSHC's aim of harmonising sports history with mainstream social and cultural agendas and themes. Additionally, **Colls'** appointment has created synergies within the ICSHC and beyond, for instance with the work of **Taylor**, **Porter** and **Panayi**. **Collins** was appointed as Professor and Director of the ICSHC, replacing **Holt** in this role, in 2011. A leading social historian of British sport, an authority on the global history of rugby and a three times winner of the British Society of Sports History's book of the year prize, **Collins** has both strengthened the thematic range and global history aspirations of the ICSHC's research and contributed to research leadership within the unit. Existing staffing has also been maintained through the appointment of **Morrison** in 2009 as a Senior Lecturer (promoted to Reader in May 2013). He is now part of a new research leadership team of both established and early to mid-career scholars, with **Taylor**, who acts as Research Co-ordinator, **Carter**, Research Student co-ordinator, **Panayi**, head of the Migration History strand, and **Collins**, Director of the ICSHC. Other staff changes and promotions have also occurred, showing both the commitment to growth in the

unit and to nurturing staff generally. **Virdee** has been appointed to a permanent Senior Lecturer position, and **Burrell** was promoted to Reader (moving to Liverpool in Jan. 2013). In 2012, **Porter** was awarded a Professorship. The appointment of **Dee** to a PT lectureship shortly after the completion of his PhD signals investment in future staffing and the sustainability of the unit has also been assured in several other staffing developments. The unit has also appointed six new honorary visiting Research Fellows during the census period, including academics based in Australia and Greece.

Equal opportunities issues are taken very seriously within the unit. History staff generally benefit from a range of policies, strategies and structures which actively support career progression and promote equal opportunities. For example, female members of staff returning from maternity leave have been permitted to delay resuming their administrative roles until they felt settled back into work.

Appraisal and mentoring: the annual staff appraisals (Annual Development Review – ADR) have a strong research element, allowing goals to be discussed and objectives to be set, and leading, where appropriate, to dedicated quality research time embedded into individual workloads. These work alongside, and feed into, formal research mentoring through one-to-one meetings. A new procedure of staff individual research plans (IRPs) was piloted in May 2013, and demonstrated that all history staff have well formulated research plans and agendas for the next REF cycle. In addition, there is a wealth of ongoing informal mentoring, led by the senior members of the team. This provision is in addition to formal schemes that operate across the wider faculty and the university (such as the Vice Chancellor's Future Research Leaders' programme).

History also benefits from the University's commitment to key national frameworks such as the concordat to support research career development. Early career researchers are fully integrated into the research culture of the unit through lighter teaching loads, mentoring, funds for conferences, participation at seminars etc. History values the contribution from all staff and is mindful of the special needs of staff on fixed term and part time contracts. DMU has clear procedures for ensuring career progression and the UoA has a policy of promoting these procedures and other opportunities e.g. through access to training opportunities and funding for conferences etc. **Research leave schemes:** there are several research leave schemes available to both full and part-time history staff. There is an agreed rota of reduced undergraduate teaching, which ensures that staff teach only one year-long module for an entire academic year every four or five years. Within this REF census period **Martin, Virdee, Panayi, Burrell** and **Morrison** have all taken advantage of this rota, which has contributed in certain cases to the completion of major projects. At Faculty level, there are competitive research leave schemes which allow for intensive blocks of research time, or a reduced teaching load over a longer period. **Martin** has been a beneficiary of this scheme during this period. The University offers a similar system, from which a number of our staff have benefited. In 2011–12, for example, **Morrison** was awarded research leave to complete his book on the Sandzak, while **Harrington** was similarly successful in the 2013 round.

Internal research funding: Department research funds are used to support both internal conferences and workshops, and outside conference and research trips, and each year all members of staff are supported for research activities. Recent supported activities include research trips to the British Library, Bonn, Serbia and Montenegro, New York, and conference presentations in Glasgow, Ghent, Geneva, Lisbon, Cairo, Pakistan and New York, among many others.

ii. Research students

Figures: Our research student community has grown substantially since 2008 and as of October 2013 the current total enrolled and/or registered stands at 22, the highest level yet recorded. Of these, 4 are full-time students, the rest part-time. This reflects the success that the unit has had in recruiting research students from non-traditional backgrounds, and from across disciplinary barriers. The majority of our research students are attracted to work in association with one or other of our two research clusters; supervision by well-qualified and well-published staff in these areas is clearly a key factor in recruitment. The ICSHC is particularly well placed to attract well-qualified PhD students from abroad; between 2008 and 2013, a significant proportion (8 in total) of the enrolled students supervised by staff attached to the Centre were based outside the UK. Numbers of PhD completions are increasing annually, reflecting progressively larger annual intakes. Having averaged just over 2 a year in 2008–09, 2009–10, 2010–11 and 2011–12, there

was an increase to 5 in 2012–13. In addition, there have been two MPhil completions in this period. The introduction of more rigorous reporting and monitoring systems across the university has helped to underpin our improvement in this respect. The appointment of a dedicated Research Student Co-ordinator for History (**Porter**, 2010–12; **Carter** from 2012) has also been important.

Research Culture: Our commitment to fostering a strong PGR student research culture is evident in many ways. Research seminars drawing staff and students together are held each month – students are fully integrated into the cultural life of the unit. In addition, one-day study conferences for postgraduate historians organised by a committee comprising PGR students and students from ICSHC's taught Master's course are held three times a year, providing opportunities to gain experience in presenting research findings to a critical audience.

Bursaries: Though the majority of our students are self funded we have enjoyed some success in attracting bursaries. In 2011 and 2013, we were awarded full-time AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Awards on 'Women and Rugby League 1995–2000', partly funded by the Rugby Football League, and an 'Oral History of England Rugby Union players, 1945–95', in collaboration with the World Rugby Museum. Other full-time bursaries have been funded by the East Midlands Universities Association and directly by the University. In 2013, one of our students also received one of the University's new High-Flyers PhD scholarships for a project on 'Physical Education, Health and the Politics of Children's Bodies, 1944–68'. After 2009, the Faculty of Humanities began a programme of supporting part-time research students via bursaries in the form of significantly discounted tuition fees and this has proved beneficial to a significant number of our students. We will continue to identify and exploit internal and external sources of funding for bursaries while encouraging applications from self-funded part-time students.

Training: Research training at DMU is robust and fit for purpose. It currently comprises a core programme of courses which all research students are required to complete, co-ordinated by the University Graduate School. The Faculty PGR Student Co-ordinator (History) provides a subject-specialist contribution on the Faculty Training Days on which various modules are delivered. History PGR students and their programmes are subject to a rigorous annual review involving the student, their supervisory team and an independent assessor. The report they produce for this occasion and their response to the discussion that it generates is very much part of the training process. So, too, is the annual Research Student Conference organised by the Faculty at which students make poster presentations relating to their work in progress.

Aftercare and development: Every effort is made to ensure that our PGR students are well equipped for the world of employment once they have completed their courses. Guidance on CVs, job applications and interviews is provided to all students as part of DMU's Researcher Development Programme, along with optional modules such as Personal Networking for Career Success. Students contemplating a career in higher education are required to take 'Beginning to Teach in Higher Education'. There are opportunities for PGR students to shadow experienced university teachers or team-teach with them, and a number have been successful in obtaining part-time or hourly-paid teaching at DMU and other universities. We encourage our research students to enhance their profiles by writing for publication at an early stage – usually articles and book reviews for academic journals or chapters in edited collections. This is clearly helpful with regard to academic employment prospects, but is also a useful transferable skill in many other arenas. As a result of these developments, a number of the unit's PhD students have gone on to attain permanent academic posts and produce high-quality publications. Rob Light, for example, was appointed a Research Fellow at the University of Huddersfield, while Paul Campbell took up a post as senior lecturer at the University of Wolverhampton in 2012.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income: History has had a successful census period with regards to the amount and diversity of external funding staff members have been awarded, sustained evenly throughout the time period. A wide range of staff research activities have been supported and enhanced by grants including small amounts to support writing projects, AHRC network and doctoral research grants, a fellowship from the German Gerda Henkel Foundation (Virdee, 2012–14) and a two-year Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship (Lambourn, 2011–13). The following are some of the other key grants which have been awarded to History staff: **Holt:** European Commission, Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship (2008–10); **Holt and Carter:** (shared equally with the Sociology Department at the University of Leicester) *The Legacy of Special Olympics Leicester 2009*. Leicester City Council, Leicester Primary Care Trust, Special Olympics GB and CIES (Centre

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d'Etude International du Sport) (2008–10); **Burrell**: *Migration, Home and the City* (international conference, Sweden), European Science Foundation, jointly funded (2010); **Williams**: *Women's Football, Europe and Professionalization 1971–2011 network, Global Gendered Labor Markets*. Portuguese Government funding (2011); **Lambourn**: *A Persian Church in the Land of Pepper-Routes, Networks & Communities in the Early Medieval Indian Ocean*. Arts and Humanities Research Council Research Network Grant (2011–13); **Collins**: *Women and Rugby League, 1895–2000*. AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award, in collaboration with the Rugby Football League (2011–14); **Collins**: Oral History of English Rugby Union Players, 1945–95. AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Scheme, in collaboration with the World Rugby Museum (2013–17); **Williams**: *Women's Football, Europe and Professionalization*. UEFA (2011); **Martin**: Research Fellow Museum of English Rural Life, Reading University (2010); **Panayi**: *Prisoners of Britain: German Civilian, Military and Naval Internees during the First World War*. British Academy Small Grant (2009–10); **Collins**: *Planning for a national sports archive*. Arts Council England, Small Project Grant, in collaboration with the National Football Museum (2011).

Infrastructure and Facilities

Archives and Collections: In September 2011, the ICSHC, jointly with the National Football Museum (NFM) acquired the UEFA library, a collection which consists of over 8,000 volumes covering all aspects of the history of football in Europe in over thirty languages. It is the largest collection of football books outside that of FIFA (the world governing body of football). In November 2012, a project began to catalogue the collection and explore the multitude of research possibilities the collection holds. The Library is held at both the ICSHC and the NFM – with the ICSHC collection based on those volumes that are most relevant to the history and academic study of football in Europe. Linked to this, the ICHSC and NFM are also collaborating on a joint project to investigate the possibility of developing a national sports archive (further details of the accompanying Arts Council England project grant are under Income section). The project has the official backing of the UK's Sports Heritage Network – the grouping of national sports museums and archives curators established in 2006. More generally, the university library holds an extensive collection of contemporary material on all the areas in which history staff carry out research.

Research Infrastructure:

History Research Environment: The unit is also supported by a History Research Committee, which manages a History research budget and provides strategic leadership for the group. History staff also have a very strong internal research support system, which has facilitated much of the research of the unit. Staff are supported in external funding bids, can apply for research funds directly within the University and have created and sustained a very active research environment for the dissemination of a wide range of historical research.

Research Business and Innovation Directorate: The History unit has been closely supported by the Research Business and Innovation Directorate (RBI), founded within the University in 2009. This office provides key elements of administrative support for research, including assistance with external grant applications, development of commercial extensions of research, maintenance of research records and initiating staff training sessions. The RBI has been particularly important in facilitating successful applications to the Leverhulme Trust, the AHRC and the European Union. Additional support is also provided at Faculty level, particularly with regard to pre and post-award grant management.

University Research Funds: The History unit has made use of various University-wide competitive funding schemes to support research projects and developments. In 2010, **Collins** and **Carter** received a grant from the Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF) to develop their 'Leicester City FC Museum and Heritage' Project. **Panayi** was awarded £30,000 in 2012 to work on a project entitled 'Internment during the First World War: Remembering, Forgetting and Experiencing on a Local, National and Global Scale' with the aim of creating a permanent memorial in Knockaloe on the Isle of Man and twin conferences at the Manx Museum and the Imperial War Museum to commemorate the centenary of the introduction of internment in Britain. **Williams** received £29,935 in 2013 for her 'Road to Rio' project involving a series of exhibitions, public lectures and conferences at the British Library and the National Football Museum on the history of the World Cup and Anglo-Brazilian relations; **Dee** was funded in 2013 to act as academic consultant to the Jewish Museum London's forthcoming 'Four, Four, Jew: Football, Fans and Faith' exhibition. The Revolving Investment Fund (RIF) scheme funded **Panayi's** colloquium 'Germans

as Minorities During the First World War: An International Comparative Perspective' and **Williams'** collaborative university network on sporting fashion in 2011, while **Taylor** received £3,100 in 2013 for a project on sport, nation and gender during the Second World War. In 2011, **Burrell** received funding linked to the University's 'Mile2' Community Engagement project to research local identity and belonging in an area of Leicester which has a transient population. These funding routes have not only supported research, but have increased the innovative nature of the projects staff are carrying out, allowing the researchers to take more risks and try new ideas and collaborations.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

History staff are held in high esteem by their colleagues outside the university and contribute extensively to the wider health of the discipline, for example, through invitations to speak, editing, reviewing and PhD examining. Key examples are outlined below:

Networks and Collaborations: There are many examples of national and international academic networks and collaborations from within the History unit. Since 2007, **Virdee** has been the convenor of the Punjab Research Group, a multi-disciplinary and international research group which holds meetings throughout the world. Through its activities the Group has reached a wider audience and continually attracts emerging scholars, activists, artists, writers and senior academics. It was **Virdee's** interests in Punjabi culture which also earned her an award in April 2009 by the Punjabis in Britain All Party Parliamentary Group at the House of Commons. In 2008, **Virdee's** work in this area also led to a very successful collaboration with the Royal Geographical Society for their exhibition, *The Punjab: Moving Journeys*. **Lambourn** is leading the AHRC-funded Research Network *A Persian Church in the Land of Pepper-Routes, Networks & Communities in the Early Medieval Indian Ocean*, in addition to being a part of 'The Medieval Globe', the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities' funded collaborative project which brings together scholars of the changing medieval world. **Holt** has also been involved in several important sport history networks: from Oct 2008–Jan 2010, he co-directed the AHRC network 'Towards a history of European sport' with Dr. C. Young (Cambridge) and Prof. A. Tomlinson (Brighton). This produced a co-edited book, *Sport and the Transformation of Europe* (Routledge, 2011) and co-edited special editions of the *Journal of Historical Sociology*, *European Review* and *Journal of Sport History*. The project was selected for special commendation by the AHRC. In 2009, he also shared a €30,000 grant from the Centre d'Etude International du Sport (CIES Neuchatel, Switzerland) for the study of sport and legacy in conjunction with the Bocconi Business School, Milan; in 2010–11, he jointly organised a project with Sebastian Darbon, a French anthropologist based at Aix-en-Provence, on 'Sport and Diffusion'; and in 2012 he was engaged in a seminar network with Prof. Maarten van Bottenburg, University of Utrecht, to prepare an international seminar on 'cultural identities in sport'. **Morrison** is a core member of the international 'Scholars Initiative' with Southeast European specialists from the US and Europe. In 2012, he led a team of six scholars in writing a chapter on Montenegro in a book called *The Yugoslav Controversies: A Scholars' Initiative* (Purdue University Press, 2013). He remains a 'Research Associate' at the LSE and engages in roundtable debates there with policy-makers from Southeast Europe. He is currently involved with numerous international collaborations with scholars from the US, Norway, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro. He is also engaged in working with Prof. Sabrina Ramet and Kristen Ringdal from the Norwegian Institute of Science and Technology on 'Civic and Un-civic Values in the Western Balkans', a project which brings together scholars from the UK, US, Germany, Norway, Serbia, Albania, Bosnia and Montenegro. Since 2009, the ICSHC has established a series of links and collaborations with a network of Japanese scholars. Professors from Saitama, Waseda and Yamaguchi Universities spent all or part of the 2009–10 academic year as visiting fellows at the Centre. During this period, a collaborative international research symposium on Anglo-Japanese reflections on sports history was organised, while **Holt** and **Carter** (in 2010) and **Porter** (in 2011, sponsored by the Japanese Education Foundation) made reciprocal research and networking visits to Japan. In addition, **Porter** has jointly created and run the Institute of Historical Research's 'Sport and Leisure History' seminar series since 2009.

Fellowships and Research Associate Roles: The History group is proud of the high profile fellowships that staff members have achieved during the census period. **Lambourn** held a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship and **Virdee** held an international Gerde Henkle Fellowship. **Morrison** was a Research Associate at University College's School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) in 2009–2010, was appointed as a Senior Visiting Fellow – awarded to 'recognised scholars who have already published work of distinction' – at the European Institute at

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the LSE 2011–2012. He was invited to become a Research Associate at the LSE for a subsequent year in Jan 2013. **Porter** has been a Research Associate of the Business History Unit, LSE, since 2000 and in 2012 held a Visiting Professorship at Boston College, Centre for Irish Studies. In 2010, **Martin** was also appointed as a Research Fellow at the Museum of English Rural Life, the University of Reading, to undertake research to investigate to what extent food security was threatened by weather patterns in winter 1947 and 1975/6. **Panayi** is a Corresponding Member of the Institut für Migrationsforschung und Interkulturelle Studien, University of Osnabrück, Germany. **Holt** was a visiting Professor at the University of Rouen in 2012.

Invitations to speak: Staff have been invited to present their research at a wide range of academic events, including the following: the Royal Society, London (**Carter** and **Taylor**), Université de Lausanne (**Carter**), University of Western Sydney (**Collins**), Memorial de la Shoah, Paris (**Dee**), Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington (**Lambie**), Harvard University (**Lambourn**), Indian Museum Kolkata (**Lambourn**), Université Paris I and CNRS Paris (**Lambourn**), University of California, Berkeley (**Holt**), Dartmouth College, USA (**Holt**), London School of Economics (**Morrison**), The Embassy of the European Union, London (**Morrison**), The Norwegian Institute of Science and Technology (**Morrison**), the University of Oxford (**Morrison**), Universität Bielefeld, Germany (**Panayi**), University Louvain-La-Neuve, France (**Panayi**), Hitotsubashi University, Japan (**Porter**), American University, Cairo (**Porter**), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (**Taylor**), British Library (**Taylor**), National Archives, London (**Virdee**), German Historical Institute, Washington (**Williams**), UEFA Headquarters, Nyon, Switzerland (**Williams**).

Editorial Roles: History staff have undertaken key leadership and editing roles on a range of academic journals. The leading UK-based sports history journal, *Sport in History*, has been edited from the ICSHC since 2009, first by **Porter** and then by **Taylor**, who has been editor-in-chief since 2009, with **Carter** in position as Reviews Editor. ICSHC staff are, or have been, represented on the editorial board of a range of international sports history journals: the *Japanese Society of Sports History* journal (**Williams**), the US-based *Journal of Sports History* (**Collins**, 2008–10), *European Studies in Sports History* (**Holt**), *Sport in History* (**Collins**, **Holt**, **Porter**) and the *Nordic Sport Science Forum* (**Taylor**) and *Lancillotto e Nausica* (**Holt**). **Panayi** is on the editorial board of *Immigrants and Minorities*; **Virdee** is on the editorial advisory board of *The Historian*; **Morrison** is on the editorial board of *The Journal of Regional Security* (Belgrade); **Lambourn** of *The Medieval Globe*; and **Martin** of *Midland History*. **Martin** and **Taylor** are members of the Executive Committees of the British Agricultural History Society and the British Society of Sports History (BSSH) respectively. **Harrington** is vice-chair of the American Politics Group of the Political Studies Association. In 2010, **Taylor** and **Holt** launched and have since jointly edited the first De Montfort-based history book series, *Sport, History and Culture*, published by Peter Lang.

Reviewing Activities: Unit members are continuously engaged in peer review activities for journals, funding bodies and publishers. **Lambourn** was appointed to the AHRC peer review college in 2012 and **Martin** has been an AHRC peer review college member since 2007. **Porter** was a panel member and chair of the BSSH Aberdare Committee (2009–12), and part of the Committee for the History of Retailing and Distribution, which decides on the awarding of prizes for best sports history books and articles on the history of retailing respectively. **Williams** joined the Aberdare Committee in 2012.

External Examining: Staff also actively contribute to the wider health and sustainability of the discipline through extensive doctoral external examining activities. As a whole, the group has examined a total of 32 PhD theses since January 2008, including 13 at international institutions, such as: Université de Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV); University of Rome (La Sapienza); Otto-Friedrich Universität Bamberg; Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris; Institut de Sciences Politiques, Paris; Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan; and the University of New South Wales, Australia.

The History group has made considerable strides in this census period. Its research strengths in the key areas of sports and migration history have been enriched but it has also carefully and successfully extended its geographical and chronological expertise. Sustainability has remained central, as evidenced by the continued growth of research student numbers, external funding and the assumption of organisational leadership by a core of mid-career researchers. Moreover, it has successfully developed a series of new and innovative networks and collaborations, which has helped to enhance and strengthen its research base in preparation for the next census period.