

<p><b>Institution: UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Unit of Assessment: D30 History</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>Historical research activities at UoB embrace <b>fifteen centuries from the early medieval period to the contemporary world</b>, and they are <b>distinct</b> in their <b>global reach</b> with a critical mass of scholars providing a <b>unique geographical and chronological breadth</b>. It has developed into one of the UK's principal centres for several key targeted areas including the '<b>global middle ages</b>', <b>reformation and early modern studies</b>, <b>modern British studies</b> and <b>war studies</b>. Research is primarily located in the Dept of History, the core of a rich and varied research environment within the School of History and Cultures (SHaC). SHaC forms part of the College of Arts and Law (CAL), and historical research reaches beyond the confines of SHaC allowing the coverage to spread geographically and chronologically still further into the Centre for the History of Medicine (in the Medical School), American and Canadian Studies (ACS), African Studies (DASA), Classics and Ancient History and Archaeology (DAHA), Modern Languages and it encompasses numerous cross-university collaborations, notably those involving the Shakespeare Institute and the Institute for Conflict, Co-operation and Security.</p> <p>In order to focus research expertise and facilitate collaboration, research in this sizeable UoA is organized in six <b>research centres</b> (see below section b). Every member of staff is engaged in research activities in at least one of these centres, and as will be detailed below, inner- and cross-college co-operation is facilitated by this research infrastructure, which provides fertile ground for such collaborative work, just as it is the home to many of the extensive research networking activities with other UK and international research institutions.</p> <hr/> <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>The Department aims to sustain an international reputation as a centre of historical research by maintaining and further developing its broad chronological, geographical and interdisciplinary approach as declared in RAE 2008. After a period of <b>expansion</b> with a particular emphasis on <b>extending the global coverage of our research</b>, the focus during the next five years will be the consolidation of this chronological and geographical research breadth and depth with a strong focus on the <b>exploitation of collaborative links</b> in the form of sustained grant capture nationally, <b>European-wide</b> and <b>globally</b>. In this endeavour, the centres will evolve further from being primarily the institutional framework of research to organically developing and driving their distinct yet interlinked historical and interdisciplinary research agendas.</p> <p><b><u>A. Implementation of RAE 2008 objectives</u></b></p> <p>The generic objectives outlined in 2008 were:</p> <p><u>1) The globalisation of our research:</u> we extended the Department's traditional strength in European, and particularly British, history to place increased emphasis on the interactions, flows and interconnections of people, ideas and institutions (economic, political, military, cultural or religious), between Europe and other regions of the world. This objective has been achieved both through strategic recruitment (<b>Standen, Azad, Ye, Qureshi, White, Gumz, Lewis, Uekotter</b>) as well as a globalization of research foci of established staff, through international research collaborations in a variety of (funded) network activities (<b>Standen, Lee, Hilton, Gumz, Prauser, Yarrow</b>) as well as collaborative projects of individual staff members (e.g. <b>Lukowski, Jones, Lee, Brooks, Cust, Prauser, Gray, Gange, Crowson, Hamling, Purkis, Hilton, Ross</b>) and the externally-funded recruitment of international fellows (<b>Apio, O'Sullivan, Benes, Bobic, Richter, Cronier</b>). It drove the successful merger of History and African Studies into SHaC and has facilitated links with the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies (CBOMGS).</p> <p><u>2) The development of centres:</u> as the Department expanded we recognized the problems of maintaining collegiality with many more staff. We therefore deliberately extended the scope of the centres to act as smaller-scale bases for research identity. They facilitate collaborative research</p>
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## Environment template (REF5)

and connect individuals locally, nationally and internationally, while linking UG and PG teaching with the research agendas of staff. (see below b.1)

3) The development of significant inter-disciplinary links: utilizing the reorganized College structure we created sustainable and innovative collaborative research projects. The successful implementation of this aim is demonstrated by an extensive range of cross-college collaborations which have led to numerous collaborative research grant applications (**Hilton, Lee, Ross, Prauser, Standen**) and outputs, and has also impacted positively on the achievement of strategic objective 4.

4) The expansion of recruitment of research students: through specialized MA programs that convert into doctoral research projects, this has been achieved via an attractive interdisciplinary research environment, as evidenced in an increasingly numerous and active postgraduate research community with international and interdisciplinary outlook. (see below c.2)

5) The establishment of Birmingham as a leading centre in the UK for several key targeted areas: that is, the 'global middle ages', reformation and early modern studies, the history of warfare in its broadest sense, and modern British studies (see below details of research centre achievements).

All five objectives have been fulfilled, and with respect to globalization and increased interdisciplinarity (see below) have surpassed expectations and have become driving forces for strategic thinking and research development beyond 2013. The following key themes, selected through grassroots consultation with a view to adopting a language that would allow us to reach out to colleagues elsewhere, have driven the departmental research agenda forward (and apply to local and regional history at one end of the spectrum to global history at the other): Diasporas and transnationalism; War, conflict and cooperation; History of religions, beliefs and ideas; Everyday life and popular culture; Environment and society; The global world. Given the size of the unit, the detail of its strategy is best elaborated through the following centres:

**(i) Centre for the Study of the Middle Ages (CeSMA):** A long tradition of strength in research into Medieval Europe has been extended in scope significantly by appointments of **Standen** and **Azad** whose global research interests supplement the extra-European interests of existing staff (**Callow, Purkis, Yarrow**). Notable initiatives located within the Centre include the Anglo-Saxon Charters project chaired by Brooks which has led to 17 major publications. **Dyer's** ground-breaking work on social history in the Middle Ages, for which he was awarded the Henry A Wallace Award, demonstrates the sustained departmental strength in peasant history as continued by **Muller**. Strength has further been developed in religious cultures (**Azad, Purkis, Röhrkasten, Swanson, Yarrow**). Arising logically out of the global strategy, **Standen** and **Yarrow's** development of a research agenda within the AHRC-funded Defining the 'Global' Middle Ages network (with **Standen** as Co-PI) is evidence of consolidated activity acting as a spur to established and new staff, which puts UoB at the centre of significant innovative research and strategic development nationally and internationally.

**(ii) Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies (CREMS):** CREMS was designed as a centre of excellence for interdisciplinary research, based on frequent conferences, a thriving seminar culture and an exceptionally active postgraduate community. Recent conferences evidencing the **global vision** and the strong religious dimension of the Centre include Crossing the Channel: England and the Continent in the 16<sup>th</sup> and Early 17<sup>th</sup> Century (**Small, 2009**), New Directions in Catholic Reformation Research (**Fulton, Laqua-O'Donnell, 2012**); Sin and Salvation in Reformation England (**Willis, 2013**). Centre staff benefit from exceptional resources for the early modern period, including [EEBO](#) and all four parts of [State Papers Online](#), Britain's finest collections of Renaissance art in the Barber Institute of Fine Art. With its explicit interdisciplinarity, CREMS provides the key infrastructure for collaboration with English and the Shakespeare Institute, and facilitates links to the latter's world-class facilities through collaborations including the research in material culture and cultural heritage with initiatives involving the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.

**(iii) Centre for West Midlands History (CWMH):** CWMH has been extraordinarily successful as a vital and sustainable research hub in local and regional history which bridges the gap between academic research and external audiences, between research active historians across different chronological boundaries from medieval (**Bassett, Swanson, Müller, Dyer**) and early modern

## Environment template (REF5)

(**Cust, Hamling**) to late modern (**Dick, Jones, Gange**) and contemporary (**Chinn, Carnevali**). The Centre successfully combines impact-rich activities (see impact case studies) with outstanding scholarship (e.g. the award of the Business Archives Council Wadsworth Prize to **Jones**, the Marc Fitch Fund grant to support 'Ethnic community histories in the Midlands' (**Dick**). Research excellence is also demonstrated by the two AHRC-funded collaborative PhD awards alongside an increasing number of research students covering a wide range of local history topics.

(iv) **Centre for War Studies (CWS)**: The CWS is a centre of excellence for research in war and conflict, their causes and consequences, and it embraces military, diplomatic, historical, political, social, economic and psychological dimensions of human conflict. It has been significantly enhanced by recent appointments (**Boff, Gumz, Qureshi**) whose research foci on European, transatlantic and global history are indicative of the integration of CWS into departmental research culture. This **global reach** is further evident its **international collaborations**, e.g. an AHRC-funded network on Children Born of War (**Lee**) which makes CWS the focal point for African, American, Asian and European partners. Research excellence is evidence in the Centre's numerous and significant funding successes: e.g. involvement in Collaborative European Digital Archive Infrastructure project (Gumz). Centre staff (**Purseigle, Lee**) have been hosting three Marie Curie Fellows while **Purseigle** has taken up a Marie Curie Fellowship and **Prauser** is seconded as Fellow in the German Historical Institute, Paris.

(v) **Centre for Modern and Contemporary History (CMCH)**: CMCH provides an intellectual forum with an explicit remit to facilitate **transnational and comparative research** on all aspects (social, cultural, political, economic) of the modern world. Its **global coverage** is demonstrated by a wide geographical and thematic range and the appointment of new staff researching China, the Middle East and SE Asia (**Ye, White, Lewis**). Among the thematic foci within the global research agenda are environmental history (**Ross, Uekötter**), civil society and social movements (**Crowson, Hilton, Moores**) as well as history of race (**Schaffer, Qureshi**). Excellence is demonstrated through successful grant capture, such as the major Leverhulme funded study of the history of NGOs (**Crowson, Hilton**), and the award of a Leverhulme Prize (**Qureshi**). The centre's success in forging international and collaborative research is evident e.g. in **Lee's** collaborations with the Peace Research Institute Oslo and the Norwegian Foreign Ministry as well as collaborative projects with Cornell, Stony Brook and the TU Munich; **Ross'** collaborative project on 'global heritage' involving scholars from North America, Europe and India as well as extensive collaboration on global environmental history with the Rachel Carson Center, Munich; and **Hilton's** AHRC 'Non-state humanitarianism project' in partnership with universities in Ireland and Germany.

### **B. Future Strategy**

The recent expansion of history at UoB means that we have genuine, exceptional, and unique geographical breadth with chronological depth of expertise ranging from the Tang Dynasty to Tudor Britain to the modern Middle East and contemporary Africa, reaching far beyond the traditional and continuing strengths of European and British history. The year 2013 marks the culmination of a strategy that has seen the extension of our research synergies across the University, and the recent appointment of several staff with genuine transnational interests that stretch across China, Asia and the middle east (**Standen, Ye, White, Qureshi, Lewis, Azad**). The University has rewarded the strengths of the UoA with further investment through the appointment of 6 Birmingham Research Fellows (**Beers, Harris, Heggie, Moores, Uekötter, van Lottum**: see below). Our global strategy has now made us better placed to collaborate across departments, evidenced in joint Ph.D. supervision, joint support of the Marie Curie IIF, and increasingly collaborative research planning and implementation, particularly around the AHRC's **Care for the Future**. The departmental globalization strategy further enabled SHaC to extend its chronological and geographical coverage by integrating parts of the former Institute of Antiquity and Archaeology into the School (that is, Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology (CAHA), the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies (CBOMGS) and the Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage). CAHA's inclusion into SHaC provides unique prospects for synergies in all core strategic research foci, most notably in the area of the Crusades (**Purkis, Azad**) and work on material culture (**Standen, Yarrow, Purkis**). This will give SHaC a seamless long-term chronological depth. Similarly, closer links with the Ironbridge Institute within SHaC will

provide substantial potential for sustainable research in heritage and material culture, adding to the already significant research presence of the UoB in these fields.

In order to consolidate the recent considerable expansion, particularly in contemporary history and global history, plans are under way to amend the current centre structure. Expertise in contemporary history has led to a bifurcation of CMCH's activities with a global and a British strand, which remain interconnected through chronological and interdisciplinary collaborations. However, because of appointments in 2013 (**Moores, Houlbrook, Beers**), a new cluster in Modern British Studies is emerging which will examine the role of Britain in imperial and post-imperial context and from an interdisciplinary perspective (e.g. through the Centre for Cultural Modernity in the Dept of English). Further cross-chronological collaborations are being forged as with CESMA and CREMS creating an MA in Global History and planning a new Centre of Global History, a logical development arising out of the implementation of our research strategy.

History's future strategy will be built around three interconnected principles, all of which have developed out of existing staff strengths and interests as described above:

*(i) An intensification of cross-centre collaboration:* to allow a chronologically integrated research approach focusing on **five core research fields**: 1) global history, 2) history of religion, 3) heritage, 4) security and conflict, and 5) environmental history. The first four are a natural extension of our existing strategy; the fifth is being developed around **Ross** (supported by new appointments Uekötter, Ye, Gumz and Houlbrook) in conjunction with College and University-wide thematic development of environment, trade and energy, and which will be boosted by the invitation of a Fulbright Distinguished Chair working on environmental history.

*ii) Development and extension of interdisciplinary links:* the centres will exploit existing links to develop several further areas, including between: (a) historians of Asia and the Department of Modern Languages (within CAL) and Department of Political Sciences and International Studies (POLSI); (b) staff in CMCH and CWS with POLSI and Law to extend the existing links through the Security and Conflict Hub as well as through the cross-college 'Saving Humans' initiative (the opening theme of the new Institute of Advanced Study (IAS)); (c) staff in CMCH and CWS and the International Development Department to bid for an EU International Training Network. More generally, all centres have plans to extend their intra- and cross-college links, with partnerships such as: CeSMA – Archaeology and CAHA (eg **Standen's** interdisciplinary AHRC bid on Northeast Asia); CREMS – the Shakespeare Institute and Ironbridge (eg **Hamling**); CWMH – Science and Engineering and Digital Humanities Hub (eg **Dick's** project on Watt and engineering); CMCH – 'Saving Humans' at the IAS (eg **Hilton** on humanitarianism); CWS – Security and Conflict Hub (eg **Lee** on 'Children Born of War');

*iii) Extension of the internationalization and globalization strategies in line with wider university research agenda:* This will exploit history's pivotal role in IAS developments as well as the establishment of the China Institute. At the core of the future strategy are the two aims of interdisciplinarity and sustained internationality both of the research agenda and the research activities of individual researchers which will continue to drive innovation and excellence from the top of academic research leadership down to undergraduate research.

Recent staffing changes (see section d) have led to a significantly younger staff base. Many of the recently-appointed ECRs alongside their more established colleagues have played a key role in driving forward innovation as well as providing the base from which the Department intends to build a sustainable future research strategy in line with UoB's Strategic Framework: Shaping Our Future: Birmingham 2015. ECRs have driven forward the new centre initiatives, cross-departmental linkages and have played an active role in University investments (eg **White** is directing the subtheme on humanitarianism at the IAS). It is satisfying to note that their trajectories are being recognized through such prestigious awards as the Philip Leverhulme Prize (**Hamling, Qureshi**).

### c. People, including:

#### i. Staffing strategy and staff development

**(a) Equality:** Since the RAE2008, SHaC has undergone significant staffing changes with regard to gender, ethnicity and age distribution, which demonstrates our commitment to equal opportunities and success of our recruitment and career development processes. The number of BME staff has doubled, the number of female staff has steadily increased with 38% of staff now female and with a particularly significant rise of female representation in the professoriate (30% women), well in excess of the national average. Career progression for all staff irrespective of ethnicity and gender is assisted by flexibility in scheduling of meetings and teaching hours to accommodate caring responsibility, part-time employment at all levels (including promotion to professor of 0.5FTE staff), a transparent workload model, explicit support of staff and student groups/networks with equal opportunities agendas (e.g. women's network) and outspoken support of research-led historical engagement on ethnicity (e.g. Black History events) all of which create a gender and ethnicity sensitive work environment. All staff are expected to complete an online training programme on **Diversity in the Workplace** which commenced in April 2012. **Standen** is an active CAL representative on the Athena SWAN working group, thus raising diversity sensitivity in SHaC.

Furthermore, the age profile has changed with over a dozen ECRs joining the department, whose appointments were driven by the deliberate strategy to globalize both our curriculum and our research activities. Moreover, **Standen's** appointment as Professor of Medieval History with research foci on Early Medieval Asian history and Global History further strengthened the global outlook across the entire chronological range of teaching and research. This rejuvenation and vitalisation process has been reinforced by the History's success in securing a staggering 15% of all Birmingham Fellows (5-year research fellowships, **Beers, Harris, Heggie, van Lottum, Uekoetter, Moores**) as well as research fellows on EU-funded Marie Curie Programms (**Benes, Bobic, Cronier, Apio, Richter, O'Sullivan**), externally funded research fellows (**Connell, McKay, Mouhot**) and research-led teaching appointments (**Hill, Francis, Casson, Whittingham, Jarrett**) deliberately designed to bridge career paths between PGR and full-time open-ended appointments.

**(b) Research leadership and mentoring:** Research in SHaC is managed overall by the Director of Research, aided by a research committee comprising of representatives for medieval and modern history, African Studies and the Head of School. The Director of Research has overall responsibility for the REF, for research strategy and funding bids. She is advised by colleagues with particular chronological or thematic research expertise who provide direct research leadership and guidance to research-active staff in the respective subject areas.

In addition to administrative support through the College Research and Knowledge Transfer office (see d.2) and the formal support system implemented through the Performance Development Review Processes (see c.1), all members of SHaC have access to a **three-tier research mentoring** system, with:(1) the College Lead for Research (historian **Hilton**) and the SHaC Director of Research (**Lee**) available for informal one-to-ones; (2) ad-hoc support (especially for research design, implementation and grant applications) and (3) a peer-mentoring arrangement with an intra-school mentor of choice. Mentoring is tailored to individuals and includes feedback on drafts, advice on research plans, advice on outputs and career progression. Annual meetings address ongoing research activities and future plans with particular attention given to **outputs, funding bids** and **impact**. This mentoring system ensures that, in line with Athena SWAN guidance, all staff, including senior staff, continue to have access to mentoring.

Research of **ALL** research-active staff is supported through the following mechanisms: (1) University-funded research leave (all staff can apply for one semester after six); (2) Research Day (all staff are expected to keep at least one day per week free for research); (3) School Research Forum (twice termly informal meetings to discuss ongoing research, grant applications, book and project proposals); (4) Reward of grant submission (clear rules as to how grant success leads to teaching/admin relief through Workload Allocation Model).

**(c) Early-to-mid career staff:** There is a career development strategy with particular focus on ECR and mid-career scholars. First, new ECRs develop a suite of specialist teaching over a 3-year cycle, in order to prevent the preparation of new modules being detrimental to their research time

## Environment template (REF5)

at the beginning of their academic careers. This has been translated into research excellence e.g. in the award of two Philip Leverhulme Prizes (**Hamling, Qureshi**) and a Leverhulme EC Fellowship (**Willis**) in recent years. Second, workloads and administrative tasks are assigned with an eye to staff developing the appropriate leadership skills for them to meet the requisite criteria for promotion. Mid-career staff have access to similar support mechanisms as ECR, with the emphasis shifting to career progression and tailored advice on more ambitious funding bids at national and international level in order to maximize their research and career trajectories.

In addition to these departmental mechanisms, in line with the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers* and the College Staff Development policy designed in recognition of the Concordat, ECR (both on open-ended and fixed-term contracts) are part of a stringent performance and development programme provided by the University (People and Organisational Development). We also ensure **post-doctoral researchers** are integrated into the history community at various levels including: (a) giving papers to departmental seminars; (b) provision of research-led teaching; (c) hosting research workshops; (d) co-writing grant applications for their own careers; (e) working as link between staff and PGRs, especially through informal evening reading groups and conferences; (f) participating in the same mentoring arrangements as all other staff. **Birmingham Fellows** are a distinct category of open-ended contract ECR. They benefit further from initial £5k research start-up funding and enjoy time-protection of research for five years (teaching commitments are on a sliding scale, starting at zero in year one).

**(d) Third sector links:** Since 2008 history at UoB has successfully increased its third sector links not only to improve impact but as a deliberate staffing policy. **Gray** was appointed as Senior Research Fellow in Air Power Studies with the position part-funded by the RAeS. RAF and Army Officers (3 per annum) have been recruited on funded placement on the MRes programmes. Contacts with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAF) have been intensified securing an agreement of their funding of up to three post-graduate research students per year from Autumn 2013 onwards. In 2012, three research students (Payling, Perry, Longson) benefitted from participation in a fully funded research seminar in Berlin co-organised and funded by the KAF. The AHRC-funded network 'Children Born of War' (**Lee**) is built on both internationalism and inter-sector partnerships with key network partners in the research collaboration being UNICEF and several African NGOs. Similarly, much of the heritage work which provides one core area of research engagement and research-led teaching has been designed around cross-fertilisation of academia and third-sector partners e.g. (Museums, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust). Third sector collaborations have played a prominent role in much of **Hilton's** research, including partnerships with the Third Sector Research Centre, advisory roles with the Department of Communities and Local Government, and **McKay** joining the Birmingham Voluntary Services Council; similarly such collaborations (both private and voluntary sector) are a central pillar of a EU-Horizon 2020 ITN application in preparation for submission in 2014, with research training collaboration envisaged in the form of private partner training provision as well as integrated secondment opportunities.

## ii. Research students

**(a) Research community:** PGRs are an integral and active part of history's research culture, which is evidenced in particular in student-run seminar series and media output (blogs, twitter, facebook) in support of departmental research clusters and centres (see above). The foregrounding of postgraduate work in staff-student collaborative publications (e.g. Denness, McKay) is designed to deepen the integration of PGRs into the School; this facilitation of important first career steps is particularly evident in the online departmental postgraduate *Journal of History and Cultures*, a student-led research publication. PGRs are responsible for their own History and Cultures Workshop which includes a student-led seminar series and skills workshops. Further evidence of PGR initiatives is the New Times Revisited conference (sponsored by the Economic History Society in 2013) about 'the long 1980s', organized by PGRs with **Moores**. At PGR research days students present their research to other PGRs and staff for feedback. PGRs are invited and expected to participate in the departmental and centre research fora. Furthermore, UoB history PGR are interconnected with a vibrant national and international postgrad community through active participation in HistoryLab, and committee membership of the Voluntary Action History

Society.

**(b) Recruitment:** Since the creation of the College-funded Undergraduate Scholarships, historians have regularly recruited talented students and introduced them to research culture and practice in exciting projects, including archival and fieldwork in the UK and abroad, thus allowing talent to be spotted and cultivated early. Through membership of AHRC BG1 and ESRC DTC, we have been able to recruit a stream of world-class PhD students, and successful research bids of staff (**Jones, Dick, Gray, Hilton**) as well as the Commonwealth Shared Scholarship Scheme have assisted the acquisition of funding for further PGRs, with further research assistance for PGRs from University and College and departmental scholarships. CAL and SHaC currently fully fund eight doctoral students. These are set to expand given the highly successful outcome of Birmingham's BGP2 bid ('Midlands Three Cities consortium': ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UK) worth £14.6million, which will receive 100% matched-funding from the College.

**(c) Employability and career development:** PGRs participate in CAL biweekly employability seminars with field leaders from business and third-sector professionals. Furthermore, they benefit from the University Careers Service which offers 1-2-1 and group sessions for tailored careers advice. **Schaffer** has won an AHRC Collaborative Training Skills Research Grant (Reaching Out from Higher Education) which will enable 21 PhD students to train with non-HEI partners from the Cultural Sector, making UoB history department the regional leader in third-sector training for PGRs. University and CAL Grad Schools offer a comprehensive portfolio of skills training courses on all aspects of research, writing, IT, presentation, career development, interpersonal skills, and specialised research skills. Research students are given the opportunity for teaching experience and part-time research assistant work wherever practicable.

**(d) Progression:** All history PGR are supported by the CAL progression monitoring structure, which includes a Training Needs Analysis, which is monitored in monthly supervisions and the more formal Annual Progress Review. All first-year PGRs discuss their research with a Progress Review Panel, which checks progress, thesis planning and supervisory arrangements. All students are supported by three-person supervisory teams (supervisor, advisor and mentor) as well as by the departmental and CAL administrative support teams. The PGR Director (**Purkis**) is responsible for the overall supervision of departmental processes and the quality of supervision is monitored by the GSR4 system, facilitating confidential student feedback. The success of the supervision, mentoring and monitoring processes is evident in the year-on-year improvement of submission rates: this year's CAL rate reached the perfect 100% on-time submission of all AHRC funded students.

**(e) Recognition:** The success of UoB history PGRs in obtaining external recognition through academic prizes demonstrates the quality of training received: e.g. Darby (nominated for Whitfield Prize), Humble (one-year fellowship at Hebrew University Jerusalem as part of PhD), **Moores** (Warwick Global Research Fellowship), **Connell** (postdoctoral fellowship at OU).

#### **d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

##### **(i) Income**

As anticipated in the strategic outlook of RAE2008, successful income generation was to be one of the major targets, and SHaC successfully captured a wide range of grants (e.g. small research grants, matching leaves, fellowships, network grants), from a variety of funding sources (e.g. EU-FP7, AHRC, British Academy, ESRC, Leverhulme) supporting different kinds of activities from small archival research trips to network activities to large collaborative research projects. Overall, grant capture from these funding bodies **increased twentyfold** between 2008/9 and 2012/13. Other income beyond that recorded elsewhere includes: (a) **Hilton** secured funding from the Past and Present Society and OUP John Fell Fund for the 'Transnationalism and Contemporary Global History' conference; (b) **CWS** received RAF Museum funding for a postgraduate research bursary (£2k pa for five years), and a RAeS grant to support a multi-national research workshop on cultures within military organisations in the period of decolonization; (c) **Gray** secured a RAeS grant for a research assistant for the Institute of Conflict, Co-operation and Security Policy

Commission project on ethics, legality and policy implications of remote warfare as well as European Defence Agency funding for a collaborative project with FRS Paris and IAI Rome; (d) **Hilton** secured funding (£10k) from Birmingham Museums, Libraries and Archives Council for funding of knowledge exchange programme on the 'Handsworth Riots: 25 Years on'.

### **(ii) Scholarly infrastructure**

Of particular significance for the innovation, vitality and sustainability underpinning much of the UoA's research excellence are the Library Services. UoB's library boasts an outstanding research collection, incorporating 2.7 million items, over 50,000 scholarly journals (electronic and print), and access to 275,000 e-books, with excellent support for emerging fields such as Asian history (e.g. bibliographical and textual databases). In addition, the Cadbury Research Library holds extensive archival materials including private and family papers, manuscripts, the university heritage archive, as well as the Avon and Eden Papers, and the close collaboration between research and library provision is evidenced in the pivotal role played by the history department in securing the deposit of the Save the Children archive at UoB, and the creation of the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies archive (**Hilton**, AHRC grant). Research in Early Modern History in particular benefits from the University's world-renowned research and reference collection on the English Renaissance held at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon. The library houses major theatre archives and holds a comprehensive collection of Shakespeare on film crucial for key outputs of **CREMS**. The strategic research focus into the history of religion profits from an impressive collection of works on church history as well as a unique range of specialist collections relating to African religions, Holocaust studies, Islamic Studies, History of Missions, Christianity around the world and interfaith relationships. These resources have contributed to persuasive funding proposals in the fields of history of religion and material culture.

A dedicated history advisor provides subject specialist information literacy training and support for students and staff and assists researchers with systematic reviews through one to one bespoke training on relevant databases and reference management software. Library Services have developed a formal training programme for researchers aiming to deliver improved information skills to make best use of information resources and to help raise researchers' profiles. These sessions include guidance on publication (including open access), bibliometrics and using social media effectively. The Digital Assets team supports Open Access to publications, research theses and data through the institutional repository ("green" access) and by advising on publisher options and managing the central budget for "gold" open access.

### **(iii) Operational and organizational infrastructure**

Support for historical research activities is provided at University, College and School level. Depending on the complexity of the grant proposal and the funder, advice is provided by: (a) University's Research and Innovation Services (especially for EU-FP7 proposals); (b) the College RKT Team with a dedicated Senior Research Facilitator for history (**Baggott**) (focused on AHRC, ESRC and various trusts); and (c) by the School Research Committee and by the director of research (peer reviewing). The cornerstone of the support system is the CAL R&KT office with its 6 staff. Its remit is the comprehensive support for all aspects of grant application development and post-award administration, and it has led to a continual significant increase in application activities at **all** levels in history (number of applications submitted, funding volumes applied for, successful grant acquisition). The proactive approach taken by the R&KT office, in collaboration with Director of Research, has led to the number of applications rising by 280% and the monetary value of awards rising more than 2000% between 2008/9 and 2012/13. Moreover, the quality of the research support has been acknowledged by the shortlisting of both SHaC R&KT and RIS research support teams for UoB's 'Awards for Tremendous Achievement'.

Additional infrastructure comes in the form of the Institute for Advanced Studies (which historians have contributed to – see above), several funding mechanisms for international collaboration (specific North America, India and Brazil Travel funds) and additional College study leave investments (totalling £300k) to ensure completion of outputs. Staff in History are able to draw on a further £16k for conference attendance, and can apply to the College RKT Fund (32k: success rate = 90%) to support all types of research activity and a Special Fund (£60k) to support collaborative,

interdisciplinary projects, especially with the social sciences.

It is the responsibility of the Head of College to agree annually with the relevant Head of School and subsequently maintain an appropriate balance between the various infrastructure aspects described above. Due regard is given to departmental aspirations, the over-arching College research strategy and external environmental factors (such as funder priorities) in determining this balance.

#### e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

**(i) National and international collaboration:** A particular strength of historical research at UoB is its wide range of collaborative arrangements, networks, joint research projects with academic colleagues in other institutions regionally, nationally and internationally as described in detail above (b [research centres], c [staff and PGR]). These span from the Midlands (**Dick, Jones**) via the UK (**Houlbrook**) and Europe [Germany (**Lee, Ross, Uekötter**), Norway (**Lee**), France (**Dyer, Prauser, Jones, Röhrkasten, Gray**), Italy (**Bruschi, Prauser**), Poland (**Lukowski**), Iceland (**Callow**)] extra-European institutions in Asia (**Swanson, Standen, Azad, White**), Africa (**Lee**) and America (**Lucas, Lee, Lukowski, Yarrow, Gray, Standen, Sheffield, Snape**) and ranging from bilateral and multilateral projects to longer-term collaborations and formal networking activities.

**(ii) Visiting and other fellowships:** Contributions to the research environment are also visible in collaborative and visiting research fellowships. Most staff are fellows of the Royal Historical Society and two (**Dyer, Brooks**) are Fellows of the British Academy. Others have been won through competition or invitation. Examples include **Swanson's** Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship; **Lee's** Visiting Fellowships at Wolfson College Cambridge and at the Leibniz-Institute, Cologne; **Callow's** Snorri Sturloson Fellowship at Reykjavik, **Cust's** Mayers Fellowship, Huntington Library; as well as several visiting professorships (**Röhrkasten**, Dresden; **Ross** and **Jones**, Paris, **Yarrow**, University of Connecticut; **Hilton** University of Kentucky; **Swanson**, South China Normal University).

**(iii) Membership of national and international committees:** Eight members of the UoA have served as members of AHRC and ESRC Peer review Colleges. Nineteen colleagues have served as committee members of learned societies including as British Academy Chair of Projects Committee and as Vice President of the Society of Medieval Archaeology (**Dyer**). Eleven members of the UoA have served as advisory board members of collaborative projects or learned societies, including AB membership of the Centre for the Study of the Renaissance (**Hamling**), the interdisciplinary project Sites of Chemistry (**Jones**) and the International Dunhuang Project (**Standen**) as Chairman of the British Academy Project Anglo-Saxon Charters (**Brooks**). Furthermore, **Swanson** served as President of the British Subcommittee, Commission international d'histoire et d'études christianisme, **Uekötter** as Chair of the Scientific Committee, European Society for Environmental History and **Dyer** as British Academy Chair of Records of Social and Economic History.

**(iv) Editorial positions and activities:** ALL research-active members of the UoA play an active part in the academic community beyond UoB through their significant editorial and/review work as editors, members of Editorial boards and academic reviewers. The breadth of engagement and the depth of peer esteem is visible in the fact that members of the UoA act as editors of **six** and are members of editorial boards of a further **23** academic journals, spanning innovative, interdisciplinary and intersectoral publications as well as traditional high-esteem and high-impact journals including *Past and Present*, *French History*, *CBH*, *Umwelt und Erinnerung*, *20<sup>th</sup> Century British History*, *Revue Mabillon*, *Midlands History*, *Annales du Midi*. Particularly significant to the UoA are *Midland History*, which is edited by **Cust**, and *Contemporary British History*, which is edited by **Houlbrook, Crowson** and **Greaves** (with **Moore**s as Reviews Editor). **Hilton** is also the Publications Editor for *Past and Present*, responsible for the *P&P Supplements* as well as the P&P Book series with OUP.

**(v) Refereeing for journals, publishers and research funders:** All research-active members of

## Environment template (REF5)

the UoA have refereed for a total of **in excess of 100** different national and international journals. These extend beyond all the principal journal publications in history to include other disciplines such as economics, anthropology, business and management studies, sociology, cultural studies, and various area studies. Members have refereed for **23** publishers, including CUP, OUP, Manchester UP, Liverpool UP, Exeter UP, Springer, World Scientific Press, Malgrave Macmillan, Harvard UP, Yale UP, Chicago UP.

**(vi) Examinations of doctorates:** Members of the UoA have externally examined doctorates from **22** universities national and internationally, including Cambridge, Oxford, London, Liverpool, Manchester, Florence, Paris, Dublin and the University of New South Wales.

**(vii) HEI consultancies:** Many colleagues serve as grant application reviewers or on Peer Review Panels including the AHRC (**9** members of staff), the Institute of Advanced Studies Princeton, the ESRC (3 staff), the Souloudi Foundation, the Marc Fitch Fund, EU/FP7, the Humanities in the ERA, the Austrian Science Foundation, the Wolfson Foundation (3 staff), the Wellcome Trust, the DFG (Germany). In addition, **Hilton** is a member of the REF2014 Panel, and **Standen** is an Output Assessor for REF Sub Panel 27 Area Studies.

**(viii) Prizes:** Staff have won various prizes since 2008. Two members have been awarded the Phillip Leverhulme Prize (**Qureshi, Hamling**). Others include the Thirk-Feinstein Prize (**von Lottum**, runner up), the Templar Medal (**Boff**, shortlisted), the Henry A. Wallace Prize (**Dyer**), the Lord Aberdare Prize (**Heggie**, shortlisted), the Annual Sort in History Prize (**Heggie**), and the Sonia Rudikoff Award (**Qureshi**).

**(ix) Conference organisation and participation as invited keynote speaker or presenter:** All staff have contributed to conference organization and participation with **more than two hundred** invited lectures/keynotes across all continents, including keynotes at the Ecclesiastical history Society (**Hamling**), European Air Chiefs Symposium, Stockholm and the Chief of the RAAF Symposium in Melbourne (**Gray**), the British Archaeological Association (**Swanson**) and the British Science Festival (**Jones**), as well as lectures e.g. at the Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, (**Hilton**), the American Institute of Physics Maryland (**Lee**), the Congress for Medieval Studies Kalamazoo (**Müller, Standen**), University of Jyväskylä (**Bruschi**), the ESRA Annual Conference, Warsaw (**Lee**), the Socio-Economic History Society, Osaka (**van Lottum**), the Lameda da Universidade, Lisbon (**Qureshi**) and the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt in Weimar (**Willis**).