

<p>Institution: University of Gloucestershire</p> <hr/> <p>Unit of Assessment: UoA 30 History</p> <hr/> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>The current History UoA is part of the multi-disciplinary School of Humanities within the wider Faculty of Media, Arts and Technology and is based at the University's Frances Close Hall campus in Cheltenham. All History staff team members are active in research and publication and most are part of postgraduate research degree supervision teams. In addition to research outputs, staff members have responsibility for delivering substantial amounts of undergraduate teaching and academic-related administration. The chair of the UoA works closely with the Faculty Lead for Research (who is also Head of School) and is guided by the University's Dean of Research.</p> <p>Allocation of research time and access to research leave is overseen by the Head of School and is negotiated in consultation with the relevant Subject Group Leader. Additional funds to support research activities, including conference organisation and attendance and expenses incurred in field work, research data collection and publication, are available through application to the Head of School and are overseen by the Faculty Research Committee. Central university funding has also been available to relieve some staff of their teaching duties in order to advance their research and publication.</p> <p>The History staff team consists of: two professors (Ilic promoted from Reader in August 2012, and Wynn, on a fractional appointment from September 2012); one Reader (Robertson promoted from Senior Lecturer in August 2013); two early-career appointees, now Senior Lecturers (French and Morrisroe both promoted from Lecturer in August 2013); one 0.5 early-career Lecturer (O'Connell in post from September 2013); and three 0.2 researchers (Copeland, Jones and Whitham).</p> <p>French contributes teaching to Religion, Philosophy and Ethics and to the University's distance learning Open Theological College programme. From 1 January 2009 to 31 July 2012, 0.5 of Ilic's time was directed to her role as Research Degrees Tutor (Humanities). Ilic currently retains responsibility for PGR students in the School of Humanities and is the University's Link Tutor for PGR programmes at The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education in Birmingham. Robertson has served as History Course Leader (for undergraduate programmes) since September 2010, with Morrisroe serving as Acting History Course Leader during the period of Robertson's research leave in 2013. From 2009 to 2012, Copeland was external examiner for Bishop Grosseteste University's Heritage Studies undergraduate degree programme. Wynn was external examiner for University of Birmingham's BA American Studies programme from 2006 to 2010 and is currently external examiner for the BA History at Bath Spa University (2011 to 2015).</p> <p>The History team has specialisms in archaeology and heritage, early modern British and European social and cultural history, late modern British history, twentieth-century American social, cultural and political history and Russian / Soviet history. Staff research interests include topics relating to: women's and gender history; the history of religion and spirituality; social protest and civil rights; black history and the history of race relations; intellectual history and the history of ideas; landscape, environment and heritage; public history, national identities and citizenship; Holocaust and post-conflict studies; transatlantic music; Cold War studies; international relations and transnational history; oral history, life stories and memory studies.</p> <hr/> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>The research profile of the History UoA at the University of Gloucestershire has been one of solid achievement (2 in RAE1996 [as C&GCHE]; 3a in RAE2001; and, in RAE2008, 65% of its publications ranked in the international categories, of which 5% was world-leading). These results place History at the University of Gloucestershire in a favourable position relative to comparable HEIs in the new universities sector. In the period up to 2013, History has been able to build on its existing strengths and to develop new areas of research expertise.</p>

Overall research strategy and management at both institutional and school levels is subject to the University's administrative structures, processes and committees. The University Research Committee has responsibility for the development and implementation of policies and practices relating to research across the institution. The Faculty Research Committee (FRC) oversees local research priorities, monitors the development of staff research activities and is responsible for the oversight of the disbursement of internally-allocated investment monies. FRC reports to the institutional-wide University Research Committee (URC). The Faculty Research Degrees Committee (FRDC), which reports to the University Research Degrees Committee (URDC), scrutinises PGR research proposals and monitors individual student progress through the research degree programmes.

The Faculty also runs its own Faculty Research Applications Advisory Group (FRAAG) to support staff in applications for external funding awards. FRAAG operates in collaboration with the University's European Funding Office. FRC, FRDC, FRAAG and URDC are constituted by senior academic staff (professors and readers) across the Faculty and University. **Ilic** sits on FRC, FRDC, FRAAG and URDC. **Wynn** is a past member of FRC.

The Faculty Research Administrator has responsibility for providing administrative support to the chairs of the various research committees, to staff in research roles and to the processes governing the monitoring and progress of PGR students. The administrator disseminates information relating to research supervisor and PGR training programmes, maintains the local records of PGR students from original application to award of the final degree by Academic Board, and is responsible for overseeing the administration relating to the appointment of External Examiners and the practical arrangements for PGR examinations.

The University has a thriving and expanding archive on Francis Close Hall (FCH) campus. The archive's historical holdings include the Paul Oliver collection of 'African-American Music and Related Cultural Traditions', the papers of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society (BGAS), the Local Heritage Initiative archive and documents relating to the University's institutional history. In addition, the archive houses the 'Gloucestershire Poets, Writers and Artists Collection', including papers relating to the Dymock Poets. In partnership with the Dean Heritage Centre and Voices in the Forest, the University was recently successful in a £100,000 bid to secure materials relating to the Dennis Potter Archive via a competitive application for Heritage Lottery funding.

Members of the History UoA are active in a number of inter-disciplinary research centres hosted by the University of Gloucestershire. **Wynn** was active in setting up both the Research Centre on Crime, Violence and Disorder and the Centre for Writing, Place and History (CWPH). CWPH hosted a half-day workshop on 'The Dis-United Kingdom: Historical and Literary Perspectives on Devolution' in May 2012, with two external speakers: Prof Simon Dentith (Reading) and Dr Catriona MacDonald (Glasgow). **French** is a participant in the Bible and Spirituality Research Group. **Robertson** takes part in the activities of the Centre for Media, Memory and Community. A new research centre, hosted by the School of Humanities, Being Human: Past, Present and Future, has recently been recognised as an area for strategic priority investment by the University. History runs its own seminar series, to which external speakers are invited in addition to staff and PGR students making presentations of their own current research. History also runs its own online blog accessible to external readers: historyglos.wordpress.com, with almost 7000 hits by November 2013.

Members of the History staff team participate in Faculty-wide activities, such as day-long Research Symposia, designed both to promote internal research culture and good practice, and to foster collaboration, inter-disciplinarity and externality in research. At School level, a Writer-in-Residence, funded by quality-related research investment funds, currently has responsibility for working with individual disciplines, including History, to develop outreach and community engagement across the Humanities.

History staff are actively engaged with the Cheltenham and Gloucester branch of the Historical Association (HA) and members of the UoA have given talks to meetings of the HA around the

country. **Robertson** is a current committee member and **Wynn** a past chair and committee member of the Gloucestershire HA. The History UoA has a staff representative on History (UK), and **Wynn** was a member of History UK's Steering Committee from 2005-2010. **Wynn** was a member of the AHRC Peer Review College from 1 October 2007 to 30 September 2010, and is an on-going member of the Peer Review Panel. **Ilic** has also provided anonymous peer review reports for AHRC project funding bids. **Ilic**, **Jones** and **Wynn** regularly provide anonymous reader's reports for national and international academic book publishers (including, for example, Palgrave Macmillan and Routledge) and journals (such as *Continuum*, *International Journal of Heritage Studies* and the *Journal of American Studies*). **Ilic** is on the National Advisory Board of the journal *Europe-Asia Studies*.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The History team has undergone a number of changes to staffing since RAE 2008. **Ilic** and **Wynn** remain in post. **Robertson** became a full-time member of the History staff in March 2010. Two junior members of staff, Neil Armstrong and Jonathan Spangler, left to take up posts at Teeside University and Manchester Metropolitan University. They were replaced in September 2010 by two full-time, early-career lecturers (**French** and **Morrisroe**) with specialisms in early modern social and cultural history and late modern intellectual history. **O'Connell** joined the team as a 0.5 early-career lecturer to deliver teaching in American history, along with **Copeland**, **Jones** and **Whitham** as 0.2 researchers, in September 2013. **Copeland's** appointment advances the further development of public history and archaeology, coordinated through his association with the International Centre for Heritage Education. **Jones's** on-going collaboration with **Robertson** seeks to develop and enhance the concept of 'Heritage from Below'. A mentor system operates to support new staff appointees and the development of early-career researchers.

Members of the History UoA have been successful in securing prestigious research fellowships abroad. In June 2008, **Robertson** was Humanities Divisional Visiting Fellow at Curtin University, Australia. The Fellowship provided a forum for the establishment of an international team of scholars to work on the topic of Heritage from Below, and resulted in a collection of essays published in 2012. In connection with her work on Soviet women and the Women's International Democratic Federation, in June 2009, **Ilic** was Visiting Research Fellow at the prestigious Aleksanteri Institute, Helsinki, Finland, which allowed her to collect materials in local archives and the University of Helsinki's Slavic Library resulting in a publication for a collection of essays on Cold War technology transfer and cultural exchange. Whilst in Helsinki, **Ilic** also conducted a number of interviews for her book *Life Stories of Soviet Women*. In connection with his research on black American GIs in Great Britain, **Wynn** was awarded a Diversity/International Outreach Fellowship by the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations to attend their annual conference in Virginia in 2009. In addition, **Wynn's** edited collection, *Cross the Water Blues*, was awarded a Certificate of Merit for Research by the Association for Recorded Sound Collection (ARSC) in 2008. **Whitham** has delivered lectures at Universitat Erlangen-Nurnberg and University of Leipzig as part of the Erasmus-Socrates programme, and was Visiting Research Fellow at UWE from 2006 to 2009.

In the UK, **French** and **Ilic** both hold on-going Honorary Research Fellowships at the University of Birmingham (**French** at the Department of History, Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies; **Ilic** at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies). These Fellowships provide access to specialist research collections, engagement with high-level research seminars and conferences, and opportunities to collaborate in research projects and postgraduate supervision external to the University of Gloucestershire.

Robertson has benefitted from an extended period of release from teaching and research leave during 2012/13 to finalise the writing of his monograph, *The Later Highland Land Wars* (Ashgate, 2013), and to organise a conference at the University of Gloucestershire on

'Landscapes of Resistance: Figuring the Places and Spaces of Protest Past' in March 2013. This period of research leave also saw the publication of his edited collection of essays, *Heritage from Below*, and of the spring 2013 issue of the *Journal of Arts and Communities* for which he was guest editor. An extract from *Heritage from Below* is included in Hilda Kean and Paul Martin (eds), *The Public History Reader* (Routledge, 2013).

French and **Morrisroe** were provided with teaching cover as remitted time supported by internal research funds in semester one 2012/13 to allow them to develop their research portfolios and to engage in sustained periods of data collection and writing, which will allow them to extend their publication records in the post-REF 2014 period. **French** made progress on her manuscript for a proposed monograph entitled *Born in Sin: Child Salvation in Early Modern England*. **Morrisroe** collected materials for her forthcoming study of the historical and political discourses of Thomas Arnold. During these periods of research leave, part-time hourly paid staff were employed to cover undergraduate teaching.

ii. Research students

All PGR students are expected to have completed recent and relevant research degree training at Master's level (provided by the in-house Master of Research programme if not already achieved), before embarking on PhD research. PhD students are able to access a broad range of academic and vocational training, some designed specifically for PGR students, and all of the professional development activities provided for academic staff. PGR students complete an annual Training Needs Analysis Form and Joint Annual Progress Report. Their research project must be formally approved by the Faculty Research Degrees Committee and the University Research Degrees Committee before the final thesis may be submitted for examination. The University's Postgraduate Research Centre (PRC) provides administrative oversight of PGR admissions, progression, training and award. In early 2013 the PRC launched its online Skills Forge to provide oversight of PGR progress and training, and it mapped postgraduate research at the university against the QAA Research Development Framework. It has links with Vitae South West and the Midlands Hub networks. PGR students are encouraged to engage fully with the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES).

The PRC organises a PGR conference and summer school on an annual basis, where students are able to present papers to their peers and engage in specialist research training. In addition, the regular History seminar series offers a forum for PGR presentation and participation. History PGR students are actively engaged also with the PGR student-led seminar programme in the Humanities, and they are encouraged to attend and present papers at national and international conferences relevant to their field of study. In December 2012, the School of Humanities ran its own postgraduate research student symposium on 'employability'.

The University offers training to PGR students preparing for a career in teaching in Higher Education and opportunity is sometimes available for students to gain in-class teaching experience. Externally, PGR students are referred to the various seminar series and research and vocational training offered by the Institute of Historical Research in London. PGR students are eligible to apply for research expenses covered by the University to the value of £200 per annum for full-time students and £120 per annum for part-time students. Further funding is accessible through discretionary bids to the Faculty Research Committee.

Since 2008, PhDs have been awarded to two students supervised by staff in History at the University of Gloucestershire. Christian **O'Connell's** thesis on 'The British "Bluesman": Paul Oliver and the Transatlantic Nature of Blues Scholarship' was supported by an institutional three-year bursary with **Wynn** as first supervisor. This PhD research made use of the University's recently acquired Paul Oliver collection.

Ilic was second supervisor on Luke Devine's thesis entitled 'From Anglo First-Wave Towards American Second-Wave Jewish Feminism: Negotiating with Jewish Theology and its Communities in the Writing of Amy Levy and Lily Montagu'. Devine's research was also

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supported by a three-year institutional bursary in Theology and Religious Studies. **Ilic** also co-supervised three PhDs to successful completion at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies, The University of Birmingham (Junbae Jo 2008; Robert Hornsby 2009; Joshua Andy 2011).

In addition to its successful PhD completions, the award of MA by Research was made to three History students at the University of Gloucestershire (Robert White 2009; Judy Bailey 2010; Robert Taylor 2012).

History currently has 7 PGR students: 3 PhD, 1 MPhil and 3 MA by Research. **Morrisroe** is on the supervisory team for a PhD student registered in Sociology. **Ilic** is co-supervisor for a PhD student registered in History at the University of Birmingham.

Ilic, Jones, Robertson, Whitham and **Wynn** have all been involved in postgraduate examination: **Ilic** was external examiner for a PhD thesis submitted at the University of Sydney (James Young 2008) and MA by Research at University of Gloucestershire (Robert Taylor 2012); **Jones** served as external examiner and adjudicator on PhD theses for Flinders University, University of Groningen, Murdoch University, University of South Australia and University of Western Australia from 2008 to 2012; **Robertson** was External Examiner for a PhD thesis submitted at Curtin University (Saphan Cox 2012); **Whitham** was external examiner for a Masters thesis submitted at the University of Dundee in 2010; **Wynn** was external examiner for the PGT MA course at the Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London from 2005 to 2009. **Ilic** has extensive experience of chairing PhD vivas. **Ilic** and **Morrisroe** have both acted as internal assessors on upgrade panels for PGR students advancing from MA by Research or MPhil to PhD.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

History staff team members are able to apply for internal funds to support their research activities to the Head of School and the Faculty Research Committee. In addition to this, History staff team members have been successful in securing competitive internal and external research funding.

Ilic's internationally collaborative, three-year, AHRC-funded project on 'Policy and Governance in the Soviet Union under Nikita Khrushchev' (RRB011307), co-ordinated in conjunction with The University of Birmingham's Centre for Russian and East European Studies, was finalised during the period of the current REF and has been subsequently rated as 'outstanding'. As outcomes from this project, two companion edited volumes of essays have been published in the prestigious BASEES/Routledge Series on Russian and East European Studies: *State and Society in the Soviet Union under Nikita Khrushchev* (2009) and *Khrushchev in the Kremlin: Policy and Government in the Soviet Union, 1953-1964* (2011).

Ilic's research was further supported externally by her participation in two international collaborative projects funded by the Finnish Academy: 'Knowledge through the Iron Curtain (KiC)' (2007-2009) and 'Competition in Socialist Societies (CSS)' (2010-2012). **Ilic's** essay on 'Soviet Women, Cultural Exchange and the Women's International Democratic Federation' is published one of the KiC project volumes, *Reassessing Cold War Europe* (2011). The published outcomes of the CSS project are in final preparation for publication by Routledge in 2014. **Ilic** secured a British Academy Overseas Conference Grant to attend the AAASS National Convention in Philadelphia in November 2008.

Robertson has been successful in securing a number of competitive funding awards. **Robertson** is principal investigator on a research project funded entirely by the University of Gloucestershire on 'Land and Identity in the Scottish Highlands'. This is one of three projects identified for quality-related strategic research investment. The project has provided funding for extensive interviews to be conducted with residents in Highland Scotland and has led to the publication of *Landscapes of Protest in the Scottish Highlands after 1914: The Later Highland Land Wars* (Ashgate, 2013). **Robertson** also secured an award from the Strathmartine Trust in 2013 to progress his research in

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the Scottish highlands.

Robertson was co-investigator on an ESRC-funded project on 'Sustainable Flood Memories and the Development of Community Resilience to Future Flood Risk' (January 2011 to June 2013), and on an AHRC-funded Researching Environmental Change Networking Grant project on 'Learning to Live with Water: Flood Histories, Environmental Change, Remembrance and Resilience' (July 2010 to June 2011). On the basis of these two 'floods project' awards, a number of conferences were organised at the University of Gloucestershire at which members of the History UoA presented papers. **Wynn** (with then PGR student Christian **O'Connell**) presented a paper on "High Water Everywhere": the 1927 Mississippi Floods and the Blues' at the AHRC floods project second workshop on 'Flood Heritage: Exploring Flood Archives for Understanding Known Pathways to Resilience', held at the University's Oxstalls campus in January 2011.

Wynn secured external funding to attend the annual conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations in Virginia in 2009. **Wynn** also secured University of Gloucestershire funds on behalf of the School of Humanities Research Centre on Writing, Place and History to organise a half-day workshop on 'The Dis-United Kingdom: Historical and Literary Perspectives on Devolution' in May 2012 with visiting speakers from the Universities of Glasgow and Reading.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

Members of the History UoA have worked in close collaboration with other researchers locally, nationally and internationally. Some aspects of their research is intrinsically interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary (for example, **French** in Theology and Literary Studies; **Ilic** in Women's Studies; **O'Connell** in musicology; **Robertson** in Heritage; **Wynn** in American Studies), and often has reach beyond History.

Copeland has been closely involved in the international promotion of public archaeology, heritage and citizenship education, funded in part by a number of prestigious bodies, including the National Trust, English Heritage and the Council of Europe. In addition to talks in the UK, he has been an invited public and keynote speaker in Barcelona (February 2009) to promote public archaeology and citizenship education, at Camp Westerbork in the Netherlands (September 2009) to promote Holocaust education, and Madrid (November 2012) to promote heritage education in Europe. His work is directed to both academic and non-specialist audiences. He has also supported public bodies in the UK in their preparation of funding bids.

Ilic's on-going work in Soviet women's history and 'victim studies' of the Great Terror both involve extensive academic collaboration with researchers around the world. **Ilic** worked with researchers in Russia, Canada and the United States to produce a collection of essays on 'Women and the Defense of the Soviet Union in the 1930s' (2008), which subsequently led her to be invited as a guest speaker to a conference on 'Women in the World of Violence' in Stockholm, Sweden, 2009. **Ilic's** work on the Women's International Democratic Federation led her to be invited to a conference on 'Intimate Internationalisms' in Potsdam, Germany, in October 2010 and to participate a day school on Transnational History and Human Rights at the University of Liverpool in April 2013. Work on women in the Khrushchev era resulted in an invitation to take part in a conference on 'From Totalitarian State to Open Society' in Giessen, Germany, in February 2012.

More recent 'life story' research culminated in a jointly-organised conference on 'The Soviet Past in the Post-Soviet Present: the Ethics of Oral History and Memory Studies in Eastern Europe', hosted at the University of Vilnius, Lithuania, in September 2012. **Ilic's** work on 'victim studies' has brought her into direct collaboration with world-leading historians currently writing on the Great Terror, initially at an invitation-only conference at the University of Leeds in 2010 and resulting in the publication of her chapter in the edited volume *The Anatomy of Terror: Political Violence Under Stalin* (OUP, 2013).

In relation to her doctoral study of the nineteenth-century historian Edward Freeman, **Morrisroe** was invited to speak at the conference 'E.A. Freeman: the Life and Times of a Victorian

Intellectual’.

Jones and **Robertson** have worked closely with an international team of researchers interested in historical studies of social protest, landscape and identity. This team successfully bid for grants from History Workshop and the Economic and Social History Society to fund a series of workshops, of which ‘Landscapes of Resistance’, organised by **Robertson** and assisted by PGR student Nigel Harrison, was held at the University of Gloucestershire in March 2013. **Jones** and **Robertson** collaborate with researchers in Scotland, Sweden, Australia and Canada on the study of ‘Heritage From Below’, part funded by **Robertson’s** Visiting Research Fellowship at Curtin University, Western Australia. Drawing the two strands together, **Robertson** was part of an international panel at the inaugural conference of the European Rural History Organisation in Bern in August 2013. The panel brought together scholars from Australia, Germany and the UK to explore the ways in which critical tensions around protest memories are materialised, memorialised and negotiated. **Robertson** has also collaborated with locally-based artists both to curate the exhibition ‘Wateryscapes’ at Gloucester Guildhall in June 2011 and to write for a special edition of the *Journal of Arts and Communities*, for which **Robertson** is guest co-editor.

Wynn has worked closely with the Maastricht / Middleburg Centre for Transatlantic Studies, hosted by the Roosevelt Academy in Middleburg, the Netherlands, where he presented an inaugural lecture in October 2008. This collaboration resulted in the publication of the co-edited volume *Transatlantic Conflict and Consensus: Culture, History and Politics* (2009). **Wynn** worked in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Worcester to organise a conference on ‘The Transatlantic Routes of American Roots Music’ in September 2009, leading in 2012 to the publication of the jointly edited volume *Transatlantic Roots Music: Folk, Blues, and National Identities*. **Wynn** collaborated with Gregory Cook in the making of the award-winning film ‘Choc’late Soldier from the USA’, which has had various showings in the US and UK and was part of the presentation and paper given by **Wynn** at the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations annual conference, Church Falls, Virginia in 2009, for which **Wynn** received a Diversity/International Outreach Fellowship.

A further development of this work led to **Wynn’s** presentation ‘Tradition, History and the Transatlantic Exchange: Jitterbug, Jive, and All that Jazz’, at the Historians of the Twentieth Century United States (HOTCUS) Symposium, Reading, March 2010. **Wynn** was also an invited participant at two sessions of the international Roosevelt Reading Festival, Roosevelt Library and Center, Hyde Park, New York, in June 2011.

Members of the History UoA contribute to the development of the research culture of their discipline through, for example, membership and running of professional bodies (including the HEA), attendance at annual conferences and editorship and reviewing of subject-specific journals. **Copeland** headed the university’s International Centre for Heritage Education up to 2009. **French** is a member of the European Reformation Research Group (ERRG) and attends the biannual Reformation Research Colloquium; **Ilic** is a member of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) and the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS); **O’Connell** is a member of the British Association of American Studies (BAAS); **Robertson** is a member of the Scottish Economic and Social History Society, Oral History Society, and the Institute of British Geographers Historical Geography Research Group; **Wynn** is a member of BAAS and the Historical Association.

Ilic and **Robertson** have been ‘guest editors’ for special edition journal publications. Staff have presented numerous conference papers during the census period as well as providing book reviews for a broad range of journals. **Robertson** was interviewed by local radio in connection with the Gloucester Guildhall ‘Wateryscapes’ exhibition. Finally, **Wynn** has given a number of local and national radio interviews on topics relating to his research on the experience of black American soldiers in Great Britain, and on American history and culture more generally. All of these activities represent a commitment to the on-going critical engagement with the research culture and subject development of History as an academic discipline and its public impact.