

**Institution: University of the West of England, Bristol**

**Unit of assessment: 27 English Language and Literature**

### **Section 1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy**

#### **Overview**

The English Language and Literature unit is predominately located in the Department of Creative and Cultural Industries (CCI), within the Faculty of Arts, Creative Industries and Education (ACE). It comprises the work of 18 (15.7 fte) staff: two Professors, **Charteris-Black** and **Mulvey-Roberts** (the latter promoted during the reporting period); one Associate Professor, **Greenham**; one Deputy Head of Department, **Piasecki**; nine permanent Senior Lecturers on full-time contracts, **Boccardi, Davis, Kirjavainen, Little, Murphy, Robertson, Rogers, Rudge**, and **Selleck (Rawstone)**; and five permanent Senior Lecturers on fractional contracts, **Alston, Ballinger, Brennan, Ord** and **Sherwood**. Seven members of the unit have been early career researchers within the reporting period: **Kirjavainen, Little, Murphy, Rogers, Rudge** (a former UWE PhD student), **Selleck** and **Sherwood**. **Little** is a member of staff in the Faculty of Health and Applied Sciences who is researching in linguistics. The REF submission also includes outputs, income and impact activities from one member of staff whose role is now managerial but remains research active, **Sakel**, three retired Emeritus Professors, **Coates, Jarvis** and **Greenslade**, a former Associate Professor, **Beeching**, and one fixed-term AHRC funded Research Fellow, **Parkin**, now at another HEI.

In the 2014 REF, staff from English and Linguistics were returned to UoAs 28 and 29 respectively. Since then staff from English and Linguistics have been co-located on UWE's Frenchay campus to take advantage of complementary research strengths, particularly across English Language and Linguistics. Consequently, staff working across both areas share a collaborative research environment and are being submitted together to UoA 27.

#### **Research Centre and Research Clusters**

Research by the unit's staff covers English Literature, English Language and Linguistics. Within the Unit there are several research clusters and one formally-designated Research Centre:

- The **Literary Bristol** cluster is led by **Mulvey-Roberts**, whose 2015 edited collection *Literary Bristol: Writers and the City*, included essays by **Ballinger, Jarvis, Butler** and **Brennan**. **Jarvis** and **Ballinger** have also worked to enhance the scholarly and public understanding of Bristol and the West's Romantic and Victorian writers. **Mulvey-Roberts** and **Brennan** have published on the importance of Angela Carter's Bristol connection, which led to one of the unit's impact case studies (see below).
- The **Long Nineteenth Century** cluster comprises the activities of several researchers. **Ballinger** and **Davis** focus on Victorian Literature, including adaptation and theories of consciousness respectively. **Greenham** and **Jarvis** research US and British Romanticism, **Greenham** publishing extensively on Ralph Waldo Emerson and **Jarvis** on a range of less familiar Romantics (Lovell, Southey) and romantic pursuits (swimming). **Mulvey-Roberts** is a Gothic scholar and editor of the quarterly journal *Women's Writing*, which she co-founded in 1994. *Women's Writing* is the leading journal on women writers up to the end of the long nineteenth century and has given rise to the book series 'Historical Women Writers', which she also edits. **Mulvey-Roberts'** outputs in this cycle include her award-winning monograph *Dangerous Bodies* (2018), the collection *Global Frankenstein* (2019) and a three-volume edition of the letters of Caroline Norton (2019).
- The **Twentieth Century Literature** cluster includes **Alston's** pioneering work on Female Genital Mutilation in children's literature, **Boccardi's** field-defining research into the neo-Victorian novel, **Robertson's** interdisciplinary monograph on poor Southern Whites, looking at literature, photography and travel writing, and **Rogers'** work on contemporary American poetry.

The **Bristol Centre for Linguistics** coordinates the activity of a number of research clusters:

- The **Historical Linguistics** cluster brings together onomasticians working on place-names and family names (**Coates** and **Parkin**) and sociolinguists working on semantic variation and change. The major AHRC-funded Family Names project culminated in the highly respected 4-volume *Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland* while **Beeching's** 2016 CUP publication traces the history and meaning of *Pragmatic Markers in British English*.
- The **Sounds Bristolian** cluster draws on sociophonetic, corpus linguistic, experimental, ethnolinguistic and multimedia data in a range of community engagement-related research projects. **Coates** (2018) characterized the Bristolian accent and dialect, Blaxter and **Coates** (2020) and Blaxter with **Beeching, Coates** and **Murphy** (2019) explore the mechanisms of sound change, focusing on Bristolian. Alongside her work on Welsh bilingualism, **Selleck's** research focuses on the Somali community and **Rudge** on the deaf community in Bristol. An interdisciplinary initiative on 'filled pauses' brings together sociolinguists **Beeching, Murphy** and **Rudge** and psycholinguists **Kirjavainen** and **Piasecki** in a jointly edited special issue of the *Journal of Pragmatics*, forthcoming.
- **Charteris-Black's** monographs *Analysing Political Speeches* (2018) and *Metaphors of Brexit* (2019) and **Murphy's** (2019) *Discursive Construction of Blame* illustrate the political wing of the **(Critical) Discourse Analysis** cluster. Media and government framing of the coronavirus are currently under study. **Rudge** (2019) takes an innovative multimodal approach to the analysis of magazine discourse and **Selleck** (2019) looks at the discourses around elite multilingualism.
- Finally, the **Cognitive Linguistics** cluster focuses on linguistic relativity, bilingualism, metaphor, pragmatics, and multi-modal approaches. The Whorfian focus of **Kirjavainen's** 2020 publication in *Cognitive Science* on English and Japanese speakers' ability to recall number information is reflected, too, in a forthcoming internally funded interdisciplinary project on gender marking in (pro)nouns with **Piasecki** and others. The study of metaphor in political discourse, pragmatico-semantic change and implied meaning is pursued in **Charteris-Black's** (2017) *Fire Metaphors*, **Beeching's** 2017 analysis of *just*, and **Murphy's** work on the pragmatics of speech-acts, respectively, and includes a 2019 special journal issue on 'Strategic uses of politeness formulae', co-edited by **Murphy** and **Beeching**. **Greenham's** research into conceptual metaphor in the work of Ralph Waldo Emerson is an application of cognitive linguistics in a literary context. **Rudge's** work on sign language (2015) and his interdisciplinary AI project training healthcare bots (see below), together with **Little's** psycholinguistic work on iconicity and language evolution (2019) complete the range of work on cognitive linguistics ongoing within the Centre.

#### Research with Impact (see also section 4)

It is a primary objective to ensure that the unit's research is disseminated as widely as possible to promote engagement and impact. During the REF period, Impact Leads were identified and awarded over £60,000 to support a range of targeted impact activities. For example, one of the unit's impact case studies, the **Mulvey-Roberts** led 'Angela Carter in Bristol' project, emerged from the larger 'Literary Bristol Cluster', the aim of which is to transform public awareness of Bristol's literary culture. The centerpiece of this case study is the major 2016-17 exhibition of artwork inspired by Carter at Bristol's Royal West of England Academy (RWA), 'Angela Carter's Strange Worlds'; which was also the first exhibition held on any writer in RWA's 175 year history. The exhibition had major impacts on the RWA, bringing in one of its largest and most diverse audiences (over 11,000), creating new lending relationships, and developing curatorial practice. **Mulvey-Roberts** also made a Massolit film for schools on Carter's *The Bloody Chamber*, which has had over 33,000 downloads to date. **Mulvey-Roberts** was interviewed for the BBC television programme *Novels That Shaped Our World* and the radio programmes *Front Row* and *Beyond Belief*. Associated with the 'Literary Bristol' project was **Jarvis, Ballinger, Greenslade** and **Mulvey-Roberts'** 2018 'Writing the West: Literature and Place' MOOC, focusing, again, on regional literature from the Romantics to Hardy, which has been taken by more than 3,000 online learners from 115 countries. **Jarvis's** research for the MOOC uncovered a forgotten Bristol residence of the nineteenth-century Poet Laureate Robert Southey; Bristol Civic Society subsequently recognized **Jarvis's** discovery with a blue plaque.

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The unit's second impact case study is **Alston's** 'Critical Literacy'. Based on her research into the family in children's literature, this project aims to advance what **Alston** calls 'critical literacy', that is the ability of children not just to read well, but to read with a critical lens, enabling complex judgements about, for example, familial and cultural ideologies or the relationship between text and image. **Alston's** research has had impacts, regionally and nationally, on pupils, teachers, trainee teachers and parents in a range of educational institutions. **Alston** is regularly asked by the media to comment on children's literature.

In addition to the unit's case studies, the **Greenham**-scripted 'School of Life' YouTube video on Ralph Waldo Emerson, based on his research into this canonical American writer, has had over 660,000 views. **Coates' £1.7m** (2010-2017) AHRC-funded Family Names project (FaNUK) disseminated its research in local schools, heritage sites (such as Bristol's Arnos Vale cemetery), the 'Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland', and local history groups, and is available as a searchable online database hosted by Oxford University Press. The Bristol Centre for Linguistics (BCL) 'Sounds Bristolian' project includes outreach activities, led by **Selleck**, with Bristol's Somali Resource Centre and Fonthill Primary School. The BCL also has partnerships with the Bristol Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Research Unit and SLT South West Dementia group. **Sherwood's** creative practice research focuses on the experience of second and third generation holocaust survivors as presented in her acclaimed novel *Testament* (2018). **Sherwood** has disseminated her research through blogs, interviews, literary festivals and bookstores, alongside public engagement activities in Bristol and London. The European Commission invited **Charteris-Black** to deliver seminars on political rhetoric and counter-populist political communication in 2017 and 2018. **Little**, who works within UWE's Science Communication Unit, has spoken widely on the radio and at public events nationwide on the relationship between linguistics and science fiction.

### Research and the Curriculum

In line with UWE's strategy, the unit's research also informs teaching across the curricula. Key examples include the Level 2 module 'Studying Speech Communities', which explores the development of the 'Bristol variety' emerging from research by **Beeching, Coates and Murphy**. **Charteris-Black's** *Analysing Political Speeches* is the course book for Level 3 'Critical Discourse Analysis' and students undertake their own rhetorical analyses of recent political speeches using the theoretical and methodological approaches discussed in the course book, many of which **Charteris-Black** developed. **Robertson's** research on class, poverty and environmentalism is a basis for the Level 2 module, 'Literature in the World' and underpins the Level 3 optional module, 'Contemporary American Narrative'. **Brennan's** work on Angela Carter and the Gothic informs the Foundation Level module 'Bristol, Arts and Culture', the level 1 'Genre and Creative Writing,' and, along with the research of **Mulvey-Roberts**, the level 3 'Gothic Literature' module. BCL also host annual research internships to encourage undergraduates to consider research careers.

### Research Management and Governance

Research in the unit is supported by an Associate Dean Research, a Director of Research and Scholarship (**Greenham**), and Associate Heads of Department. This research leadership team works to align the unit's research with University priorities, to encourage a positive research culture, to mentor and advance the research of ECRs, to identify research development needs, to oversee the distribution of Faculty resources, to grow external funding, and to promote research more broadly (see sections 2 and 3).

The unit's researchers are committed to the *Code of Good Research Conduct* (2016) which reflects UWE's commitment to the *Concordat to Support Research Integrity*. The Faculty Research Ethics Committee (FREC) supports staff to submit research ethics approval forms and includes members from across a range of arts and humanities research areas as well as an external reviewer; two members of the Unit, **Greenham** and **Piasecki**, have served on FREC in the REF period. Issues can be escalated to the University Research Ethics Committee if appropriate. An online Research Governance Record (RGR) collects all governance and ethics information on projects in a single place and enables the Faculty to mitigate risks and track

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compliance (a new system adopted in 2019).

### Research Strategy 2014-2020

The unit's research activities over the reporting period align with the University's 2020 research strategy, as described in the Institutional Statement, which comprised objectives designed to promote and support research excellence:

- To achieve internationally excellent and world-class outcomes in selected areas of research that deliver impact, meets the needs of our community, a sustainable economy and society and feed the scholarship and enquiry that underpins our learning and teaching (see above);
- To enhance our capacity to recruit and retain high quality staff, and to promote employee engagement, career opportunities and job satisfaction (see Section 2).

### Research Strategy 2020-2025

The unit's strategic priorities over the next 5 years are driven by UWE's 2030 strategy as outlined in the Institutional Statement (in essence to produce 'impactful, internationally excellent, challenge-based research'), and are:

1. to maintain and enhance the unit's record of producing internationally excellent, world-leading, and impactful research;
2. to align the unit's research strengths with emerging University priorities, especially its ambitions to focus on interdisciplinary challenge-based research and to be culturally and civically engaged;
3. to increase grant capture to support the unit's research ambitions (see section 3).

In relation to the first priority, staff within the unit will continue to compete for external, Faculty and University funding, and to use the scholarly time provided to produce the high quality articles, book chapters and monographs that sustain and advance their disciplines and subject areas, and to work with the University's impact team (see section 3) to ensure maximum impact and public engagement from those research outputs amongst diverse beneficiaries.

To achieve the second priority, the unit will extend **Mulvey-Roberts'**, **Ballinger's** and **Beeching's** work on Bristol as a literary and linguistic space and develop **Alston's** and **Selleck's** work with the Bristol City region and South Wales schools to ensure the unit's research continues to have civic and community reach. With respect to the University's challenge-based research ambitions, the Faculty has recently invested in **Rogers** and **Greenham's** emerging work with colleagues in Health on poetry and wellbeing. The University is funding **Rudge's** interdisciplinary project, 'From Utility to Social Entity' (FUSE), which draws together specialists in linguistics, AI, computing, vocational training and healthcare to explore interactions between healthcare professionals and non-human entities within the context of job-related training (e.g. practicing how to deliver a sensitive diagnosis to a patient). The University is also funding **Kirjavainen's** and **Piasecki's** interdisciplinary project, 'The Impact of Language and Culture on Gender Salience', the key objective of which is to determine if native language, second language learned later in life and/or speaker's culture affect gender salience, and thus inform whether we can encourage inclusivity and reduce gender bias through language use, and the ways that this could be achieved, with a view to informing policy-makers and educational practices. In addition, **Kirjavainen, Rudge** and **Piasecki** are working with consultant neuroscientists at Bristol's Southmead Hospital on holistic intra-operative speech testing in brain tumour surgery, with the objective of developing testing protocols for gestural communication.

## Section 2. People

### Staffing Strategy and Staff Development

The unit continues to sustain and develop its research strengths through the development, promotion, and recruitment of key staff. Professors **Jarvis** and **Coates**, and Associate Professor **Beeching** retired in the REF period (**Jarvis** in 2018; **Coates** in 2019; **Beeching** in 2020), while **Mulvey-Roberts** has been promoted from Associate Professor to full Professor (2017). A crucial

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aspect of her promotion, in addition to an outstanding research portfolio, was her ability to generate impact from her research. Recruiting high-achieving early career researchers has been a priority for the unit. In the REF cycle, **Rogers, Selleck, Rudge, Kirjavainen, Little, Sherwood and Murphy** have joined the unit's research team. As ECRs in the REF period, they have been actively supported to develop independent careers and to have significant responsibility for research.

The Faculty funds five competitive schemes that support the unit's research: (i) 'Research Support Time' enables staff to dedicate time to the production of high quality research and impacts (typically from half a day to two days a week). To ensure dedicated support the scheme considers and earmarks time for ECRs separately. (ii) The 'Research Collaboration Fund' provides money to support staff working with colleagues across UWE, other HEIs, industry and other external organizations. (iii) The 'Research Impact Fund' provides money to further impact activities and impact evidence gathering. (iv) The 'Research Publicity and Dissemination Fund' enables staff to promote their research inside and outside the academy. (v) The 'Research Group Scheme' encourages the creation of new research groups around strategically significant themes and supports the ongoing work of established groups. The Faculty also invites selected staff to an annual intensive bid-preparation Summer School for emerging researchers. In addition to Professors and Associate Professors, research-active staff have been awarded additional internally funded time within the reporting period to further their work and generate impact. The researchers who have been leading case studies (**Alston and Mulvey-Roberts**) have been granted additional resources to support this activity.

The Faculty offers an Academic Study Fund of £30,000 annually to enable staff to present papers at national and international conferences or to undertake research trips. In addition to funded time for research, all staff have five weeks of 'scholarly activity time' (pro rata) per annum. Faculty managers use the annual performance development review (PDR) process to maximise the benefits of this time for research, and to ensure that active researchers can develop and achieve their research goals.

Staff in the unit have also been successful in securing support from three University-wide competitive schemes: (i) the Vice-Chancellor's Early Career Researcher scheme (VCECR) which supports outstanding early career researchers to undertake preliminary research that can be developed into major funding applications and outputs; (ii) the Vice-Chancellor's Interdisciplinary Research Challenge Fund (VCIRCF) that encourages cross-Faculty collaborations; and (iii) the Vice-Chancellor's Accelerator Programme for Mid-Career Academics, a tailored programme to build bidding skills, to make new collaborations, develop a strategic approach to bidding, and deliver applications for significant external funding. For example, **Murphy** and **Kirjavainen** have each been awarded VCECR funding, and follow-on support from the Faculty's Research Time scheme, to enable them to develop work leading to substantial publications (e.g., **Murphy's** 2018 monograph *The Discursive Construction of Blame: The Language of Public Inquiries*, and **Kirjavainen's** articles on language acquisition). **Rudge** has been awarded VCIRCF to work with colleagues in Computing and Healthcare on the interdisciplinary project FUSE (see section 1). **Piasecki** and **Kirjavainen** have also received funding from this interdisciplinary award to work with colleagues in Education for a project on 'The Impact of Language and Culture on Gender Salience' (see section 1). **Rogers** and **Greenham** have been awarded internal funding through an inter-Faculty scheme to work with colleagues in Health on poetry and wellbeing (see section 1).

The unit's success in the VCECR scheme is evidence of support for early-career researchers in line with its strategic goals. ECR's receive research mentoring from senior colleagues in the Faculty and are prioritised in internal funding rounds in order to facilitate their development as independent researchers. The University is committed to the *Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers* as evidenced by its HR Excellence in Research award first granted in 2012.

**Research Students**

Over the reporting period, the unit has had 21 doctoral completions across a range of topics aligned to its research strengths. For example, 3 students have produced critical editions of non-canonical male and female British writers (John Buchan, Sarah Grand and Caroline Norton, the latter published in 2019), supervised by **Greenslade** and **Mulvey-Roberts**. Other doctoral theses cover diverse topics reflecting the range of expertise such as political discourse, metaphor, translating children's literature and *The Qu'ran*, cognitive linguistics, sign language (**Rudge's** PhD), language learning, second/third language acquisition, comparative linguistics, and canonical English and American literature (Hardy, Eliot, Hemingway). **Parkin** completed his PhD on English surnames as part of the AHRC funded FaNUK project. One of the unit's PGR strengths is attracting and successfully supporting self-funded and part-time students: 16 of the 21 PhD completions were by part-time students, the majority self-funded.

All UWE PGRs are required to take 60 credits of M-Level research modules to support and complement their research studies. The Faculty provides two 30 credit M-Level research modules that focus specifically on research methods for Arts and Humanities students. The unit's PGR students are also supported by the University's Graduate School, which delivers a stage-appropriate researcher skills development programme as well as further generic M-Level research modules. The Graduate School carefully monitors students through a rigorous progression review process and provides regular supervisory training which all staff on supervision teams are required to undertake (see Institutional Statement).

Wellbeing has become a major theme of the University's support for PGR during the REF period. As registered UWE students PGRs have access to UWE Wellbeing Services, augmented by dedicated support for the specificities of the PGR experience through the Graduate School. The latter operates an open-door policy for PGRs and supervisors with specialist support for PGRs presenting with mental health and/or wellbeing concerns. The Graduate School hosts regular drop-ins enabling PGRs to receive individual advice on specific issues. Supervisor training, also provided through the Graduate School, signposts Directors of Studies and supervisors to wellbeing-related resources – helping them to support their PGRs.

PGR representation is closely woven into the fabric of the PGR governance structures, with voices at Graduate School Sub-Committee (GSSC) and Faculty Research Degrees Committees (FRDC).

The Faculty supports PGR student attendance at national and international conferences through its PGR Support Fund, including childcare costs for PGR students attending conferences. The BCL has a monthly seminar series at which PGRs attend and present. The Faculty also runs an annual PGR Conference at which PGR students are encouraged to present and share their research in a positive and supportive environment with fellow students and staff.

**Equality and Diversity**

Staff within the unit have been identified as independent researchers with significant responsibility for research and outputs have been selected in strict accordance with the University's Code of Practice. This includes selecting outputs on the basis of their quality as determined through a thorough peer review process involving senior researchers in the unit and external experts. As stated in the Code, there was no expectation about the number of outputs any one individual contributed to the submission. Although individual circumstances declared by staff in the unit allow for a reduction in the total number of outputs submitted, it is considered beneficial to submit the full number in order to reflect appropriately the range of research and researchers across the unit.

UWE has signed up to the Athena SWAN principles and currently holds bronze institutional status (since 2013, renewed under the scheme's wider scope in 2017). Athena SWAN at University level includes a priority action to raise aspirations of women to have research careers at a senior level. Activities to achieve this include actively promoting the 'Women in Research Mentoring Scheme' (see below), considering women's research careers in the PDR process, monitoring uptake of

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research awards by gender, and considering unconscious bias and equity in allocating time and in allocating resources, such as funds to attend conferences. **Little** sits on the Athena SWAN Self-Assessment Team, as an ECR representative, and has taken a key role in preparing the self-assessment report for 2020 by statistically analyzing the results of a staff survey to outline key areas of progress with gender equality and remaining issues.

Of the staff whose outputs are submitted to the REF in this unit, 12 identify as female and 6 as male. 5 of the former and 1 of the latter are on fractional contracts. Both impact case studies, are led by female researchers. Although part-time and flexible contracts are supported, all new staff whose contracts have begun in the REF period are permanent and full-time. Access to all Faculty and University research support schemes are unaffected by contract status.

Over the 2014-2020 period there has been an increased sensitivity to unconscious bias in recruitment, and an awareness of the need to recruit from all sections of the population, e.g. through advertising via diverse channels, checking adverts for gender bias, including more diverse images and staff examples on the web and publicity generally. Monitoring data demonstrates that this has been effective for gender across the University and within the unit as evidenced by the gender balance of the unit at both senior and early career stages.

The Women in Research Mentoring Scheme (WRMS) provides support to female staff to develop and strengthen their research portfolio, making them more able to compete for senior research roles alongside their male counterparts in response to an imbalance at that level across the University. **Mulvey-Roberts** is a member of the WRMS steering group and an active mentor on the programme, and **Selleck** has been a mentee. The Faculty has also instituted a Women in Research Group, including Professorial staff (**Mulvey-Roberts**), with a particular focus on mitigating the effects of Covid on women researchers.

The unit's research itself is fully engaged with equality and diversity issues, especially race, gender and ageing, for example **Beeching's** work on dementia, **Alston's** and **Mulvey-Roberts'** work on children's and women's literature and female genital mutilation, **Brennan's** and **Jarvis's** work on ageing in women's literature and travel writing, **Robertson's** work on race in the American South, **Rudge's** work on disability in language and health contexts. As outlined in Section 1, staff collaborate with a range of diverse communities, including Bristol's Somali women, the deaf community, prisoners, and primary school students from mixed-entry schools.

### Section 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

The unit's ambition to produce internationally excellent and world-class research with impact has been supported by Faculty investment and external funding. Staff across the unit have received over £240,000 in internally-funded additional research time across the reporting period and around £1m of external funding (see section 2 and REF4b). The total external research income for the unit in this REF period is £965,153.

With the help of these resources, the unit's 15.7fte (18 individuals) have published 6 monographs, 38 peer-reviewed articles, 5 edited collections and 19 book chapters between 2014 and 2020. A further 36 outputs have been published by staff who have left during the census period. Many of these outputs are available in an open access form on the UWE repository (as many as publishers will allow).

The major funded research project that took place within the unit during the reporting period was 'Family Names of the UK' (FaNUK), an AHRC-funded project in two phases (£1.4m, £597,269 in this REF period) co-led by **Coates** and located at UWE. The project arose from the perception that existing dictionaries were outdated, under-evidenced and inadequate as dictionaries of *modern* British surnames. It was conceived by Patrick Hanks (then at Wolverhampton) and jointly developed as an online database uniting unprecedentedly large amounts of medieval and modern evidence for current surnames with over 100 bearers in Britain and Ireland. Alongside this the database provided sophisticated etymological analysis taking proper account of language

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evolution, region of origin and, for immigrant names, country and language of origin. Two research staff and a PhD student (**Parkin**) were recruited; **Parkin** joined the project team proper in the second funded period as a research fellow. The work was intended primarily as a substantial contribution to academic onomastics and the history and dialectology of the English language, but with the expectation that it would also be of major interest to all those interested in the history of the languages of the British Isles and their relation with English. Publication took place in November 2016. Other outputs include conference papers, articles in journals, and a PhD thesis. A concise version of the dictionary for OUP is presently approaching its final form, and interest has been expressed in publishing a second edition including further findings deriving from the second period of AHRC funding (2014-16), in which the techniques of the first period were applied to a larger range of significantly rarer surnames, down to a threshold of 20 bearers.

**Piasecki's** 'Whiskey must be an English Word' was funded by British Academy/ Leverhulme Trust small grants (£10,000). The project's focus was the common observation that bilinguals seem able to operate seamlessly in either of their two languages. An estimated 60-75% of the world's population is bilingual, using their two or more languages daily. The findings of the project suggest that bilingual speakers employ an underlying language discrimination mechanism to select an appropriate language to use in a set context, and that the efficiency of this mechanism is dependent on the bilinguals' proficiency in their less dominant language. The findings of the project are being written up and will be submitted to a high-impact journal as well as disseminated amongst relevant local and national bodies, such as bilingual schools and relevant policy makers.

**Sakel** and Karatsareas (while at UWE) started work on a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship (£130,000) to research how new forms of language emerged among urban ethnolinguistic minorities, focused on Cypriot Greek in London. In this context, they also explored issues of intergenerational transmission and maintenance, attitudes towards non-standard forms of heritage languages as well as issues of heritage language teaching and learning, and public engagement. Following his Postdoctoral Fellowship at UWE, Karatsareas secured a Lecturer position at Westminster University. Based on his Fellowship work, he also subsequently received a British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award (2017) and a British Academy/Leverhulme Trust Small Research Grant (2017).

Former member of staff **Butler** was Principal Investigator on an EU-funded Comenius project 'The Learning and Teaching of Children's Literature', total funding €175,000. This project involved working directly with 27 schools, 127 teachers and 3,000 children in four European countries: United Kingdom, Spain, Iceland, and Turkey. The outputs included data and reports relevant to policy makers and school teachers, including detailed data on the teaching methods and priorities in the countries studied, analysis of children's reading habits and preferences, lesson plans to encourage and share best practice, and materials designed at increasing understanding of different European cultures. Amongst other findings, this research demonstrated large differences between children of different nationalities and socio-economic groups, in terms of the amount and type of literature read, access to reading materials, preferred genres, and the extent to which children wished to read books that reflected their own lives. The research also showed the ways that the methods and culture of children's literature within the school systems of different countries affected these outcomes

The Faculty is committed to increasing externally funded research in the unit and to this end the Faculty's senior research team continues to identify staff whose research has potential for grant capture, providing them with a time allocation and the full support of the University's centralized research support service, Research, Business and Innovation (RBI). This works alongside a process of staff-development, which enables staff with less experience or who have been unsuccessful to develop their awareness of the funding landscape, to build resilience, to cultivate networks, to identify good practice in bidding and thus to take advantage of future rounds of funding.

Throughout this REF cycle, staff across the unit have been supported in their research and impact activity by RBI, which provides support for bidding, forming collaborations to create and



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implement pathways to impact, advice on research ethics and integrity, intellectual property, research data management and public engagement. There has been a particular focus on developing support for impact with a dedicated RBI impact team working alongside academic colleagues to facilitate impact events and activities and gather evidence of impact, under the guidance of a Research Impact Manager and an Impact Evidence and Evaluation Manager. Staff in this team have been closely involved in the impact of the unit as illustrated by our case studies.

As set out in the Institutional Statement, the University is committed to the aims and principles of open research and encourages its research community to explore the benefits of using open practices in their research. Staff are encouraged to explore options for open access publication of research findings and open sharing of data, taking account of the University's open access policy, and those of relevant funders. Staff and doctoral students are offered training on open access principles and practices, including use of an ePrint data archive to preserve and make their data accessible.

#### Section 4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society

##### 1) Impact, Engagement, Collaborations and Partnerships

###### Literary Bristol

Ten years ago, **Mulvey-Roberts** set out to map Bristol's literary heritage by identifying over a hundred writers associated with the city, which included Angela Carter. She highlighted these connections in a keynote lecture she gave at a 'Writing the West' public conference in May 2012. This conference was a collaboration with UWE's Regional History Centre and the Bristol Cultural Development Partnership (BCDP). In turn, the conference became the 2015 collection, *Literary Bristol: Writers and the City* (Redcliffe Press), including essays by **Mulvey-Roberts**, **Brennan**, and **Jarvis**. **Mulvey-Roberts** set out to develop the impact of this research foundation by cementing the connection between Carter and the city for new audiences in curating an art exhibition focusing on Carter at the RWA (2016-17), the centre-piece of her case study, as well as a range of other engagement and impact activities with musicians, artists and public bodies from 2016-2020. This included her 'Angela Carter's 1960s Bristol' Walking Tour, as part of 2020's Being Human Festival, held online due to Covid, with an international audience from across five continents. Again, collaborating with the BCDP and the Festival of Ideas, **Jarvis** organized a 2015 Romantics-themed walking tour of Bristol, which was reprised and extended in 2016 and 2017. **Jarvis** also organized a 2016 symposium at Bristol's Watershed marking the bicentenary of the first publication of Coleridge's 'Kubla Khan'. **Mulvey-Roberts** was also consultant for the exhibition on Constance Lytton, Knebworth House, Hertfordshire, 2015.

###### Critical Literacy

**Alston**'s research into children's literature, which forms the basis for the unit's second case study, has impacted on schools in Bristol and South Wales, changing the way they select and teach their texts while encouraging a more diverse and inclusive curriculum. Her research has also impacted on the educational charity Cumberland Lodge, expanding their work to include literature for the first time. **Alston** acts as an advisor to children's literature publishers Firefly Press and Book Island.

###### Bristol Centre for Linguistics

In 2018, the Bristol Centre for Linguistics' "Sounds Bristolian" Project (**Beeching**) attracted funding to support two engagement activities with local audiences and beneficiaries:

- a) English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for Somali Women, in partnership with the Somali Resource Centre, with £6k funding from the Community University Partnership Initiative (2018/2019). **Selleck** has been contributing to this project, collecting and publishing data on community bilingualism. Further funding was sought with colleagues from Geography to extend the project from the UKRI 'Enhancing place-based partnership fund'.
- b) Talk for Writing, in partnership with Fonthill Primary School and Education colleagues

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(£2,250 from UWE Community Fund). This project examined how the National Curriculum's emphasis on 'standard English' can sit alongside a celebration of local languages, accents, and dialects. Analysis of the findings is ongoing with colleagues from Education.

By drawing on student volunteers, these projects are also exemplary cases of the links that can be forged between research, teaching, and public engagement.

Partnership is integral to the work of BCL as demonstrated in its work with the Wales Institute of Social & Economic Research, Data & Methods, a national research centre, in relation to bilingualism (**Selleck**); with the Bristol Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Research Centre (**Kirjavainen**); and SLT South West Dementia group (**Beeching** and PhD student, Watts). BCL expertise is frequently sought by history groups and the media in relation to place-names (**Coates**).

The BCL hosted the fifth international 'iMean' conference in 2017, with its traditional focus on meaning in social interaction, and with a thematic orientation to language and change. The BCL also held a conference on 'Discourse Markers, Fillers and Filled Pauses: Psycho- and Sociolinguistic Perspectives', in June 2020.

**Charteris-Black** was appointed by the European Commission to advise on language policy in response to the rise of populism, giving talks in 2017 and 2018. **Charteris-Black** has also given talks on metaphor in speechwriting to groups that have included speech writers for Gordon Brown, Alan Johnson, and Theresa May.

**Murphy** gave a talk to Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland CLP 'A Linguistic History of PMQs', with Middlesbrough MPs Tom Blenkinsop and Andy McDonald in attendance (2014); he has also produced two private briefing papers for the All-Party Parliamentary Groups on Haemophilia and Infected Blood; and Learning Disability, both in relation to the initial stages of public inquiries.

**Coates'** FaNUK project was internationally collaborative involving a range of experts in English and other languages, both from the British Isles and the wider world. Experts from Glasgow, Hull, Queen's Belfast and Galway Universities were invited in the setup phase as consultants. Others involved included the Guild of One-Name Studies (a body for professional and amateur genealogists), retired individuals including Dr Carolyn C. Fenwick, and many others on a private basis including individual family historians. Information was also supplied to the project through such diverse bodies as The National Archives and the Church of Latter-Day Saints, and other useful searchable datasets became available to the project through being published online as the project developed. Technical support for, and maintenance of, the database was supplied by Masaryk University, Brno, the world-leading experts in lexicographical databasing, who continue to support it post-project.

### Media Engagement

Researchers from across the unit have featured in the local and national media. **Alston** is frequently interviewed by BBC Radio Wales. **Coates'** is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4 programmes about the history of language (e.g. *Word of Mouth*). The 2017 publication of **Coates'** Family Names project was reported by the BBC, including an interview with Michael Rosen, and widely in the national press including *The Guardian*, who revisited the project in 2020. **Charteris-Black's** work has featured in *The Guardian* in articles on political language (2016) and in *The Metro* (2020). **Mulvey-Roberts** has appeared on Radio 4's *Front Row* (2017) as well as in the BBC series *The Novels that Changed our World* (2019). **Sherwood** has spoken on *Front Row*, BBC Radio Bristol, and BBC Radio Cumbria. **Brennan**, **Ballinger**, and **Mulvey-Roberts** have taken part in several educational videos. **Murphy** appeared on the BBC's *New Creatives* series (2020).

### Other collaborative activities in the unit

**Sherwood** is collaborating on a creative digital media project with Exeter Library's Rare and Early Printed Books Special Collection, known as the Cage. The collection includes over eight hundred

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books, but only eight by women. This project, titled 'Unlocking the Cage: Women in the Rare and Early Printed Books Collection at Exeter Library', seeks to explore the women in and behind the collection. Between 2017 and 2018, **Sherwood** collaborated with Mass Observation Archive on the 'Beyond Boxes' project, which aims to widen participation and access to the archive. She led creative writing seminars in Lewes Prison, a Category B men's prison, with participants aged 18 to 60, devising seminars to feed into a final exhibition of the men's work, which was showcased at The Keep archive centre in Brighton, and at the prison. As a researcher and curator for charity Salaam Shalom in 2016, **Sherwood** undertook research in Bristol Archives, and worked with local community groups in collaboration with the University of Bristol's Know Your Place project, to curate an exhibition on Jewish and Muslim Bristol for the first interfaith festival of its kind in the UK. **Sherwood** also collaborated with Bristol Central Library to organize a successful live event, securing readings from George Szirtes, Shagufta K. Iqbal and other prominent writers.

In addition to **Alston's** work in schools, **Mulvey-Roberts** delivered talks on *Frankenstein* to schoolteachers and high school students at Liceo Fogazzaro, Vicenza, Italy, October 2018. **Robertson** delivered a keynote lecture on poverty and economics in *The Grapes of Wrath* for A' Level students at The Godolphin and Latymer School, London, in March 2020, an event for students across a number of London schools. Robertson also delivered a series of mini-lectures on poverty and economics in *The Grapes of Wrath* for the online school resource *Massolit* (2020).

**Ballinger** has engaged a range of publics with her research on Victorian literature and adaptation. In 2014 and 2015 she spoke to A' Level students in Bristol and city-region schools. In 2019 she contributed to the programme notes for a production of *Nicholas Nickleby* and in 2020 she was one of three panel experts who gave presentations on novel adaptations at "From Page to Screen", Redland Library, Bristol. The evening was organised by the Friends of Redland Library as part of their series of events to benefit the community by enriching their cultural experiences of reading novels.

**Little** has spoken on the relationship between science fiction and linguistics in a number of public fora (Bristol, Hull, Salisbury, Milton Keynes, Newcastle), as well as on BBC Radio 4 (Stranger than Sci Fi. Series 1, Episode 3.). She is also a presenter on the Bristol Community FM radio programme, 'Love and Science', and a regular contributor to the popular linguistics journal, *Babel: The Language Magazine*.

## 2) Contribution to research base, influence, and esteem

### Editorial Work

**Alston** is on the editorial board of *Children's Literature in Education*; **Beeching** was on the editorial board of *Journal of French Language Studies* (2013-18) and is currently editor for the book series *Corpora and Language Use* (Louvain University Press); **Brennan** edited *Women's Writing: Studies in American Fiction*; **Charteris-Black** is on the editorial board for *Metaphor and the Social World*; **Coates** is Chair or the editorial board of *Onoma* (Helsinki), the General Editor of the publications of English Place-Name Society, on the Scientific committee of several journals: *Genealogy* (Beijing and Basel), *Symbolae Europaeae* (Koszalin), *Journal of Literary Onomastics* (SUNY, Brockport, NY), *Namenkundliche Informationen* (Zurich), *Onomastica Uralica* (Debrecen), *Acta Onomastica* (Prague), *il Nome nel testo* (Pisa), *Onomastica. Anuari de la Societat d'Onomastica* (Barcelona), *Nomina Africana* (Durban), *Nouvelle revue d'onomastique* (Lyon); **Davis** is co-editor of *the George Eliot Review* (2013-present); **Mulvey-Roberts** is founding editor of *Women's Writing*, a leading quarterly international journal on women writers before 1918. *Women's Writing* has the highest journal rankings, including the highest European Science Foundation classification (INTI) for "international publications with high visibility and influence among researchers in the various research domains in different countries, regularly cited all over the world". By collaborating with her editorial team in North America and the UK, **Mulvey-Roberts** has published the work of over 1,000 scholars world-wide, many of whom are leading scholars in the field. Additionally, **Mulvey-Roberts** is on the editorial board for *Gothic Originals* book series for University of Wales Press; *Anthem Studies in Gothic Literature*; for book series on literature and the body, Edinburgh University Press, 2019; member of the editorial board of *Gothic Studies*;

member of the editorial board of *Dissections*; **Rogers** is Co-Editor (English) for the *MHRA*.

### Peer Reviewing

Supporting the research base, staff in the unit review papers and manuscripts for a huge range of journals and publishers: **Alston**: *Children's Literature in Education*; **Beeching**: *Journal of French Language Studies*, *Journal of Pragmatics*, *Corpus Pragmatics*, *Journal of Historical Pragmatics*, *Journal of Politeness Research*, Cambridge University Press, Palgrave; **Charteris-Black**: *Metaphor and the Social World*, *Metaphor and Symbol*, *Applied Linguistics*, *System*, *English for Specific Purposes*, *Sociology of Health and Illness*, *The Linguistic Society of Australia*, *Journal of International Relations and Development*, *Language and Politics*; **Davis**: *Review of English Studies*, *Victorian Institute Journal*, *Journal of the History of Ideas*; **Greenham**: *Journal of American Studies*, *French Review of American Studies*, *Nineteenth Century Contexts*, *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, *Papers on Language and Literature*, *ESQ and Journal of American Literature and Culture*, Bloomsbury; **Jarvis**: *European Romantic Review*, *The Review of English*, *Studies in Travel Writing*; **Kirjavainen**: *Applied Psycholinguistic*, *Cognitive Linguistics*, *Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic theory*, *First Language*, *Journal of Child Language*, Georgetown University Press; **Mulvey-Roberts**: *Christianity and Literature*, *Contemporary Women's Writing*, *Gothic Studies*, *Irish Journal of Gothic and Horror Studies*, *Pacific Coast Philology*, *Studies in the Novel*, *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, Macmillan, Manchester University Press, Palgrave, Routledge; **Murphy**: *Journal of Language and Politics*, *Pragmatics & Society*, *Journal of Pragmatics*, *Language in Society*, *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*, *Parliamentary Affairs*, *Discourse Studies*, *Discourse and Society*, *Journal of Politeness Research*; **Robertson**: *Anglo-Saxonica*, *MLR*, *Exclamation*, *English Language Notes*, *Mississippi Quarterly*, *Journal of Narrative Theory*, University of Edinburgh Press; **Rogers**: *Critical Review*, *English*, and the *Journal of British and Irish Innovative Poetry*.

Staff also review research projects and funding proposals. **Beeching** reviews for the Research Council of Canada and the Belgian Research Council. **Charteris-Black** is external reviewer for the Hong Kong Research Council; **Coates** reviews for British Academy/Leverhulme Trust, ESRC, AHRC, and national science foundations of Switzerland and Georgia; **Jarvis** was a member of AHRC Peer Review College, 2008-2016, and reviews for Leverhulme Trust.

### Keynotes and other Invited Talks

Staff in the unit have given over 30 keynotes and invited talks during the REF period, including universities in the UK (**Ballinger**, Bath, **Beeching** Lancaster, **Boccardi**, London and Portsmouth, **Coates**, Glasgow, Wolverhampton and Sheffield, **Charteris-Black**, Birmingham and Manchester, **Little**, Edinburgh, **Mulvey-Roberts**, Manchester Metropolitan, **Murphy** Manchester), across Europe - France (**Beeching**, Lorraine, **Charteris-Black**, Lyon), Germany (**Beeching**, Tübingen, **Coates**, Regensburg, **Charteris-Black**, Berlin), Italy (**Beeching**, Como and Bergamo, **Charteris-Black**, Turin and Genoa, **Mulvey-Roberts**, Venice), Russia (**Coates**, Moscow), Portugal (**Greenham**, Lisbon, **Mulvey-Roberts**, Lisbon), Norway (**Charteris-Black**, Oslo), Netherlands (**Little**, Nijmegen), North America (**Mulvey-Roberts**, Ottawa, Canada), and Japan (**Kirjavainen**, Hyogo)

### Scholarly Associations

**Jarvis** is a life member of the British Association of Romantics. **Greenham** served on the advisory board and as conference chair for the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society (2013-2019). **Little** is on the Board of Directors, Open Rights Group; the Scientific Committee of Evolution of Language (EvoLang) International Conferences; and a Board Member (PR Officer), International Association of Cognitive Semiotics (IACS). **Coates** has been Vice-President, International Council of Onomastic Sciences (2011-17); Hon. Director, Survey of English Place-Names (2002-19), subsequently President of the Society; and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (1992-date).

### Prizes and Awards

**Sherwood's** debut novel *Testament* (Riverrun, 2018) won The Bath Novel Award, an international prize for the best unpublished manuscript, in 2016, before being published in the UK

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and Commonwealth as the 'lead' literary debut from Riverrun in 2018, as well as being chosen as the Hachette International Pick. Following publication, *Testament* was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize, shortlisted for the Authors' Club Best First Novel Award, won the *Harper's Bazaar* Big Book of 2019. In 2019, **Sherwood** was shortlisted for the *Sunday Times* Young Writer of the Year Award.

**Mulvey Roberts** was winner of the Allan Lloyd Smith Memorial Prize 2017 for *Dangerous Bodies: Historicising the Gothic Corporeal* (2016); and was nominated and shortlisted for the Allan Lloyd Smith Memorial Prize 2019 for an edited collection of essays for *Global Frankenstein*, co-ed. Carol Margaret Davis.