

Institution Lancaster University
Unit of assessment: UoA 27 English Language and Literature
<p>1. Unit Context and Structure, Research and Impact strategy</p> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>i. Context</p> <p>This Unit of Assessment (UoA) is a vibrant community of critical and creative writers who produce world-leading research across a wide spectrum of fields. It comprises 32.41 FTE staff in two main disciplines: English Literature (EL) and Creative Writing (CW). In REF 2014, we returned with Linguistics and English Language (LaEL) but we now seek to capitalise upon our growing research critical mass by submitting to REF 2021 as a UoA in our own right.</p> <p>We have a long track record of research excellence but, in the REF 2021 census period, the UoA has also generated a distinctive, innovative and interdisciplinary research culture in such fields as Creative-critical writing, Digital humanities and Literature, science and medicine. In addition, we have collaborated with a range of stakeholders (including the Ministry of Defence (MoD); the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA); Minecraft.edu; the British Library; the Royal Institution of Great Britain; Blockworks; the <i>London Review of Books</i>; and the Wordsworth Trust), ensuring that impact is not only built into our research from the outset but that research is effectively co-created with non-academic partners.</p> <p>In the REF census period, the UoA's growing research status is evidenced by outstanding productivity according to every metric: 62 monographs and books published (an average of 1.9 per FTE staff member); 45 successful external awards generating a total income of £1,328,740; and 78 postgraduate research students (PGRs) successfully completing their degrees. This exceptional performance is reflected in a significant improvement to our position in league tables: the UoA rose from 16th to 8th place (<i>Times/Sunday Times</i>, 2020) and 13th to 8th place for EL (<i>Complete University Guide</i>, 2020) and from 6th to 1st place (<i>Times/Sunday Times</i> 2020-1) and 4th to 1st place (<i>Complete University Guide</i>) for CW (2020-1).</p> <p>ii. Research Structure of UoA</p> <p>In our UoA, research is conducted across the historical range of the discipline from Medieval literature to 21st-Century literature, culture and film. It also takes place within dedicated research centres and programmes like the Shakespeare Programme and the Wordsworth Centre. To build upon this strong historical foundation, the UoA has also strategically prioritised 8 trans-historical and interdisciplinary research clusters. In addition to 4 existing clusters, which reflect longstanding areas of strength, we created 4 new clusters during the census period via strategic appointments in the context of growing national and international networks, planning for grant capture and embedding our impact and engagement strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature, space and place (BAINBRIDGE, BUSHELL, CARRUTHERS, EGAN, FARLEY, FINDLAY, HINDS, OAKLEY-BROWN, PEARCE, SHARPE). This cluster (formed in 2004) explores the relationship between literature and location from the medieval period to the present. It includes research on literary mapping, literary tourism and mobilities and brings literary studies into dialogue with human geography, migration studies and environmental criticism. In the census period, the cluster was strengthened by the strategic appointment of EGAN and includes outcomes such as BUSHELL'S AHRC-funded 'Chronotopic Cartographies' project (£607,962);

BAINBRIDGE's *Romanticism and Mountaineering* (OUP, 2020); and Pearce's *Drivetime* (EUP, 2016).

- **Transcultural writing** (C. BAKER, DICKINSON, GRASS, HAYER, LAMBERT, MOORE, MORT, O'DONOGHUE, SPIERS, PEARCE). This research centre (founded in 2007) promotes creative writing from a range of national and postcolonial contexts. It encompasses research-as-practice, action-research projects and explores the interrelationship between writing and social change. In the census period, this centre was enhanced by the strategic appointments of DICKINSON and O'DONOGHUE and outcomes include the centre's conference *Writing for Liberty*, hosted in Lancaster (2015), Cape Town (2017) and Buenos Aires (2019); DICKINSON's *Romanticism and Aesthetic Life in Postcolonial Writing* (Palgrave, 2018); and MOORE's *Narrating Postcolonial Arab Nations* (Routledge, 2017).
- **Gothic and science fiction** (ASHWORTH, B. BAKER, ELLIOTT, HAYER, SPOONER, WASSON). This cluster (formed in 2006) capitalises on the UoA's strengths in the Gothic, SF and related genres. It is distinctive in its focus on the multi-media and transhistorical contexts of the Gothic and other popular forms: film, television, fashion and art. In the census period, this cluster was augmented by the strategic appointment of WASSON and publications including HAYER's play *North Country* (Bloomsbury Methuen, 2016); and SPOONER's *Post-Millennial Gothic* (Bloomsbury, 2017), which was awarded the Allan Lloyd Smith Prize by the International Gothic Association in 2019.
- **Literature and religion** (ASHWORTH, CARRUTHERS, EAGLETON, FINDLAY, HANLEY, HINDS, KNIGHT, MOORE, SCHAD, TATE). This cluster (formed in 2003) builds on the UoA's expertise in literature and religion from the early modern period to modernity. It includes researchers working on Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Mormonism and Quakerism. In the census period, this cluster was enhanced by the strategic appointment of KNIGHT and outcomes include a Leverhulme Visiting Professorship award (£48,039) for Colin Jager (Rutgers); KNIGHT's editorship of *Literature and Theology* (OUP); and publications such as EAGLETON's *Radical Sacrifice* (Yale, 2018); KNIGHT's *Good Words* (Ohio State UP, 2019); and TATE's *Apocalyptic Fiction* (Bloomsbury, 2017).
- **Creative-critical writing** (ASHWORTH, B. BAKER, CARRUTHERS, FARLEY, GRASS, MULDOON, PEETERS, SCHAD, SPIERS). This new cluster reflects the UoA's strengths in one of the most innovative fields within contemporary literary studies. Its researchers bring together critical theory, practice-based research and new media to generate new experimental forms of writing. In the census period, this cluster was strengthened by the strategic appointment of PEETERS and outputs including GRASS's AHRC-funded project 'Translation as Creative Critical Practice'; (£4,589); SCHAD's coedited book series *Beyond Criticism* (Bloomsbury/Boiler House); the journal *LUNE* (co-edited by ASHWORTH); ASHWORTH'S *Notes Made While Falling* (Goldsmiths, 2019); and PEETERS' graphic fiction *Samaris (Obscure Cities)* (IDW, 2017).
- **Digital humanities** (ASHWORTH, B. BAKER, BUSHHELL, EGAN, FARLEY, FINDLAY, RUSTON, WASSON). This new cluster explores the field of digital literary studies. It includes staff working on digital mapping, crowdsourced online critical editions of manuscripts and new media forms such as online flash fictions. In the census period, this cluster was enhanced by the strategic appointment of EGAN and outcomes such as RUSTON's AHRC-funded crowdsourced edition of the Notebooks of Davy (£78,758); FARLEY's 'The Places of Poetry' (see 1.b below); and ASHWORTH and B. BAKER's open access digital project [The Barrow Rapture](#).
- **Literature, science and medicine** (B. BAKER, GREANEY, HAYER, HINDS, LAMBERT, OAKLEY-BROWN, RUSTON, WASSON). This newly formed cluster features researchers who specialise in the medical and scientific humanities. It contains research from the Romantic period to the present and investigates creative responses to pain, ill-health, and trauma, skin studies and sleep studies. In the census period, the cluster was boosted by the strategic appointment of WASSON and outcomes including

RUSTON's AHRC Leadership Fellowship on the Letters of Davy (£191,050); WASSON and RUSTON's AHRC Research Network on 'Translating Chronic Pain' (£30,218); GREANEY's Wellcome Trust-funded *Sleep Values* symposium (£4,506) and *Being Human* Festival-funded *After Dark* events; and HINDS' *A Cultural History of Twin Beds* (Bloomsbury 2019, and Wellcome-funded open access, reviewed and featured in *The Guardian* and *The Atlantic*).

- **Literature, the arts, media, and performance** (ASHWORTH, CORBETT, B. BAKER, GRASS, EGAN, ELLIOTT, HAYER, LAMBERT, MULDOON, PEETERS, SPIERS, TATE, WALLS). This new cluster brings together researchers working on literature in relation to the arts, media, or performance as practitioners, or scholars, or both. It explores literature in performance from the medieval period to the present including plays, film, new media, social media, graphic fiction and video games. In the census period, this cluster was boosted by the strategic appointments of HAYER, MULDOON, PEETERS and SPIERS and outputs including ELLIOTT's *Theorizing Adaptation/ Adapting Theorization* (OUP, 2020); SPIERS's *Pop-Feminist Narratives* (OUP, 2018); and MULDOON's *One Thousand Things Worth Knowing* (Faber, 2015, reviewed and featured in *The Guardian*, *Telegraph* and *New York Times*).

The UoA and its research clusters are nested within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), which has a strong interdisciplinary research culture. In particular, UoA staff participate fully in, and are supported by, FASS and University level research **centres** and **institutes**:

- **[Centre for Mobilities Research \(CeMoRe\)](#)**. PEARCE has been Director (Humanities) of this University Centre since 2015. She has organised international conferences, symposia and seminars on mobilities (in which BAINBRIDGE, BUSHELL and CARRUTHERS also participated) and hosted visiting fellows from New Zealand, Brazil and South Korea. In 2016, she was CI on the AHRC award 'Mobile Utopia' (£15,000).
- **[Institute of Social Futures \(ISF\)](#)**. SPIERS is Associate Director of the ISF and is also part of this University Institute's core management group. BUSHELL and TATE have been annual ISF Fellows, participating in its activities as enabled by 20% teaching buyouts; GRASS's AHRC/MEITS funded project 'Translation as Creative Critical Practice' (2019) is an ISF-based project; and PEARCE was CI on the ISF-led AHRC project, 'Mobile Utopia' (2016).
- **[Ruskin Library, Museum and Research Centre \(Ruskin\)](#)**. EAGLETON delivered a public lecture at this University Research Centre (2018); BRADLEY organised an international symposium entitled *Futures of Sacrifice* (2018); GRASS organised the events *On Translating Music and Philosophy* and *Literature, Politics, and the New Media* with the novelist Noémi Lefebvre (2019); and SPOONER and TATE organised a seminar 'Ruskin vs. Steampunk' (2019).

b. Research & Impact Strategy

In line with the University's Research Strategy for 2020, the UoA's overall strategy is to boost its global profile by appointing, developing and retaining high-quality staff in our research areas; producing world-leading research and impact that changes thought and practice; and attracting and recruiting high-quality postgraduate students.

i. To implement this overall objective, we have fulfilled our REF 2014 Research and Impact Strategy in the following ways:

- **Invested in staff and infrastructure.** A series of strategic staff appointments have enhanced our global profile: MULDOON, described by the *TLS* as 'the most significant English-language poet born since the Second World War', was appointed as Distinguished Visiting Professor, and PEETERS, a graphic novelist and biographer, was appointed as the first ever Professor of Graphic Fiction and Comic Art in the UK – a position partly funded by The Lakes International Comic Art Festival. In the census period, the appointments of DICKINSON, EGAN, HAYER, KNIGHT, O'DONOGHUE,

SPIERS and WASSON (documented above) have also extended expertise in our research clusters.

- **Maximised critical mass through internal synergies between research clusters.** To enhance critical mass, the UoA engaged in a series of cross-cluster activities including lectures, readings and workshops by MULDOON, PEETERS and EAGLETON as well as public events with the philosopher Roberto Esposito (2015), musician P.J. Harvey (2017) and former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams (2020). In addition, the UoA hosted a series of major conferences, which attracted cross-cluster participation and boosted synergies: *Writing and Liberty* (2015), *Early Modern Experiences of Trust and Risk* (2017) and *Futures of Sacrifice* (2018).
- **Reached out to other disciplines, sharing and deepening knowledge.** We have collaborated with colleagues in other UoAs as well as with FASS and University research centres on a series of flagship externally funded projects. PEARCE organised the conference 'Mobile Utopia' (2017, 300 attendees) and the inaugural conference of Konkuk's Academy of Mobility Humanities (2019). BUSHELL worked with History and the University's Regional Heritage Centre on the Leverhulme-funded project 'Geospatial Innovation in the Digital Humanities'. She then led her own mapping project on imaginary place and space within EL (the AHRC 'Chronotopic Cartographies' project, 2017-20) for which colleagues in History were Co-Investigators (CIs). FINDLAY collaborated with LaEL on an AHRC-funded project 'Encyclopaedia of Shakespeare's Language'. In 2019, she and the team presented their findings at a public symposium and FINDLAY appeared on BBC Radio 3's 'New Thinking' series (2019).
- **Developed and enlarged international connections and networks.** For our UoA, the expansion of our international research networks across our strategic clusters is a key priority. MORT and MOORE's leadership of the Centre for **Transcultural Writing** generated new research and impact networks in Europe, Africa and the Middle East including non-HEI partners like FEMRITE Women's Writers Association (Uganda). BAINBRIDGE, BUSHELL, EGAN and OAKLEY-BROWN are collaborating with our strategic partner institution Lausanne on projects on both early modern subjectivity and Romantic literature and place. KNIGHT was Co-Director of two National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Faculty Seminars on **Literature and religion** at Iowa. FINDLAY also participated in the 'Trust and Risk in Literature' network comprising members from Aarhus, UC Irvine and Tokyo.
- **Developed innovative research that addresses contemporary issues.** The UoA has positioned itself at the forefront of innovative research methods and ideas. BUSHELL et al have become leaders in **Digital humanities** and SCHAD et al. are pioneers in **Creative-critical writing**. We have also pursued research into contemporary social issues with public policy dimensions: mental and physical illness (ASHWORTH, LAMBERT, WASSON); transport, mobility and migration flows (PEARCE); social care (LAMBERT); public housing and social planning (SCHAD); energy production (HAYER); public knowledge of science (BUSHELL, RUSTON); and environmental crises (DICKINSON, SPIERS).
- **Embedded research within communities and worked with non-HEI institutions.** This UoA works with non-HEI institutions, communities and stakeholders at every stage of our projects from planning to delivery. Examples of the range of our activities from the local to the international level include LAMBERT's 'What's Your Story' project, supported by Family Action and Carers Trust 4, in which she worked with the publisher 'Writing on the Wall' to produce an anthology of young carers' creative writing which was launched at The Contact Theatre and featured on BBC Radio Manchester in 2015. Nationally, WASSON (PI) and RUSTON's AHRC-funded 'Translating Chronic Pain' research network engaged extensively with communities of people living with pain, as well as national charities including the umbrella UK pain charity, Pain UK, with a focus on shaping government policy. By offering user groups the forum to create their own fictions, the project not only transformed such groups into active research communities in their own right but raised national and international awareness of the complexities of pain. C. BAKER's international collaborations around albinism include: work with the

UN Human Rights Council and the Witchcraft and Human Rights Information Network towards a UN Resolution stemming from her Wellcome Trust-funded 'Albinism in Africa' project; her work with Standing Voice (NGO) underpinning an information booklet on Albinism for teachers in Tanzania; and her collaborative AHRC-funded Disability and Inclusion Africa research project with academic and non-academic partners in Nigeria, Cameroon, Tanzania and South Africa. SPIERS leads an ongoing collaboration (2017-) with the MoD's Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL), bringing together academics and creative writers with defence personnel and scientists for co-designed workshops on topics such as 'Living in a Post-Antibiotic World', and producing a collection of speculative fictions to help the DSTL imagine the social and cultural implications of their future-thinking. In the words of John Carney, Senior Principal Scientist at DSTL, this project 'provided the basis of some great vignettes for our Futures Research Programme' and a 'Military colleague (a Lt Col)' also commented that the event was 'exceptionally useful'.

In summary, a key feature of our research and impact strategy is to combine our research excellence with the expertise of non-HEI partners including charities, museums, libraries, schools, commercial companies, NGOs, heritage sites, theatres and community groups. To produce further pathways to impact, we co-create research outputs with our partners that are of value both within and beyond the academy in forms such as publications, exhibitions, performances and educational tools. Our Impact Case Studies (ICSs) are also underpinned by partnerships with organisations such as The Wordsworth Trust, The British Library, Penshurst Place, the BBC and Minecraft. The ICSs also highlight our commitment to sharing the outcomes of our research with the wider public via Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs): we have created three such free online courses which have run several times, directly sharing our research with over 28,000 members of the public internationally. In addition, non-HEI partnerships have been crucial to reaching the desired end-users of our research, particularly when creating educational tools: BUSHELL'S Litcraft project for enhancing literacy and reading for pleasure among a range of beneficiaries was made possible by a roll-out to local and regional schools and libraries in Devon, Lancashire, London, Somerset and Yorkshire. Finally, our commitment to making our research as available as possible is exemplified by our use of wide-ranging media channels to promote it (see 4.c below).

ii. Plans for Future Research 2021-26

In order to fulfil our Research & Impact Strategy (see 1.b above), we are building on our REF 2014 Research Strategy and the University's Research Strategy for 2020 by putting in place a new set of strategic objectives for the next REF cycle. It should be stressed that we have carefully considered the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on our future strategy and we are confident our aims are achievable. We will:

- **Develop, recruit and retain world-leading researchers.** We will seek to develop and retain existing researchers as well as recruiting new staff to fulfil the University's Research Strategy of becoming a global leader. Our UoA already has a strong track record of developing research leaders, as 4 promotions to Senior Lecturer, 2 promotions to Reader and 5 promotions to Professor, including 2 to Band 2 Professor, in the census period testify. To turn to potential new recruitment, the UoA will seek to capitalise upon our recruitment in the previous cycle (9 new or replacement appointments including 2 at professorial level) by making strategic appointments that enhance our research **clusters**. Future areas of growth that require investment include graphic media and scriptwriting (**Literature, the arts, media and performance**) and world literature (**Transcultural writing**). In the next census period, it is envisaged that the UoA's reputation for research excellence (evidenced by league table positions, REF and Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) performance and external grant capture) will be one key source for future recruitment both in the form of new and replacement appointments.
- **Prioritise research that changes practice and thinking.** To capitalise upon our position as an innovator in EL and CW, we will continue to address the University's

2020 strategy by undertaking research ‘that changes practice and thinking’. BUSHELL’s pioneering work on literary mapping creates digital tools for mapping textual places with wide application across the humanities and social sciences. It forms one key strand of a new cross-disciplinary Digital Hub in FASS, and BUSHELL’s ISF fellowship will forge connections between the ISF and the Hub going forward. After the success of her pilot project on Davy’s Notebooks, RUSTON is now seeking major AHRC funding to crowdsource transcriptions of the remaining notebooks via Zooniverse from 2021, and will publish the transcriptions, produced by the participants themselves, on an open access website. This publication will enhance public knowledge of the work of a leading British scientist as well as public understanding of science more broadly. RUSTON is also CI on a new £990,273 Wellcome Trust bid on assisted reproductive technologies, ‘Future of Human Reproduction’. For KNIGHT et al, the UoA’s expertise in **Literature and religion** (evidenced by monographs, the annual Priory Lecture, international visitors and impact work with local churches) will be extended by HINDS’ AHRC application for a project on Quakerism (c.£570,000) and the launch of a new centre:

literatureandreligion@lancaster. By submitting an AHRC Leadership bid on the therapeutic value of literature in the care of patients with chronic pain, WASSON will extend her research in in **Literature, science and medicine**. The work of DICKINSON on **Literature, space and place** will be enhanced by an application for an AHRC Early Career Leadership Fellowship with one key outcome being the establishment of an Environmentalities hub in collaboration with the Ruskin and the Lancaster Environment Centre. In the work of ASHWORTH et al, the UoA has established itself as a world leader in **Creative-critical writing**: ASHWORTH will continue to co-edit the critical-creative journal *LUNE* and SCHAD will host a series of free public events featuring MULDOON and others and launch a research hub called postcriticism@lancaster.

- **Consolidate and extend national and international research collaborations.** In the next REF period, we will further extend our international collaborations. For example, PEARCE’s leadership in mobility studies has resulted in the establishment of two new funded research centres at Padua and Konkuk: a Memorandum of Understanding has been developed between Lancaster, Padua and Konkuk, which describes a 5-year collaboration with our UoA. MORT has been appointed to an Extraordinary Chair at the Western Cape, where he will participate in a 3-year Mellon Foundation-funded research project ‘Rethinking South African Literatures’. In addition, SCHAD will work with our incoming Marie Curie Fellow, writer-scholar Elina Mikkila, to host an international and multi-lingual video conference and establish an international research network in Creative-critical writing.
- **Extend and enhance research impact and engagement by working with user communities and non-HEI institutions.** Finally, the UoA will build upon its existing impact on non-HEI users, beneficiaries and stakeholders. Impact remains a key priority for our ongoing projects: for example, C. BAKER’s AHRC-funded [‘Disability and Inclusion Africa Network’](#) draws on international dialogue at events in Nigeria, Cameroon, Tanzania, South Africa and the UK. By using collaborative research, fieldwork, and community engagement, this project creates a step-change in the way disability is understood by communities, civil society, international development and the academy. We will continue to co-design our research with educational and commercial partners. BUSHELL is developing impactful outcomes on her ‘Chronotopic Cartographies’ and ‘Litcraft’ projects, submitting a £1million bid to the EHRC for a project entitled ‘Re-engaging Reluctant Readers in a Digital Age’ and collaborating with non-HEI partners such as the National Literacy Trust and Minecraft.edu to enhance literacy and reading pleasure amongst ‘reluctant readers’ in schools, libraries and the general public. An AHRC follow-on bid is in progress to work with commercial partners Blockworks on a major Sherlock Holmes project. We will also ensure that our research benefits as wide a range of educational organisations as possible. ELLIOTT has a Lancaster University Widening Participation Grant to support the UoA’s creation of research-based resources for teachers of Years 9-13 and she has been mentoring

postgraduates and postdocs to help them create and utilise these resources. Our research will also continue to inform government and policy-making bodies: SPIERS is participating in DEFRA's Futures Advisory Group (2020-) to help it develop its post-Covid-19 strategy. She will continue her creative futures work with the MoD's Development Concepts and Doctrine Centre (DCDC) by contributing to its Global Strategic Trends events. The UoA will further develop its research-based partnerships with cultural and heritage sector organisations. Our formal Strategic Partnership with the Wordsworth Trust is ongoing and BAINBRIDGE, as a Trustee, will work with the Trust on its post-Covid-19 strategy, creating a series of online events with its curator, Jeff Cowton, and designing a research project to examine the future of the literary museum in the post-Covid age. Having played a major role in the celebrations of Wordsworth 250, BAINBRIDGE, BUSHELL, CORBETT, RUSTON are now working with the Trust on the 250th anniversary of Dorothy Wordsworth's birth in 2021 and will again reach a wide range of publics through collaborative research with several partners (including the BBC, National Trust, Lake District National Park Authority). In the local community, we will consolidate and extend our partnerships with a range of user groups including the Lancaster Litfest Literary Festival (HAYER, SCHAD), the Kendal Comic Festival (TATE, PEETERS) and Kendal Mountain Festival (BAINBRIDGE), for which Lancaster University became the Academic Partner in 2019.

This research strategy will be reviewed and updated in the light of annual Performance and Development Reviews (PDRs) for all our staff members. In measuring the success of this strategy, we will utilise key performance indicators such as peer review, future REF and KEF exercises, external benchmarks and comparators of research quality as well as quantitative and qualitative data on PGR recruitment, research outputs, grant capture and engagement.

iii. Research systems, structures and sustainability

In the UoA, and across the Faculty and University more widely, rigorous structures are in place to enable, maximise and sustain research:

- **Sustaining individual research.** A dedicated Research and Impact Committee (RIC) chaired by the Director of Research (DoR) and including representatives from each major research area, colleagues at every career stage and a 50:50 gender balance, meets termly to develop and implement research strategy. The DoR undertakes 1:1 meetings with all staff at key moments in the census period and the longer-term research cycle to advise on research, bids, and publication plans. In addition to the University's annual PDR scheme, the UoA has instituted a formal system of research mentorship that is available to all staff. Individual research performance is monitored at Departmental level by the DoR and Head of Department (HoD) and at Faculty level by the Dean and Associate Dean for Research, and systems are in place to approve sabbaticals and to monitor the attainment of research targets.
- **Sustaining collaborative research.** To cross-fertilise research, the UoA funds annual research days, workshops and visiting academic and non-academic speakers in areas of strategic priority. We have a unique partnership with the *London Review of Books* (wholly funded by the latter) where, each year, *LRB* journalist Chris Tayler visits Lancaster to deliver seminars and tutorials. We host events with distinguished guests including the philosopher Elettra Stimilli (2019), the literary critic Peter Boxall (2018) and Leverhulme-funded Visiting Professor of **Literature and religion**, Colin Jager (2018). In addition, the RIC plays an instrumental role in sustaining a collaborative research culture by co-ordinating grant bids and other research activities.
- **Sustaining research integrity and research ethics.** For our UoA, research ethics is a priority and a rigorous system is in place to approve and monitor ethical research. We follow the ethical standards set out in Lancaster University's Code of Practice, and ethical guidelines specified by the research councils (UKRI), other funding bodies and subject-specific professional organisations. We also implement procedures via an Ethics Officer who is a standing member of the FASS and Lancaster University Management School Research Ethics Committee (REC). To ensure all new research

meets required ethical standards, the Ethics Officer (i) mentors students and colleagues when preparing their research ethics applications; (ii) represents applications submitted to REC; and (iii) provides feedback on REC decisions. While all research applications within the UoA are reviewed by one or more members of the Committee, more complex cases are reviewed by the full REC. In all cases, research must be approved before it can commence.

- **Sustaining open access to research.** The UoA is fully committed to Open Access (OA) research. The University subscribes to Research England's policy on OA. It makes all journal articles and conference proceedings OA available in its institutional repository Pure within 3 months of acceptance for publication. Additionally, the Library supports the Knowledge Unlatched initiative and is playing a key role in preparing policies and infrastructure in anticipation of Plan S by contributing to the UKRI open access review. For RUSTON's AHRC-funded project on Davy, hi-res images of 612 pages of Davy's notebooks are publicly [available online](#). This project is the pilot for her new AHRC Research Grant grant, which uses Lancaster's Digital Library to host 9364 pages of Davy's notebooks, currently held at the Royal Institution. In addition to depositing outputs in the institutional repository PURE, research staff publicise their work in commercial repositories like academia.edu and ResearchGate.
- **Sustaining research through Faculty and University support.** Finally, the University's Research Support Office (RSO) supports staff in capturing research funding at every stage of the cycle from planning to post-award by advising on appropriate funding schemes; supporting the grant-writing process; organising training workshops; and managing the post-award process. The Library's Research Data Management service ensures that data is managed throughout the lifecycle of a project including preserving and making it accessible in the longer term. For impact and engagement activities, the UoA is supported by an Impact Development Manager; Impact Support Officer; Business and Partnership Manager; and Engagement and Partnership Manager. SPOONER participated in the ESRC Impact Acceleration Account-funded Bright Club, a workshop training academics to use stand-up comedy to communicate their research, leading to a live performance to a paying audience at the Borough Pub (Lancaster). In addition, individual staff can apply to FASS research funds to support research projects, impact and research internationalisation (see 3.b below for details).

In this integrated system of policies and procedures, staff research performance is not only supported across the life of a research package from planning to completion, but across the entirety of the researcher's career from the short-term perspective of a REF cycle to longer-term developmental goals.

2. People

a. Staff Profile

In 2020, the UoA has 39 Category A staff employed on indefinite contracts. It also has a mix of long-serving members of staff (15 or more years) and a number of recent and new members, often appointed at Lancaster to their first indefinite position. See Figure 1 below for a breakdown of the age profile of staff on research and teaching contracts:

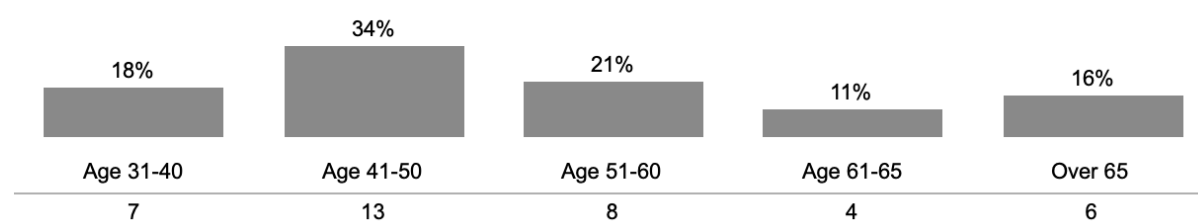


Figure 1: Staff Age Profile

In terms of gender profile, the UoA is also evenly balanced and we have a mix of staff who originate from the UK, from the EU and Overseas (see 2.e below). We also benefit from a large number of international Visiting Scholars (see 2.e below).

b. Staffing Strategy

To fulfil its Research & Impact Strategy (see 1.b above), and in line with Lancaster's Institutional Environment Statement, the UoA seeks to attract, recruit, develop and retain world-leading researchers by making appointments at every level that consolidate existing areas of strength and increase the critical mass of our strategic priority clusters. In order to implement this strategy during the census period, we have made senior appointments such as MULDOON as well as new and replacement appointments at both early and mid-career levels (including SPIERS and WASSON as research-focused University Anniversary Lecturers) in such fields as medieval literature, writing for the stage and new media.

c. Staff Development

In order to support and sustain the development of individual researchers across their entire career, we have put in place a suite of interlocking policies:

- Individual staff support.** A standardised workload model ensures that individual workloads are fair and transparent. To support research, all permanent staff receive an annual personal research allowance of £1,000 (pro rata for staff on fractional contracts) and can apply for additional support from our Research and Development (R and D) budget. All staff are contractually entitled, under University regulations, to apply for regular periods of research leave and researchers are also eligible to apply, on a competitive basis, for additional leave to prepare major grant applications. The annual PDR gives staff support on career progression including research development. In addition, the UoA encourages staff to attend University career progression events, such as the regular 'Making Professor' workshops, which offer support on promotion for staff at every career stage.

- **Specific support for early career researchers (ECRs).** To support the developmental needs of ECRs, we give them 25% workload reductions while on probation (in line with Faculty and University policy). We also dedicate funds from our R and D budget to support seedcorn activities, which are commonly required by ECR appointments. The UoA appoints a research and impact mentor for all ECRs and new appointments to support their developmental needs. This system of research mentoring was extended in 2019 to all staff. Finally, the HoD holds regular review meetings with new staff as part of the University's Human Resources (HR) policy on probation.
- **Faculty support for staff.** The UoA also encourages all permanent staff to apply for research funds from FASS and we have been awarded a total of £60,348 over the census period. To develop research networks in Uganda, MORT secured a £5,000 Faculty kickstart grant (2017). In many cases, internal funding has underpinned successful external funding bids: BUSHELL's £607,962 AHRC project 'Chronotopic Cartographies' was first supported by a FASS award of £1,000. RUSTON also received a FASS Impact award (£931) to further impact-related activity alongside her successful AHRC Leadership Fellowship (£191,050) grant on the letters of Humphry Davy.

In the period 2014-2019, our success in nurturing research careers is indicated by 30 academic promotions at all levels as well as significant internal grant capture to enable staff to complete major externally funded research projects.

d. Research Students

i. Integration into UoA

In order to integrate our RSs, we have policies in place from Departmental to University level. First, all RSs are given opportunities for training both in the UoA (by taking a compulsory research methodologies course and auditing relevant undergraduate or MA courses) and in the Faculty (by taking skills modules from the Research Training Programme (RTP) such as Critical Theory for Postgraduate Research). All PhD supervision is monitored and documented through both written records and a virtual portal (ELCW Supervisor Meetings), which permits the Director of Graduate Studies (DoGS) to maintain an overview of progress. In the census period, 78 RSs successfully completed PhDs (out of 86 registered) and research degrees awarded rose from 11 in 2013/14 to 19 in 2019/20.

To give them experience and training, RSs participate in, and organise, a range of activities and events, including presenting papers at Departmental seminars. They participate in individual consultations, seminars and workshops with EAGLETON, MULDOON and PEETERS, as well as writing tutorials with Chris Tayler from the LRB. Students are encouraged to attend events organised by staff and are given the resources to lead research activities of their own, like study days in **Transcultural writing**. In the case of Distance Learning students, dedicated virtual learning environments enable an equivalent level of participation to that enjoyed by campus-based students.

RSs also organise their own conferences such as *Global Fantastika*, an annual international symposium on the **Gothic and science fiction**. To perform their work, CW students participate in an annual 'Showcase' event. Further opportunities to share research are provided by annual field trips to the Lake District and/or the Swiss Alps. We encourage students to present papers at national and international conferences, supporting them through Departmental and Faculty funding. In the census period, RSs have not only given papers around the world but have also been appointed to research positions such as Vernon's fellowship at the Institute of Sacred Music (Yale).

The UoA's integration of its RSs into its community is evidenced by the fact that many are already published ECRs. In the census period, our students have published articles prior to PhD submission (for example, Aquilina in *Textual Practice* and McGann in *The Seventeenth*

Century) and established, edited and contributed to the online e-journals *Antae*, *Errant* and *Fantastika* and the literary magazines CAKE and LUX.

ii. Training of Research Students

In the UoA, all RSs receive training both via dedicated Departmental modules and a portfolio of modules in the Faculty RTP. To identify and meet training needs, all RSs carry out an annual Development Needs Analysis and MA and PhD students take a research methodology course, which integrates subject-specific skills with professional development for ECRs. The EL course culminates in a one-day assessed conference, organised by the students as a showcase for their work, which further embeds academic and professional development. RSs' training needs are also identified by supervisors and other specialists via an annual review of their research: they are encouraged to take relevant Faculty modules (such as Presenting Conference Papers) to fill training gaps. The DoGS runs EL and CW Work in Progress groups fortnightly for all RSs, which combine peer review of work with sessions on professional development (writing CVs, the REF). Students teaching within departments are encouraged to take the University's Associate Teacher Programme (ATP) as well as the Introduction to Teaching at Lancaster (ITL) and also benefit from in-house training on teaching and marking in the Department.

To maintain an overview of the students' academic progress and research environment, the DoGS reviews needs on a case-by-case basis and chairs a Postgraduate Committee which meets termly. The progress of individual students is monitored through the virtual portal ELCW Supervisor Meetings as well as compulsory annual panels. For RSs in their second year (or equivalent), a PhD Confirmation Panel scrutinises and approves – subject to satisfactory performance – progression from probationary to full PhD status: RSs are required to submit a 15,000-word confirmation portfolio to a two-person panel for review. In addition to reviewing academic progression, panels review career development: RSs at the end of the PhD cycle are given a mock-Viva in preparation for the formal examination and panel members advise on potential routes to publication and post-doctoral grant capture.

In addition to academic training, the UoA – backed by the Faculty and the University – provides transferrable skills and supports career development for RSs seeking an alternative to an academic career. To provide advice on alternative career pathways, the University's Careers Service gives annual sessions to MA students and RSs. We also employ RSs within the Department in appropriate positions such as Outreach and School Liaisons Officer. In this capacity, we do not simply seek to provide employability training for its RSs but to actively give them employment experience and transferrable skills.

iii. Sustaining Recruitment of Research Students

In order to enhance the high quality and quantity of our research students, we recruit externally funded RSs via our participation in the AHRC-funded North West Consortium Doctoral Training Programme (NWCDTP). 18 students received NWCDTP studentships in EL and CW during the census period which is 6 more than any other Department in the University. The UoA benefits from funding investment at postgraduate level within the University in the form of Faculty fee-waivers: our RSs have been awarded 41 fee-waiver bursaries in the census period. This internal support is invaluable in recruiting high quality PhD candidates who may have been unsuccessful in the NWCDTP competition.

iv. Maximising Future Career Development of Research Students

Finally, our strong track record on sustaining our RSs at every stage of their research career is demonstrated by their future career destinations as well as those of our RAs and Teaching Assistants (TAs). Our students have gone on to academic positions at universities in the UK and internationally, including permanent lectureships at An-Najah, Palestine; Central Lancashire; Keele; Oxford Brookes; Manchester Metropolitan (2 former PhDs appointed during the census period); Nottingham; and Sheffield Hallam, as well as a Presidential Fellowship at Manchester (Christou). In addition, former RSs have published monographs with Cambridge University Press (Christou, Evans); novels with Dialogue (Battle-Felton) and Seren (Kruger); been awarded, short-listed, long-listed or received honourable mentions for literary prizes such as the Arts Council's Northern Writers Award and the Women's Prize for Fiction (Battle-Felton); the Commonwealth Short Story Prize and the Windham Campbell Prize for Fiction (Makumbi); the MacMillan African Writing Prize (Namukaza); the George Markov Prize and the BBC African Performance Playwriting Prize (Asyanbi); and the University English Book Prize (Christou).

e. Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

In terms of staffing, our UoA has a strong story to tell about its commitment to EDI issues. First, our academic teaching and research staff gender balance is nearly even with 48% female and 52% male. The gender balance of the workforce across the UoA as a whole is 52% female and 48% male. In terms of senior academic staff, our gender balance is also nearly even: we have 7 female and 10 male professors, but 3 of the latter are 0.2 fractional visiting appointments and so the FTE gender balance is 6.7 female and 7.3 male professors. The Department has also had 3 female HoDs during the census period. Please see Figure 2 below for a breakdown of staff profile by gender:

Gender split of academic FTE for Lancaster and sector in 2012/13 and 2018/19 - Teaching & Research (T&R) - UoA English Language and Literature
Cost centres included: (138) English language & literature

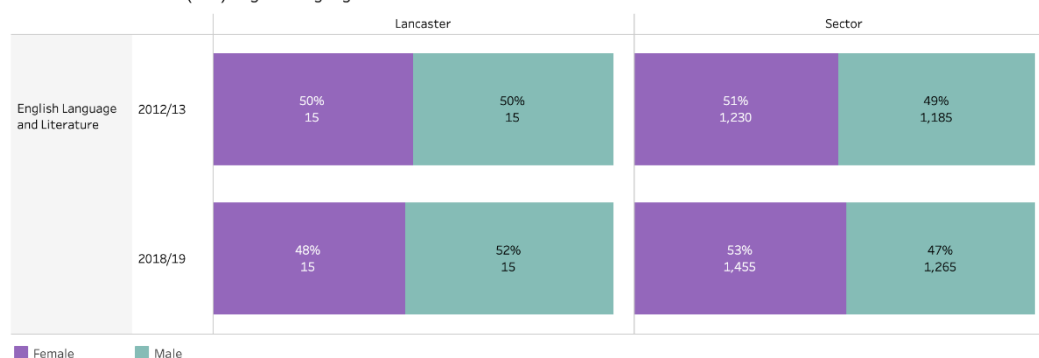


Figure 2: Staff Gender Profile

To turn to race equality and cultural diversity, we recognise that far more work needs to be done at unit, institutional and indeed sector level: we have 1 BAME staff member, 1 staff member from mixed/multiple ethnic groups and 3 staff with declared disabilities. In order to address this, the University has already established a Strategic Race Advisory Group and committed to signing up to the Race Equality Charter in April 2021 and we are also instituting a Decolonising the Curriculum initiative to ensure racial and cultural diversity at all levels including PGT and PGR. See Figure 3 below for a profile of staff by ethnicity and disability:

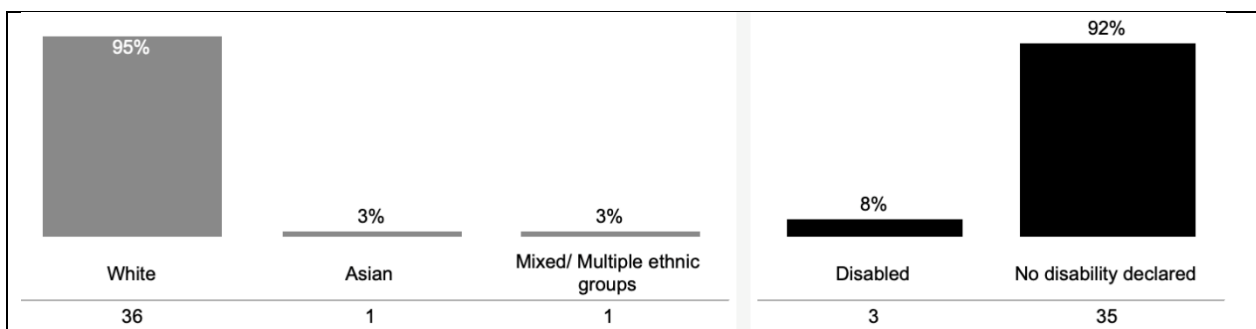


Figure 3: Staff Ethnicity and Disability Profile

In the UoA, we subscribe to the Athena SWAN Charter for EDI and are the recipient of an Athena SWAN Bronze Award (2019). The University is also a signatory to the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. To implement and review our core EDI strategy, we have put in place an integrated system for all staff:

- The UoA has: (i) a dedicated administrative role for EDI; (ii) inaugurated an EDI committee, which meets termly and feeds back to all departmental committees via a standing EDI item; and (iii) allocates workload points for staff to address EDI issues. All staff are required to participate in EDI training. In addition, FASS has created an Associate Dean for EDI and the University has a PVC for Education and EDI (2019).
- To provide an equal opportunity to engage in research, all staff in the UoA are entitled to apply for regular periods of study leave (one term of leave after seven terms of teaching or one year after seven years). Periods of research activity interrupted for reasons of illness, maternity or paternity count towards sabbatical entitlement. In the REF period, 83 allocated terms of research leave were taken, as well as 5 terms of externally funded research leave.
- For staff taking parental leave, we follow HR guidance on maternity and adoption leave, including setting up a communications plan prior to leave; organising keeping-in-touch (KIT) days; agreeing a return-to-work plan; and the consideration of a temporary reduced workload on return. It was agreed in 2019 that all staff returning from parental leave will have a 1:1 meeting with the HoD to ensure a smooth return to work. The UoA adheres to University policy on Remote Working and Flexible Working. In the case of staff returning from extended sick leave, we follow HR procedures: a phased return to work is put in place and meetings are arranged with the HoD, HR and Occupational Health Officers to enable this.
- Our UoA is implementing the University's Strategic Vision 2020 for EDI. We support the mental health and wellbeing of staff by providing access to a range of professional support through the Employee Assistance Programme. Additionally, the University has adopted the Five Ways to Wellbeing framework, used by the government and charities like MIND and the NHS, to help improve the mental health and wellbeing of its staff. The University is also a member of the government's Disability Confident Scheme, the Stonewall Global Diversity Champions programme for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Equality and it will join the Race Equality Charter in 2021.
- The UoA has welcomed 41 visiting international scholars in the census period and integrated them into Departmental activities by inviting them to attend seminars, lectures and symposia, to deliver papers and have one-to-one consultations with staff. In 2018, British Academy Visiting Fellow Barnita Bagchi (Utrecht) collaborated with PEARCE on a colloquium on *Transnational Utopias* and CeMoRe also hosted visiting scholar Jinhyoung Lee (Konkuk) in 2020.
- Research Associates (RAs) participate fully in the annual cycle of PDRs and are given the opportunity to gain teaching and supervisory experience. As previously mentioned, PhD students who undertake teaching are encouraged to undertake the University's ATP. In addition, RAs have their own representative on RIC and at Departmental

Meetings, as well as a research mentor, to ensure their developmental needs are addressed.

This strategy will be reviewed and updated as appropriate by the EDI Director and the EDI Committee. In order to fulfil its EDI objectives, the Department will measure its performance against qualitative and quantitative data on staffing, PGR recruitment, research outputs and grant capture as well as external benchmarks like the Athena SWAN Charter and the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

a. Generation of Research Awards:

In the REF census period, the UoA made 23 successful applications for internal awards generating total award value of £64,419 and 45 successful applications for external awards generating total award value of £1,282,432. This sum not only represents a substantial increase from the previous REF period but research awards also grew significantly across the census period from £26,650 in 2013/14 to £678,662 in 2016/17 and to £212,132 in 2018/19. Please see Figure 4 below for a table of our total research grant award value per FTE staff:

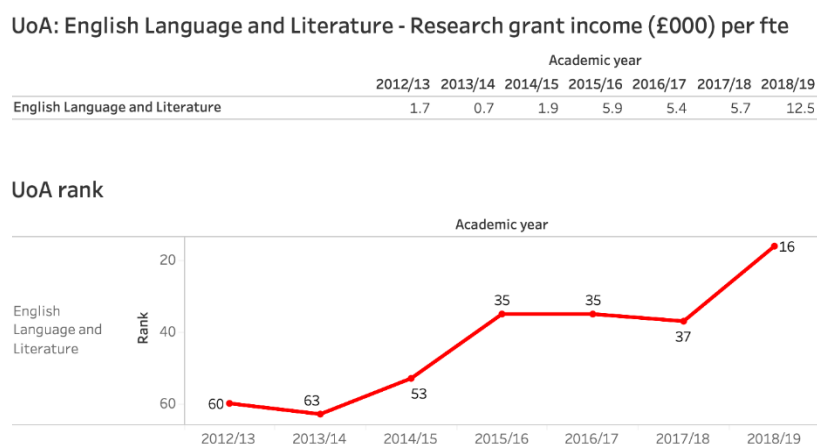


Figure 4: Total Research Grant Award Value per FTE staff

b. Research Income Generation Strategy:

To grow research income, our UoA seeks to embed, sustain and extend a culture of research applications at every level from small pilot projects through to major bids. We fulfil the University's strategic priority of continuing 'to grow and diversify our research income' (University Strategy 2020) by securing pump-priming awards from internal Faculty funds, and larger external funds from funders such as the UK AHRC and the US-based NEH. Our UoA incentivises and supports staff to apply for research funding through a combination of PDRs, research mentoring and workload relief (see 2.c above). In the census period, this strategy has produced a culture of research income generation leading to a range of awards:

i. **Internal Faculty and University Awards:** In 2014, for example, PEARCE was awarded an £8,000 Knowledge Exchange Fund grant for her project Moving Manchester into Schools and MORT received a £4,998 Global Challenges Research Fund award for his 'Festival of African Futures'.

ii. **External RCUK/Government Awards (PI only):** BUSHHELL received an AHRC Major Award of £607,962 for her project 'Creating a Chronotopic Ground for the Mapping of Literary Texts' (2017-20). RUSTON was awarded £191,050 from the AHRC for her 'A Man of Science and Poetry: Humphry Davy's Letters, Life and Legacy' project (2015).

iii. **Overseas Awards (PI only):** In addition, HINDS was awarded \$19,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (US) for her critical edition of Anna Trapnel's *Report and Plea* (2012-14).

Please see Figure 5 below for a breakdown of the distribution of awards by funder type:

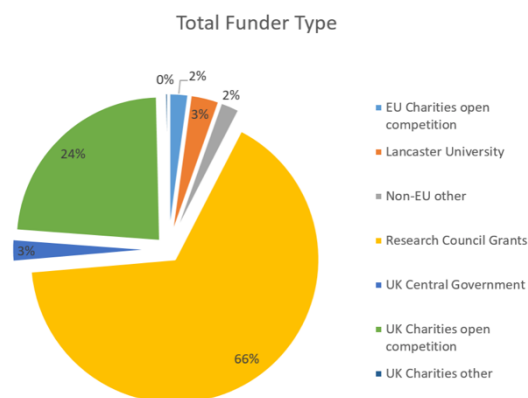


Figure 5: Distribution of Awards by Funder Type

c. Organisational and Operational Infrastructure Supporting Research:

To support staff at every stage of the research bid cycle from bid-writing to post-award, the UoA has put the following infrastructures in place:

We incentivise staff to apply for funding (as indicated at 2.c above) by offering workload relief above the normal sabbatical entitlement. Systems (such as the PDR and Research Mentorship scheme) support staff at different career stages, set appropriate goals for grant capture, and monitor the attainment of targets. The termly RIC meetings coordinate and approve bids for funding. Our UoA Annual Research Day provides a forum for longer-term research income generation strategy.

In an institutional context, the UoA is located within FASS, which ranks in the top 100 for both Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences (THE World University Rankings 2020) and has a strong interdisciplinary research culture supported by University structures. We benefit from the support of the RSO, which assists research staff throughout the cycle of a grant application (see 1.b above). Our UoA profits from the infrastructural support of research centres/institutes such as CeMoRe, the ISF and the Ruskin. Staff can also apply for Faculty research funds to support projects, impact and internationalisation (see 3.b above). In the census period, BUSHELL, BRADLEY and RUSTON all received FASS seedcorn funding for pilot research projects.

d. Scholarly Infrastructure Supporting Research

The UoA benefits from significant scholarly infrastructure including archives, special collections and digital resources. First, the Ruskin is a major resource for scholars like BAINBRIDGE and BUSHELL who work on literature of the long 19th Century. Special collections within the Library, such as The Quaker Collection, have enabled HINDS' work on religious literature. Second, at a regional level, BAINBRIDGE et al work with the Jerwood Collection at the Wordsworth Trust, which contains 90% of Wordsworth's manuscripts. The University Library hosts digital resources, including journal stores like JSTOR; Project Muse; Academic Search Complete; the Cambridge Digital Library Platform; the DNB and online OED; as well as

specialist databases such as Early English Books Online (EEBO) and Eighteenth-Century Collections Online (ECCO), which are crucial for researchers working on early materials. The Library's new £11 million extension (opening early 2021), will include a suite of specialist areas dedicated to academic research, including a Collaborative Research Space, Project Space and Digital Scholarship Lab, plus an exhibition space to support the display of practice-based research outputs. This new extension will provide greater space for Library-based research and for delivery of training for researchers. In her AHRC-funded 'Encyclopaedia of Shakespeare's Language' project, for example, FINDLAY worked with the University's collection of digital corpora (including the LOB family of parallel corpora and the Corpus of Early Modern English Dialogues).

e. Estates and Facilities Supporting Research

In the census period, the University has invested heavily in upgrading the campus and creating new research space. Staff have their own offices with networked computers, access to printers as well as access to meeting spaces with kitchen facilities. All research students have office space within the Department and access to computing labs, printers and meeting spaces. The Library's extensive refurbishment (£8.6 million 2014-16), has created many individual learning spaces for students. In addition, the UoA is currently supported by a total of 4.17 FTE administrative staff.

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

a. Research Collaboration

In our REF 2021 Research & Impact Strategy (see 1.b above), we identify local, national and international collaborations as a priority. This work with internal and external partners is evidenced in the following ways:

- **University, local and regional collaboration.** Our UoA has a strong track record of interdisciplinary research which makes it a natural hub for cross-departmental collaborations. It works with other departments and schools in the University including Computing, History, Management School, Medical School, LaEL, LICA, Politics, Philosophy and Religion, and Sociology. As mentioned above (see 1.a) the UoA works closely with University research centres and institutes like CeMoRe, the ISF and the Ruskin. In the region, the UoA collaborates with schools, museums, libraries and businesses: SCHAD, KNIGHT and CARRUTHERS worked with Stonyhurst College Library on a Hopkins study day; BAINBRIDGE and BUSHELL work with the Wordsworth Trust on Wordsworth Walks; and SCHAD, WALLS and HAYER are directly involved in the Lancaster literary festival, LitFest.
- **National and international collaborations by individuals.** Building upon local collaborations, our UoA also has strong national research relationships. For example, BUSHELL's AHRC-funded project on digital literary mapping involves partnerships with the British Library, the Wordsworth Trust and the Alan Turing Institute as well as Padua, Virginia and Stanford's LitLab. FINDLAY's ICS 'Shakespeare's Sisters' entails a collaboration with Penshurst Place in Kent. In RUSTON's AHRC-funded Leadership Fellowship and AHRC Follow-on-Funding project on Davy, she works extensively with the Royal Institution of Great Britain.
- **International networks and collaborations.** In addition, the UoA is extending its international research footprint. Adding to the international scope of BUSHELL's project on digital literary mapping, MORT is leading a series of international projects including 'Taking Liberties', his Leverhulme-funded project at Western Cape. HANLEY is collaborating with the Institute for Advanced Study at Waseda on the project 'Japanese Cultural Nationalism'. We retained a formal link with Toronto, which has facilitated a number of staff collaborations and student exchanges during the census period. In our relationship with Lausanne, the UoA continues to generate new research collaborations including joint symposia in our strategic clusters.

b. Contribution to the Discipline within the REF Period

In the REF census period, the UoA has contributed significantly to leading, sustaining and shaping the future of the disciplines of EL and CW:

- First, staff hold 21 leading editorial positions at international journals and literary reviews such as the *New Yorker* and *Literature and Theology*. They act as general editors for international book series including *Transformations*, *Literature*, *Science and Medicine* and *New Directions in Religion and Literature*. Staff serve on the editorial or advisory boards of 36 international journals including *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* and *Romanticism*. In addition, staff have reviewed for more than 113 journals and refereed for at least 73 presses including Cambridge; Northwestern; Notre Dame; and Oxford.
- To further contribute to EL and CW, UoA staff have organised 35 major international conferences and symposia at Lancaster such as *Writing for Liberty* (2015); *Mobile Utopia* (2017); and *Representing Pain* (2018), as well as 18 conferences at institutions such as Buenos Aires, Tokyo and Vancouver. In the REF census period, UoA staff have given in excess of 153 keynote, plenary or invited lectures in the UK and globally at institutions including Cambridge; Collège de France; Geneva; Notre Dame; Oxford; Paris-Sorbonne; Texas at Austin; and Toronto.
- In other service, staff have had 13 visiting positions at institutions including Baylor (TATE); Toronto (KNIGHT); and the Australian National University, the Chemical Heritage Foundation and Oxford (RUSTON). They hold 18 leading positions in subject associations and learned societies including Fellow of the Royal Society for Literature (ASHWORTH, FARLEY, MULDOON); Fellow of the British Academy (EAGLETON); Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (MULDOON); and Fellow of the English Association (BAINBRIDGE and RUSTON). In addition, they serve as members of research councils and as peer reviewers on expert committees including the AHRC Peer Review College (BUSHELL, RUSTON, PEARCE); Arts Council England (ASHWORTH); and the Australian Research Council (KNIGHT).
- Finally, our staff attract significant esteem from their peers in the form of academic and literary awards. In the census period, they won 11 awards including the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry (MULDOON); the Seamus Heaney Award for Arts & Letters (MULDOON); the Andrea Badenoch Ward (CORBETT); the International Short Story Competition prize (MORT) and the Allan Lloyd Smith Memorial Prize (SPOONER); as well as being short-listed for the T.S. Eliot Prize and the Costa Poetry Award, both in 2019 (FARLEY).

c. Contribution to Economy and Society

In line with both the University's 2020 Research Strategy and its own REF 2021 Research & Impact Strategy (see 1.b above), the UoA seeks to enhance research impact by working with non-HEI institutions at a local, regional, national and international level. To add to the work of our 4 ICSSs, we have fulfilled our strategy in the following ways:

- **Local and regional contribution.** WASSON and RUSTON's AHRC-funded research network, 'Translating Chronic Pain', works with leading regional pain charities – including Fibromyalgia Action UK, Endometriosis UK, Lyme Disease Action, and Ehlers-Danlos UK – towards the goal of shaping future NHS policy on chronic pain. Feedback from a workshop in Manchester included: 'absolutely useful'; 'Comforting'; 'Reduces isolation'; and 'A positive step forward in pain management'. HAYER collaborated with Heysham Power Station on 'Keeping the Lights On', a creative project on the future of energy production in the North West. This project was run by Ragged Edge Productions (funded by the Sir John Fisher Foundation and Arts Council England) and enabled HAYER to visit energy production facilities and write a play on tidal power entitled *Tidelands*. In pursuit of local and regional impact activities, staff have given

public talks in venues such as the Dukes Theatre, Newcastle Lit and Phil and North Lancashire Business Expo.

- **National and international contribution.** In addition, the UoA's national and international impact is evidenced by BUSHELL's Litcraft project which involves educational partnerships with schools across five library regions (Lancashire; Leeds; Surrey; Devon, Somerset); a commercial partnership with Wandering Wizards (*Gulliver's Travels* is now available for purchase from the Minecraft Marketplace); and a partnership with Minecraft.edu which hosts all world-builds freely for international use and converts them to Education Edition. To explore the therapeutic value of literature for people with chronic pain, WASSON and RUSTON's AHRC network 'Translating Chronic Pain' established an online anthology of ['flash' fiction](#) which includes work from the USA, Canada, India and Japan and has attracted feedback from diverse user communities including a specialist children's nurse in Brisbane who emailed the PI to discuss her own practice. LAMBERT was CI on an AHRC-funded project (£117,558) which developed an app to help Malaysian weavers establish themselves as independent entrepreneurs. By interviewing the weavers and writing their individual stories, LAMBERT helped to create promotional materials for them to use in their businesses. In support of their impact activities, staff have given more than 200 public lectures and readings at venues including the British Film Institute; British Library; National Gallery; National Theatre; Princeton Poetry Festival; Royal Festival Hall; Royal Institution of Great Britain; Royal Society; Shakespeare's Globe Theatre; Science Museum; South Bank Centre; United Nations Human Rights Council, Switzerland; Victoria and Albert Museum; Wellcome Trust; Wellington College Arts Festival, Shanghai; and the Wordsworth Trust. Finally, MULDOON, FARLEY, BAINBRIDGE, BUSHELL, FARLEY, FINDLAY, HINDS, RUSTON and SPOONER have regularly appeared in national and international media including BBC1's *BBC Breakfast* and *One Show*, Radio 3, Radio 4, the *Guardian*, *Times*, *Financial Times*, *New Yorker* and *Atlantic*: FARLEY presents many Radio 3 documentaries as well as his own regular programme *The Echo Chamber*, CORBETT and GREANEY have written articles for *The Conversation* (91,691 and 90,404 reads respectively) whilst MULDOON participated in a dialogue with P.J. Harvey as part of the Arts Council England-funded Lancaster Words literary festival (£3,800 funding, approximately 300 attendees, 29,000 views on YouTube) (2017).

In order to further extend engagement, the UoA benefits from organisational policies and structures in place at Departmental, Faculty and University level. The Department's Engagement Officer (EO), as well as the RIC, maintains an overview of engagement and encourages staff to embed engagement activities into their research. The EO sits on the Faculty Engagement Committee, which brings together academics and other key stakeholders to develop a strategic approach to engagement and impact. Finally, the University has subscribed to the Concordat for Engaging the Public with Research, a set of principles fostering public engagement, and has a dedicated Communications and Marketing Department, which offers support for engagement. In 2018, Lancaster appointed Professor Dame Sue Black as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Engagement and she is also our institutional lead on the KEF and the Civic University Agreement.