

Institution: Swansea University

Unit of Assessment: 28 History

1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

1.1 Unit Context

UoA 28 at Swansea is a diverse and inter-disciplinary community of 36 (34.25 FTE) Category A scholars of the past, based in the departments of History; Political and Cultural Studies; and Ancient History, Classics and Egyptology, all within the College of Arts and Humanities (COAH). Our expertise ranges across history, heritage, material culture, archaeology, ancient languages and classical literature, and spans Europe, the Middle East, North America and Asia. While our research has global reach, our research environment is shaped by the needs of the community in which we are rooted. In a region profoundly affected by industrialization and de-industrialization, by political devolution and Welsh cultural identity, we take seriously our responsibility to work in partnership with outside organizations to foster wellbeing, inclusivity and opportunity for all. **Engagement and impact are at the heart of all our research activities.** Our strengths in **public history and heritage** shape much of this work and form a common thread running through the work of our six research centres (detailed in 1.2) and the broader culture of the UoA.

In this census period we have retained, as our core strategic vision, the three fundamental principles set out in REF2014:

INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP	TO FACILITATE INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARLY CREATIVITY AND INITIATIVE
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH	TO FOSTER COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON OUR AGREED PRIORITIES OF HEALTH, HISTORY AND CULTURE; WAR AND COMMEMORATION; MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN HISTORY; AND THE HISTORY OF WALES
PUBLIC UTILITY & IMPACT	TO WORK CLOSELY WITH PARTNERS IN HERITAGE, TO ENSURE THE PUBLIC UTILITY AND IMPACT OF OUR SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

Our goal, to achieve ambitious expansion in all three areas, was pursued by continuing to **invest heavily** (through staff recruitment, internal seed-corn funding, and the formalisation and creation of research centres).

1.2 Achievement of Strategic Aims

Our strategic **commitment to continuity** has delivered significant growth in all of our activities, and pro-active succession planning has ensured **sustainability** in our research themes. There has been a **strategic staffing investment in Public History** through two permanent appointments. Since the last REF, **our research income has increased by 228%** to £2,276,251.43, including follow-on awards recognizing our existing, **high-impact work in** industrial heritage and disability history. This has enabled us to build on the success of our long-term research strengths - as evidenced by our 'Copperopolis Reborn' and 'Disability and Industrial Society' Impact Case Studies - and to foster major collaborative work in ancient heritage, detailed in the 'Protecting Cultural Heritage in Conflict Zones' Impact Case Study.

Our support of **individual scholarly excellence** has delivered a total output of 38 books (monographs, collections and scholarly editions) and 138 peer-reviewed articles since 2014. Individual researchers have benefited from departmental and College support mechanisms to secure notable successes in grant capture, fellowship awards from the AHRC, Leverhulme and Wellcome Trust, as well as funded, visiting positions at libraries and universities outside the UK. We have invested in the talented **early career researchers** (ECRs) recruited early in this cycle, enabling them to fulfill their potential alongside senior colleagues now securing their Chairs in History (details in Section 2).

Since 2014 our **Research Centres and Groups** have evolved and expanded with targeted investment in staffing and enhanced support for emergent themes. All of our research groups collaborate with community, educational and heritage organizations. Their interests, activities and memberships draw in researchers from other UoAs, creating a **lively, outward-looking and interdisciplinary research environment**. All receive support from a COAH Research Environment Fund each year and have used this to develop partnerships and carry out scoping and networking activities essential to the development of ambitious, externally funded research projects.



Conflict, Reconstruction and Memory (CRAM) (formerly War and Commemoration) brings together researchers in Ancient History, History and Politics, and has been

strengthened by two further permanent appointments. It has been instrumental in founding the Society for the History of War, further promoting Swansea as a centre of expertise in war and remembrance.

Its externally-funded and international collaborations have included the HERA research network, *Making War, Mapping Europe: Militarized Culture Encounters, 1792-1920*, in co-operation with the National Army Museum, London, the Militärhistorisches Museum, Dresden, the Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin and the Bayerisches Hauptstaatsarchiv, Munich. This produced an online exhibition linked to the bicentenary of the Napoleonic Wars and the First World War centenary. CRAM also hosts the AHRC-funded Welsh Memorials to the Great War community project, and the Saving Cultural Heritage project (one of our Impact Case Studies) which engages with government, armed forces and heritage professionals. CRAM's regular activities include an annual conference and public lecture, ECR workshops, seminars and reading groups led by postgraduate research students.

Medical Humanities Research Centre (MHRC) (formerly Health, History and Culture) brings together colleagues from History, English, Modern Languages and Human and Health Sciences. It has been augmented by three permanent staffing appointments in History. Disability runs as a cross-period thread through its activities. It is home to the major Wellcome-funded project, *Disability and Industrial Society*, led by Swansea, with partners at Aberystwyth, Northumbria, Strathclyde and Glasgow Caledonian Universities. This concluded successfully in 2016 and continues to shape the public understanding of disability as highlighted in the Disability and Industrial Society Impact Case Study. Through both a permanent exhibition at the National Waterfront Museum and touring regional exhibitions, it has ensured that disabled people are part of the national story of Welsh industrialization, and has empowered grassroots disability advocacy groups to research their own history.

The Centre has an annual programme of workshops and has hosted postgraduate and ECR career-development activities. MHRC's current research on 'Resilience' developed from a 2019 workshop and has since been adopted as the theme of the Social History of Medicine society's biennial conference, to be hosted in Swansea in 2022. It also underpins our partnership with Swansea's Centre for Innovative Ageing, that won strategic funding of £2.6million from the Wales European Funding Office, European Regional Development Fund and Swansea University to establish the Awen Institute. This brings academics, policy makers, service users and creative industries together to develop research and innovation around healthy ageing. Our workstream (2019-2022) addresses accessibility in the arts and heritage industries.

Medieval and Early Modern Research (MEMO) brings together historians and specialists in literature and language from across our Arts and Humanities departments. Promoting new research on gender has been an important recent focus of its work. It has had notable success in collaborative research grant applications. The four-year AHRC funded project, *Women Negotiating the Boundaries of Justice: Britain and Ireland c.1100-c.1350*, in partnership with Cardiff and Glasgow Universities, concluded successfully in December

2018. Subsequently, Leverhulme funding was secured for Visiting Professors in History (2019) and English (2020).

MEMO fosters development of its postgraduates and ECRs through research skills workshops, and organizes panels at the Leeds and Kalamazoo International Medieval Congresses. Working across disciplines, MEMO hosted the British Society for the History of Science conference (2015), and the Gender and Medieval Studies conference (2020). It holds an annual, interdisciplinary symposium and participates in video-linked meetings for the all-Wales medieval studies network. Members of MEMO promote pre-modern history and archaeology in the broadcast and digital media.

The Richard Burton Centre for the Study of Wales (Burton) is at the forefront of enhancing public understanding of Wales's history and culture and combines history, literature and creative arts.

Its ongoing industrial heritage initiatives include the Hafod-Morfa Copperworks project. Originally supported by the ESRC and Cadw, this developed into a central feature of the regeneration of east Swansea, attracting £769,890 of European Regional Development funding (2012-2014), and aligning with the University's goal to deliver economic growth through regeneration. As detailed in the 'Copperopolis Reborn' Impact Case Study, UoA researchers have been instrumental in establishing the historic significance of this previously derelict industrial site, contributing to its regeneration as a copper-themed heritage quarter through significant private and public investment. Support for new research on steel history and heritage was also underway in 2014 and has since flourished. An AHRC-funded project on *Visions of Steel*, in collaboration with Tata Port Talbot, piloted a public engagement project with a local school and community groups. From that emerged *The Social Worlds of Steel* project, which was awarded £227,832 by the AHRC to develop and communicate research on steel history to heritage professionals and the public in Wales.

Members of the Burton centre undertake extensive media work and contribute to development work around the new Welsh national curriculum. Working extensively with partners in the heritage sector, our commitment to industrial heritage also sits at the heart of its work.

Other smaller established and emerging research groupings exist within the UoA, signifying the diversity and vitality of our research environment. **KYKNOS**, the **Centre for Research on the Narrative Literatures of the Ancient World**, was founded in 2004 to promote the specialist work of the classical literature researchers in our unit. It has been strengthened by two strategic appointments and has evolved to become a hub of national and international networks for scholars of ancient narrative literature.

More recently we have launched a major new research cluster: **OLCAP**, the research group for **Object and Landscape-Centred Approaches to the Past**. This was initially focused on ancient Egypt, and long-standing collaborations and synergies between the Egyptologists and the University's Egypt Centre (leading to major funding awards such as

a Leverhulme grant of £157,764.43 (2013-16) for a project on *Ancient Egyptian Demonology: the Second Millennium BCE*. The interdisciplinary and collaborative potential of this research centre was extended by building in research on the material culture of Greco-Roman antiquity as well as of ancient Egypt. Two strategic appointments were made to facilitate this goal. Staff in the new group also work closely with CRAM by collaborating in research on heritage sites in conflict zones.

Underpinning all of this is our commitment to making our research **open and accessible**. As well as contributing to the Wellcome Trust and UKRI consultations on Open Access in the arts and humanities, and publishing OA articles and monographs, **we share our work widely** through public talks, writing popular books and magazine articles and writing and presenting for national radio and television within and outside Wales.

1.3 Future goals

At the heart of our vision for the future is our commitment to the **civic mission** expected of universities by Welsh Government. Our key goals are to build on our strengths in community- and public-focused historical research in a way that not only advances knowledge, but enriches lives. In addition to fostering our existing research strengths in the medical humanities, in object-based research and on the cultural and societal impacts of war, we see the study of industrial heritage, disability history, and Welsh history as areas where we can make a real contribution to the advancement of knowledge and societal wellbeing in the future. Our four key goals are to:

i) Establish ourselves as a centre of excellence in industrial heritage research and outreach

The success of the ongoing Hafod-Morfa copperworks project has enabled us to develop a range of partnerships and expertise in industrial heritage and place-based regeneration work on which we can now build. In August 2020, we secured a three-year award from HEFCW's Research Wales Innovation Fund, worth £153,000 per year, enabling us to recruit a new senior lecturer in industrial heritage, with the remit of growing our existing research-led heritage regeneration work in the Lower Swansea Valley, and expanding capacity through targeted funding applications in collaboration with partners in heritage organizations.

ii) Grow our expertise and outreach activities relating to object-centred learning

The new OLCAP research group, led by Hussein, has piloted successful object-handling sessions for local people, drawing on the unique collection of 6,000 ancient artefacts housed at Swansea's Egypt Centre. With external funding recently secured from the institute of Classical Studies, plans are in place to develop new exhibition spaces at the Egypt Centre and to facilitate further public engagement with the collections, both physically and remotely. By promoting object-handling skills, bringing the public closer to the historic collections housed in their community, and by widening knowledge of the rich cultures and traditions of the ancient world, OLCAP will add a new dimension to our commitment to our place-based civic mission work over the next five years.

iii) Continue to foster world-leading, collaborative research in disability history

A key feature of our ongoing disability history research will be to co-produce new projects with disabled people. A recently submitted AHRC Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Engagement Fellowship application (outcome pending) proposes work with four disability organisations in Wales to explore disabled people's responses to the current pandemic in the context of disability history. Turner has recently been appointed trustee of Disability Arts Cymru, a position he will use to build closer links between disabled people's organisations and HE in Wales with a view to developing future projects. We have also established a cross-campus Disability Studies Network with colleagues in Medicine, Health Science, Law, Sociology and Education, to develop a new interdisciplinary research strategy.

iv) Become a beacon for Equalities-led History

We are committed to fostering diversity in the profession and in the histories it promotes. In 2018 we co-hosted *Diverse Histories* for the Royal Historical Society. This was a collaborative event with the universities of Bangor and South Wales and co-funded by History Research Wales. A panel on 'Diverse Women's History' at the Women's Archive Wales annual conference followed in the same year. We have undertaken a review to begin the work of decolonizing all of our activities, informed by the Royal Historical Society's equality reports on Gender and Race. Our flagship projects embed inclusivity and accessibility. The Burton Centre for the Study for Wales will focus on supporting the new Curriculum for Wales, using our expertise to ensure its delivery is underpinned by the latest research, on ethnicity and diversity. Johnes' appointment to the Welsh Government advisory committee on the inclusion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic history in schools, following the publication of his recent research on black history, demonstrates how our expertise is beginning to feed into policy making in this area.

Common to each of these goals is our determination to foster strong partnerships with heritage professionals, education policy makers, community groups and broadcast media, so that our research is **transformational within and without the academy**.

2. People

2.1 Staffing Strategy

Since 2014, **14 new, permanent appointments** have been made. These mainly replacement posts have offered the UoA and those high-calibre individuals joining us, the opportunity to develop long-term, sustainable research plans. They align with, and amplify, our research areas, and ensure continuity where existing staff retired:

Ian Goh (2017), Ersin Hussein (2018) and Christian Knoblauch (2018)	Strengthen our research expertise in Ancient History, Classics and Egyptology
Simon John and Patricia Skinner (2016)	Give impetus to the work of MEMO
Eugene Miakinkov (2014) and Tomás Irish (2015)	Expand the work of CRAM
Irina Metzler (Wellcome Lectureship, 2014-2019)	Following a 2-year Research Fellowship, to contribute to MHRC and MEMO
Michael Bresalier (2015); Themis Chronopoulos (2016); Sarah Crook (2018)	Provide momentum to the interdisciplinary work of MHRC in public health
Gethin Matthews (move to permanent contract)	Boosts our Welsh-language research profile and contributes to the Burton Centre
Alex Langlands (2015) and Sarah May (2018)	Mark a major investment in cross-period Public History and Heritage

At the census date, there are 36 (34.25 FTE) Category A staff in the unit. (An additional 4 permanent staff are on teaching contracts. Their career pathways are reviewed annually as part of Swansea's Professional Development Review process which provides a route to a research pathway for any member of academic staff who wishes to pursue this.)

Our future staffing strategy is to **continue our practice of targeted investment**, both to enhance the opportunities available to existing researchers to publish and build impact from their research (through **impact leave**, for instance), and to **extend the priority research areas** through new, complementary appointments.

We have taken positive action in the recruitment and remuneration process to address the historic gender imbalance in the unit (see Section 2.4). In the current REF period, this has resulted in the appointment of five new women to permanent posts and the promotion of three others to professorial grade. Along with our sister departments in COAH, we contributed to a self-assessment exercise which led to the submission of an application for an Athena Swan Bronze Award (outcome pending).

2.2 Staff Development

Our **staff development strategy** has continued to focus on enabling all staff within the unit to **publish, make connections and build impact** for their work.

Swansea holds a **HR Excellence in Research** Award, supporting the Concordat for the Career Development of Research Staff. The department's major successes in external grant capture this cycle (see Sections 1 and 3), as well as the Swansea University Centenary project, has led to the recruitment of **9 project officers/research assistants**, significantly increasing the proportion of ECR staff in the UoA. They, together with other ECRs recruited in this REF cycle, have benefited from our commitment to **career development mentoring** for all researchers.

The University promotes a **performance-enabling culture** through its Professional Development Review (PDR) system. All new appointments, including early-career appointments and fixed-term staff, are allocated a **mentor** to assist their career development and advise on personal research and impact strategies. All staff, regardless of their career stage, complete personal research and publication strategies and are mentored by our Directors of Research and other professorial staff. It is our policy to offer **fixed-term and part-time staff the same access to all research support mechanisms** including mentoring, eligibility for financial support to attend conferences and access to the sabbatical scheme. Our research groups regularly offer **honorary** positions as a means for researchers to build or maintain their association with Swansea, to participate in our activities and to secure paid positions such as fellowships.

The success of this policy is evident in **outcomes for ECRs** employed on some of our key projects:

ECR	Research Project	Career Outcome
Sparky Booker	Women Negotiating the Boundaries of Justice	Permanent lectureship at Queens University Belfast; winner of Donald Murphy Prize for Distinguished First Books (American Conference for Irish Studies) 2019
Emma Cavell	Women Negotiating the Boundaries of Justice	Gained lectureship at Swansea and developed a project on medieval Jewish women's litigation that secured pilot funding and led to an application for an EU Consolidator Grant
Teresa Phipps	Women Negotiating the Boundaries of Justice	Programme Officer for Wales at The Brilliant Club
Megan Ryder	First World War Memorials	Assistant Archivist: Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales
Daniel Blackie	Disability and Industrial Society	Research fellowship at the University of Oulu (Finland)
Michael Mantin	Disability and Industrial Society	Published 5 peer-reviewed journal articles before pursuing a career in media

ECRs in lecturing posts are given a **reduced teaching load** and an **exemption from major administrative portfolios** to aid their research development. Workshops and one-to-one coaching sessions on impact are provided for PGRs and ECRs to enable them to achieve their full potential.

Academic staff also have access to bespoke support. Blue Sky (2016-2019) was a College-wide **one-to-one academic research coaching initiative initiated in the UoA**, which provided critical guidance for colleagues from postdoc upwards to identify publication opportunities, develop small- and large-scale grant applications and focus on quality rather than quantity in their outputs. Operating since 2016, the scheme engaged with over 30 colleagues within and outside the UoA, and assisted History colleagues in winning major funding (notably Miskell's AHRC Leadership Fellowship for *The Social Worlds of Steel*). The scheme has since been rolled into a broader palette of support available from the College (see Section 3, below).

As Swansea historians, we benefit from the **strong sense of community** and social responsibility fostered by the College and University, and bring that culture to our own activities. The History Department's **research seminar series** (held in **core hours** to enable broad participation) unites the different research groups, fostering collegiality and the sharing of current project findings. PGRs and ECRs are encouraged to present and contribute and the programme also forms part of MA students' timetabled activities, developing them as the researchers of the future. Colleagues in Ancient History, Classics and Egyptology also run regular research seminar series, and co-host the colloquium of the Universities in Wales Institute of Classics and Ancient History every three years. Researchers across the UoA are also brought together by end-of-year publication parties and book launches, celebrating individual and collaborative successes.

We share an enhanced commitment to research integrity. All staff undertake mandatory training in research integrity utilizing an online package developed at Swansea University. College ethical approval is a pre-condition of all applications for external funding and for undergraduate and postgraduate research projects. We employ an online ethics clearance system and we train our students at all levels to develop research in an ethically aware manner. Supported by the college Research Governance framework, our research is conducted in a way that respects the **dignity, rights and welfare of participants**.

Our staff development strategy embeds the development of **research leadership and networking**. Clifford participated in the Aurora Leadership Programme in 2017 and was cited as a case study of the scheme's success the following year. History supported the participation of Clifford and Irish in the Welsh Crucible, a networking and development opportunity for those identified as 'rising stars', and Miakinkov participated in the Digital Economy Crucible in 2016. The integration of both Hussein and Knoblauch into the research culture and research leadership of the UoA has been achieved by their co-ordinating the establishment of OLCAP, the research group for Object and Landscape Centred Approaches to the Past. This commitment to research leadership reflects a wider University policy of **recognizing and promoting outstanding research achievements in order to**

inspire others. Since 2015, three members of the UoA have won University prizes for their research impacts and contributions to society.

Time remains the key way to facilitate individual scholarly excellence. During term, all full-time staff have a weekly research day, free from teaching responsibilities. Part-time staff can arrange their timetabled teaching to facilitate research time. Staff also have access to a competitive, targeted **research leave scheme** to enable sustained work on high-quality outputs, successful grant capture and impact activities. Staff members, regardless of career pathway and level, can apply for one semester of research leave after 6 semesters, and may be granted a full year following particularly heavy teaching or administrative roles, or for projects of particular significance. In total, 25 staff in the unit have received at least one semester's sabbatical leave during the current REF period, including all those who completed a monograph this cycle. **Public engagement and impact work** is also supported by adjusting teaching loads and through making connections to curriculum developments. The success here has led to the launch of a new MA in Heritage, further facilitating close external partnerships through student placements.

Whether individually, or as part of a research group, all UoA members are **encouraged and supported in their applications for external research leave** and exchanges, thereby giving them the opportunity to increase their research time beyond the University scheme. For example:

Rebecca Clifford held a Visiting Professor position at the BMW Center for German and European Studies, Georgetown University (2015)

Adam Mosley held the Dibner Fellowship in the History of Science and Technology at the Huntington Library, California (2015-16)

David Anderson was an Eccles Centre Visiting Fellow at the British Library in 2017 and was awarded the inaugural Scholarship for the Study of Historical and Contemporary Slavery at Gladstone's Library in Hawarden (2019)

Matthew Stevens secured a visiting position as Ulam Fellow at Nicolas Copernicus University, Torun (Poland) (2019-21)

Simon John commenced a six-month visiting fellowship at the Historisches Seminar, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg, Germany in July 2020.

These exchanges have been achieved by the University supplementing external funds won to cover the cost of replacement teaching. The University's **strategic partnerships**, too, have enabled UoA staff to benefit from opportunities to develop international collaborations through targeted periods of leave: Clifford spent a semester at the LAHRHA research laboratory, Grenoble-Alpes University, in 2017.

2.3 Postgraduate Research Support and Training

The promotion and support of **postgraduate research** is an integral aspect of the College's and UoA's vision for research development. There has been **a significant growth in the size and scope** of our graduate student research culture. We have **supervised 34 PhDs to completion**, a 19% increase on the REF2014 census period. The UoA currently has 37

students working towards doctorates. Supervision is supported by an online progress monitoring system. All PGR students are provided with a **research allowance** for conference presentation and research trips, and are members of the **College Graduate Centre**, which offers dedicated desk space and IT facilities, organizes an **annual conference** and runs a programme of **training and skills** workshops. PGRs also benefit from University-wide postgraduate induction, skills and career development workshops.

Swansea's excellence as a centre for doctoral research in History has attracted funded studentships, for which we work particularly hard, given our current position outside of the AHRC's Doctoral Training Partnerships and Colleges. In the census period, our continued reputation for excellence in supervision and research environment has been recognized through an ESRC DTC Wales award; a Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol doctoral award and three AHRC CDAs with major heritage institutions (two with the Science Museum, and one with the National Portrait Gallery).

International collaborations have also been important in the expansion of the size and horizon of our PGR community. Clifford's ground-breaking work on memory in partnership with the Department of Psychology led to the award of a Swansea University Strategic Partnerships Research Scholarship with **Communauté Universités Grenoble Alpes**. Our partnership with the **University of Central Oklahoma (UCO)** is also expanding our community of PhD students. These PGR students are based in the USA but co-supervised by a UCO faculty member and a Swansea supervisor. We currently have six such Oklahoma PhD students supervised in our UoA. Further international co-supervision has come through collaboration with the Sorbonne and universities of Angers and Poitiers.

In addition to external funds, the University has awarded four **Research Excellence Scholarships** to the UoA, helping us to attract high-quality candidates to undertake innovative research projects. These currently fund PGR research on: *Invisible Disability in Nineteenth-Century Britain and Ireland*; *The Welsh in India, 1857-1947*; *Medieval Cities of Old and New Sarum*; and *Creating the King in Early Saite Egypt*. The College has also committed significant resources to PhD research. As part of its Centenary initiatives, COAH funded two History PhD studentships to explore *Student Life 1920-90* and the *History of Science at Swansea University*. A **COAH Studentship** supported work on heritage in Florence during the Second World War, thus further developing our expertise in wartime heritage conservation. Additional COAH awards are currently funding PhD research on *Remembering Disasters*; *Militarization in European Society after 1945*; and *The League of Nations in Wales, 1918-1939*. Concentrating funded PhDs in our priority research areas has helped embed students into our research groups and thereby access a lively research environment relevant to their work and development.

Within the UoA, our research centres and groups are important focal points for **building a PGR community** and enabling their skills development. With funding from a **College Research Environment Fund**, all centres and groups support PGR workshops, annual colloquia or reading groups. For example, CRAM integrates PGR students into its activities via a monthly reading group. Led and organised by PGRs, this has been important in bringing together faculty and ECRs and fostering new thinking and scholarly exchanges. MEMO's Leverhulme Trust Visiting Professor in 2019, Wendy Turner (Augusta), also hosted

a PGR and ECR Career Development workshop, one of several targeted training events during the census period.

Investments in studentships have been important in driving forward wider research activities within targeted areas. Miskell's AHRC Leadership Award built on momentum first developed in steel history research by a University-funded PhD studentship (completed 2016) which demonstrated the research potential of local archival records on steel. The University's creation of a postdoctoral position studying University history evolved out of the research potential first demonstrated by its funding of two PhD studentships in that area. The UoA has helped this group of ECRs to engage with wider networks in the study of University history. Irish (appointed in 2015) helped anchor this work, organizing a series of special seminars, and a panel on University history, featuring Swansea PGRs and Post-doc research at the 2017 History of Education Society conference.

We seek to **enhance the employability of our PGRs** by offering them teaching opportunities, placements, and opportunities to engage in other professional and networking activities. Recognizing **postdoctoral precarity**, we actively support our PGRs in this transitional phase, with mentoring towards publication and job applications. To aid in their career development, students are supported in contributing to online research blogs and organizing research colloquia, such as *Vision and Eyesight across Time and Culture*, 2018 (Gemma Almond). Our link with the Society for the Social History of Medicine enabled Geraldine Gnych to secure a paid position as its journal's book reviews assistant. In 2020 we were approached by the Institute for Historical Research (IHR) to co-run a training workshop, for PGR and ECRs from across Wales and the west of England, on creating public history outputs, working with the media and using archives to explore and support diversity issues. Due to COVID-19 this was postponed until 2022 when it will form part of the IHR's centenary events programme.

The success of the support provided to Swansea PGRs in preparation for their future careers is demonstrated by the **achievements of our recent postgraduates**:

Stephen Donnachie (2014) works in engagement support at Swansea. He remains research active and is due to publish his thesis as a book with Routledge

Hannah Thomas (2015) works as the Special Collections Manager and Research Fellow at Bar Convent, York

Nicolo D'Alconzo (2015) is a Lecturer at the University of Exeter

Carys Howells (2015) and **Allyson Edwards** (2020) secured teaching posts at Warwick University

Richard Hall (2015) and **Gemma Almond** (2019) gained positions as lecturers in Swansea

Felicitas Weber (2017) was Research Assistant on a Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft project at Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, and then Graduate Assistant at the Research Unit of Islamic Archaeology at Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms Universität Bonn

Elodie Papin (2017) has been appointed *ingénieure d'études en analyse de sources anciennes* on the project ROTULUS ANR, at University of Lorraine, Nancy

Sam Blaxland (2017) was recruited as the University's centenary post-doctoral research fellow, leading to the publication of *Swansea University. Campus and Community in a Post-War World* (UWP, 2020). He continues to build his profile as a modern British political historian and commentator; his expertise featuring in BBC coverage of the 2017 and 2019 General Elections.

2.4 Supporting and Promoting Equality and Diversity

Women have been under-represented in the UoA's staff profile, and we have actively sought to address this issue in the current REF cycle. We have taken action through recent recruitments, positive action statements and inclusive language in our job descriptions and adverts, and by promoting career development and leadership activities as detailed earlier. We ran a British Academy-sponsored training event on Gender Equality and Career Development in 2014.

We have taken steps to redress the gender imbalance in senior grades. Three of the five promotions to Chairs in History in the census period were awarded to women, and our ratio at this level is now 3:4. The University has also sought to **address the gender pay gap** at professorial level through abolishing the first three points on the pay scale, where there were a disproportionate number of women.

In the 2019-2020 academic year, our staff profile showed that 43% were of non-UK nationality and 18% self-identified as black, Asian or minority ethnic origin. We recognize that (in common with many other History units) we have further work to do with regard to our representativeness in respect of these and other protected characteristics. Following the 2018 publication of *Promoting Gender Equality in UK History and Race, Ethnicity and Equality in UK History* by the Royal Historical Society, we commissioned an external review of our departmental culture and curriculum, and we are acting on its findings introducing, for example, a new module on black British history. The University also employs an **Equality Team** to help facilitate a working environment free from discrimination in which staff can fulfill their individual potential. The University holds an institutional Athena Swan Silver Award, and the UoA contributed to preparatory work for a College Bronze submission.

Supporting the wellbeing of staff is a key goal of the twice-yearly Professional Development Review (PDR) meetings all staff receive. Those who are **carers** have these needs embedded into their work plans. All staff have their teaching timetable constructed around their identified caring responsibilities and Swansea was the first Welsh HEI to join *Employers for Carers* (2019) providing a source of support for colleagues with caring responsibilities across the University. PDR meetings, which take the form of **mentoring rather than appraising**, enable staff to discuss their workplace experiences and any perceived barriers to developing their personal and research goals. We are responsive to individual needs: three members of staff have **transferred to part-time status** at their own request. To ensure their research does not disproportionately suffer, staff **returning from**

sick leave are supported in their phased return to work by having their teaching responsibilities managed or removed. All staff may request flexible working in accordance with our Flexible Working Policy.

Supporting staff wellbeing became particularly important during the COVID-19 pandemic. Equality and diversity considerations were central to the university's response. PDR meetings undertaken between March and August 2020 focused on the impact of working from home, with particular care taken with female researchers and carers. All staff were encouraged to record the impact of the pandemic on their research so that it can be taken into account in future promotion applications and professional development reviews.

In line with the 2011 Welsh Language Measure, all staff have a legal **right to work through the medium of Welsh**, and the unit has a commitment to supporting Welsh-medium teaching and research. It secured funding from the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol for a Welsh-medium PhD studentship on the First World War (completed, 2018) and the creation of a new lecturing post in 2020. The University offers Welsh-language skills courses to all staff and 3 staff in History have undertaken formal language training.

For the current REF submission, in line with the University's Code of Practice and our UoA Statement of Intent, staff selecting outputs all received mandatory unconscious bias training and targeted REF-specific training to ensure fairness and transparency.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

3.1 Research Income

Our strategic focus on and support for grant capture has led to the UoA winning substantial **external funding** for our research this REF period. Since 2014 we have won 57 HESA-returned research grants. Our total research income (spend) is £2,276,251.43, **more than triple our figure in the last REF cycle**. As Section 1 shows, each of our four major research groups has won a large collaborative research grant.

We have achieved this through a two-pronged strategy: close mentoring of individual staff to help them identify potential funding sources and develop their ideas; and rigorous internal peer review of applications in progress.

Notably, we have supported **more people within the UoA** to secure individual awards thus ensuring income levels are more sustainable and not dependent on a few researchers. Alongside the collaborative project grants highlighted in Section 1, individual successes include:

Examples of awards supporting individual scholarship	5-year Wellcome Lectureship in the History of Medicine (Metzler, £188,158, 2014-2019), now converted to a permanent position
	Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship (Power, £94,817)
	Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship (Halikowski Smith, £48,584)
	Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship (Clifford, £39,297)
	Wellcome grant to support our 'Resilience' work (Bresalier, £11,000)
	Rhys Davies Trust award for research in Welsh history (£121,809).
	6 Small Research Grants from the British Academy

We have also looked beyond traditional academic funders and invested in support for impact. **Heritage Lottery funding** (£58,200) was secured for the *Legacy of Longfields* Project and a further £80,711 for the *21st Century Reverberations* project, restoring the unique industrial heritage of the Lower Swansea Valley including the Musgrave Engine. Collaboration with the Jewish Small Communities Network in 2020 resulted in a joint award from the Heritage Fund of £72,200.

3.2 Infrastructure

These successes owe much to **the infrastructure support** put in place by the University and the College of Arts and Humanities (COAH). Colleagues can draw upon the knowledge and expertise of professional services staff (including a Bid Writer on-site in COAH) and strategic networking available in the **Research Innovation and Engagement Services Hubs**. Hub staff identify external funding opportunities and work with academics to build

bids. They run local briefing events for specific schemes, and publicize University-level sandpits and town meetings with major funders.

The College also has a wider infrastructure to support and finance research. Its **Research Support Fund** makes awards of up to £1,500 p.a. to individual researchers to undertake archive visits, present at conferences, and to host exploratory meetings ahead of larger-scale collaborations. Staff are able to apply for these funds on an annual basis and the awards have been central to enabling the diverse range of monographs and research articles submitted as outputs to this REF. Research centres and groups also received up to £1,500 p.a. to fund external speakers and other activities. **The College administers a HEFCW fund** to support the publication of scholarly monographs on Welsh culture, history and literature that might otherwise not be commercially viable. This has supported publications by six members of the UoA since 2014. COAH also runs an annual 'Research across Boundaries' conference, to promote and showcase collaborative work. The **College Impact Fund**, and the support of a dedicated **College Impact Officer**, enables researchers to develop potential impact pathways from the start of their research.

During the census period, the University offered a competitive **Research Grant Enabler** scheme (SURGE): 7 members of the UoA secured £21,391 of SURGE seed-corn funding, leading to networking events and large-scale grant applications. For example, Hussein was supported to develop the 'metals, communities and identity' initiative, and Langlands held a collaborative workshop with external stakeholders to explore connections between History, Heritage and Wellbeing. Our expertise in the co-creation of historical knowledge with marginalized groups was used to secure £2.6million of external funds for the Awen Institute project (see Section 1.2).

In addition to the College Impact Fund, the University offers its own larger **Research Impact Fund**, which supported Pollard's pilot project for a GIS database of Second World War Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission information on heritage sites. This informs the development of contemporary cultural resource inventories, such as those currently in preparation by the UK Government and armed forces to fulfil their obligations under the recently ratified 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

The creation of a dedicated **Heritage Office** by COAH has greatly enhanced our ability to work with local groups and to communicate the rich heritage of the Swansea region and beyond to a broad and diverse audience. It provides invaluable administrative support and manages and fosters relationships with local groups and other stakeholders. The Heritage Office also provides opportunities for current graduate students to gain professional expertise, as well as running sandpit events that put researchers in touch with external groups.

The Arts and Humanities **Cultural Institute** supports a range of high-profile public engagement activities, including acting as a Hub for the AHRC's '**Being Human**' Festival since 2015. In the 2017 Festival, we used our work on disability and disfigurement to partner with the Changing Faces charity in a photographic competition which attracted over 200 entries. In addition, the University's **Research as Art** competition offers an innovative route

to communicating research and has seen three winning entries from the UoA. History also supports the engagement activities of other units within the University. For example, Mosley works with the **Oriel Science** outreach project and has organized family activities at the annual Swansea Science Festival.

3.3 Facilities

Public engagement opportunities have been further enhanced through the creation of a **new flexible exhibition and public space, Taliesin Create**. In 2018, for example, it was used to host MEMO's annual symposium, CRAM's public lectures, workshops by our visiting professors, and an exhibition on disability history.

Research is further fostered by access to the **unique archive collections held by the University and a rich and diverse Library provision**:



The University's **Egypt Centre** home to an internationally significant collection of over 5,000 ancient items, provides a unique research resource for visiting scholars from across the globe and for the new material culture research group, OLCAP.



The **Richard Burton Archives** holds over 1.3km of material of regional and national significance including the papers of Raymond Williams and Richard Burton, which both attract international researchers. Its acquisition of materials relating to steel have been key to Miskell's AHRC project exploring the industry.



The **South Wales Coalfield Collection** was founded in 1969 to preserve the records and memories of disappearing mining communities. Acknowledged as an internationally important research resource, its material was critical for the Wellcome-funded *Disability and Industrial Society* project and the Rhys Davies Trust Fellowship, based in the archive.

The University continues to invest in its physical archival holdings, with **newspaper clipping collections** a particular focus. The UK Labour Party Newspaper Cuttings collection is a unique, indexed bank of twentieth-century newspaper articles, the content of which goes well beyond what is available digitally. Alongside this, indexed newspaper collections assembled by BBC Wales and S4C have been deposited at the University within the census period, cementing Swansea's ability to support a wide range of research using twentieth-century news media, as well as supporting future landmark projects, notably a new partnership with National Museum Wales and BBC Wales to explore the latter's centenary in 2023.

The three specialist archivists and three archive assistants who maintain these collections, along with the four arts and humanities librarians and the University's head of special

collections (Sian Williams) are **integral to our research culture**. They contribute to conferences, seminars and the provision of postgraduate skills training, and they run a research blog and write research guides to support staff and student research.

In addition, the College of Arts and Humanities has invested in creating **on-line historical resources** for use by our researchers and the wider research community. It has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Library of Wales to support its digital humanities and digitisation work. Investment in digital humanities archive and library staff has facilitated the cataloguing and digital dissemination of research materials generated by the UoA such as the student newspapers and the oral interviews captured for the *Swansea University Centenary History* project. The University also continues to invest in major commercial digital archives that support research. Acquisitions in the census period include *Picture Post Historical Archive*, *Popular Culture in Britain and America, 1950-1975* and *Migration to New Worlds*.

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

4.1 Research collaborations, networks and partnerships

Our research centres are our key platforms for establishing **international networks** for **interdisciplinary research**. KYKNOS has members from the UK, Europe, USA and Japan. MEMO participates in the CARMEN European medieval network. CRAM was a partner in a bid in 2019 (led by Stockholm University) for a six-year Program Grant to finance a project entitled: 'Cultural Transmission and the Resilience of Everyday Militarism: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges in Europe'.

Individual members of the UoA are also engaged in international collaborations. For example:

- Herrmann is part of an international team editing the ancient Greek text of Plato and its later emendations for OUP
- Knoblauch is part of the Uronarti Regional Archaeological Project, a collaboration between Swansea and Brown University, Rhode Island, under the aegis of the National Corporation of Museums and Antiquities, Sudan
- Stevens is Foreign Collaborator on a project on medieval communal towns in the European peripheries, holding the Ulam Fellowship at Nicolas Copernicus University, Torun
- Metzler and Turner are members of the International Advisory Board for the 'Disability before Disability' project, University of Iceland
- Bresalier acted as a consultant on the World Health Organization's World Vision Report
- Dunnage and Laucht initiated an international network on 'Militarization of the Everyday in Europe since 1945', in collaboration with the universities of Leeds, Bremen, Stockholm and Tampere, and the Campaign Against Arms Trade

Through hosting **visitors and staff exchanges**, Swansea historians build relationships that translate into research projects. Dr Mercedes del Cura Gonzales was funded by Universidad Castilla La Mancha in May 2015 to spend six weeks at Swansea to collaborate with researchers on the *Disability and Industrial Society* project. MEMO and MHRC co-hosted Professor Wendy Turner (Augusta) as Leverhulme Visiting Professor (2019, awarded £48,000); and Dr Bianca Frohne (Kiel) as DFG Visiting Fellow (2020).

We were active throughout the period in contributing time and expertise to **organising and hosting conferences**, including those of the British Society for Sports History (2015) and British Society for the History of Science (2015). Other major conferences held at Swansea included 'Disease and Disability in the Premodern Period' (2016); and 'Perspectives on Student Mental Health' (2019). KYKNOS organised the annual UWICAH colloquium in 2015. Halikowski Smith collaborated with Warwick University to organise a conference on Crossroads of Asia in 2016. May convened panels and workshops at international critical heritage meetings ICOMOS (Delhi, 2017) and ACHS (Hangzhou, 2018).

4.2 Contributions to the Research Base

As a scholarly community we make a significant contribution to the collective work of ensuring the quality and sustainability of historical research across the discipline both nationally and internationally. Seven members of UoA serve on the AHRC Peer Review College. As well as UKRI, we have provided peer review for the Canadian Research Council; Commonwealth Scholarship Commission; Deutscher Akademischer Austausch-Dienst; ESRC, Irish Research Council; Flemish Research Council, Belgium; Israel Science Foundation; UK government's Cultural Protection Fund; and SPARC Academic Advisory Board; Swiss National Science Foundation and Research Board; and Wellcome Trust.

We have **peer-reviewed** for over 40 journals and assessed 29 book manuscripts for 14 publishers. We have judged Essay Prizes for the Society for Renaissance Studies; *History Today* and *German History*, the Prix Auschwitz, and Cambridge University's Archbishop Cranmer Prize and Lightfoot Scholarship competition. We **served in editorial roles** for book series (*Studies in History* and the Society for Renaissance Studies) and journals (*Sport in History*, *Social History of Medicine*, *Urban History*, *Welsh History Review* and *Denbighshire Historical Society Transactions*).

We **examined** 23 UK and 10 international **doctoral theses**. We have undertaken **committee and trustee work** for the Royal Historical Society; History UK; Learned Society of Wales; Society for Renaissance Studies; British Society for the History of Science; British Society for Sports History; Society for the Study of French History; Society for the Social History of Medicine; Canadian Association of Slavists; German Association for Historical Peace and Conflict Research; and Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology.

We **take responsibility for the curation and preservation of sources**. Humphries co-edits *Translated Texts for Historians* and Mosley contributes to the Mellon Foundation-funded *Cultures of Knowledge* database, *Early Modern Letters Online*. We contribute our expertise to external **archival projects**: Miskell is President of the South Wales Record Society; Power serves on the Editorial Board of the Pipe Roll Society; and Langlands is a founding patron of the Heritage Crafts Association. We supported successful bids by Glamorgan Archives, Gwent Archives and the Richard Burton Archives for Wellcome Trust funding to catalogue and digitize medical history records, the photographic archive of Raissa Page, and the Motorway Archives.

We also make a significant contribution to **future sustainability** through helping to shape **pathways into the discipline** from school age upwards. The devolved political context in Wales has created particular opportunities for our historians to influence public debate through **participation in government advisory activities**. Johnes has provided evidence and feedback on history in the new Welsh national curriculum to the Curriculum Reform Division of Welsh Government; the Senedd (Welsh Parliament) Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee; and briefing sessions for Senedd staff and elected members. Bracke also worked with Welsh Government, advising on the use of ancient

languages to promote literacy in primary schools in advance of the launch of the new national curriculum.

In the last six months of this REF cycle, which coincided with the first wave of the **COVID-19** pandemic in the UK, researchers in our UoA trialled new forms of dissemination and engagement work. In June 2020, Pretzler and her PhD student launched an online seminar series on 'Myths and Politics' with a linked YouTube channel. In July 2020, Miskell used Twitter as the platform for a two-day international academic conference, 'Shaped by Steel', involving a multi-disciplinary line-up of speakers from six different countries.

While the social restrictions imposed by the pandemic have challenged us to find new ways of fulfilling our mission of conducting public-facing and impactful research, they have also inspired us to be creative and to adapt quickly to changing circumstances. Our research environment will continue to evolve in response to changing conditions, ensuring its resilience and sustainability for the future.

4.3 Relationships with Users

Users of, and beneficiaries from, our research include schools, media organizations, government committees, community groups and heritage bodies.

Engagement work with schools is critical to our work. As part of *Visions of Steel*, we ran history-themed art workshops for Sandfields Comprehensive School pupils in collaboration with West Glamorgan Archives Service. *Legacy of Longfields* developed a partnership with Pen y Bryn School to allow pupils with disabilities the opportunity to volunteer on a public history project on special education, validating their own experiences of schooling by enabling them to see what life was like for pupils in the past. **We have delivered research-informed classes to pupils at both Welsh- and English-medium primary and secondary schools.** One collaboration explored local heritage sites with important links to Massachusetts and was funded by the British Association for American Studies (BAAS), supported by the US Embassy, London. There has been a sustained project of **promoting Classics in schools**, locally and throughout Wales. Launched with initial support from COAH, this developed through a series of funded initiatives, including a literacy through Classics programme in local schools, a teaching-placement UG module, and 'Languages in the Park', which became the annual Swansea summer school in ancient languages.

Producing research-led public history is at the heart of our work. **Swansea stands out for its staff's active work with television and radio.** Langlands presented *Digging Up Britain's Past* (2019), *Britain at Low Tide* (2016), *Victorian Bakers* (2016), and *Full Steam Ahead* (2016). Bresalier was an on-air commentator on the BBC documentary, *The Flu that Killed 50 Million* (2018). Johnes was commissioned to write and present a BBC two-part television documentary, *Wales: England's Colony?* (2019), and a set of accompanying podcasts. The series also featured Cavell and Miskell, and thus gave a platform for female voices in what has been a male-dominated medium. Johnes also wrote and presented a 2019 Radio 4 documentary on Welsh nationalism and a 2017 Radio 3 lecture on writing history. His work on Christmas traditions led to a 2015 media collaboration with Disney

Corporation, generating publicity valued at £513,692 and reaching 11.1million people. The First World War centenary saw Matthews make numerous contributions to Radio Cymru, Radio Wales and S4C. Staff offer political and historical commentary: Blaxland is a regular pundit on BBC Wales politics outputs and Laucht is a frequent contributor to the syndicated German news agency, Regiocast.

Our research is also **improving the quality and range of historical knowledge in popular print and online**. The *BBC History* and *History Today* magazines and podcasts have featured work by Anderson, Clifford, Crook, John, Johnes, Laucht, Pollard and Szpakowska. In 2015 the *Women Negotiating the Boundaries of Justice* team ran the first **Wikipedia editathon in Wales to focus on medieval and early modern women**. As a result, they were invited to write a blog for Wikimedia on running the editathon and women in Wikipedia as a model for future academic engagement with the resource. Johnes has produced a number of historical essays for the BBC Wales website. Matthews created an online map and database of Great War chapel memorials.

Such media contributions have enabled us to inform public debates. Our commitment to this is evident in our **fast response to emerging issues**. In the first months of COVID-19, Bresalier and Laucht wrote online op-eds for *History and Policy*. Simon John used his work on historical monument building to offer UK radio, podcast and newspaper commentary on the Colston statue incident and its aftermath. Our contributions to public debate and knowledge are furthered by the **University's partnership with the Hay Festival**. The festival has included both individual researchers from Swansea and panels consisting of Swansea historians.

The **embedded nature of impact and engagement** in our research is illustrated by Szpakowska's *Demonology* project, whose funding supported public lectures (in the UK and USA), object handling sessions, an open-access online database now sustained by follow-on funding from the University, a conference, and engagement through various social media platforms. Work to strengthen this commitment continues as we further **develop existing, and foster new, collaborations**. Beyond those collaborations detailed in our impact case studies, our research on steel industry history includes working with **industrial heritage professionals** from specialist museums in Britain and Europe, on how best to interpret and represent the social impact of the industry on communities in Wales. Our reputation in public history and memory work has led to consultation work for the **Jewish Small Communities Network**, partnering their successful Heritage Fund bid *Connecting Small Histories*.

Swansea's historians work closely with national heritage organizations in Wales. A series of successful events and exhibitions co-produced with the National Waterfront Museum has led to a formal Memorandum of Understanding signed with Amgueddfa Cymru/National Museum Wales. Closer collaboration with institutions across the National Museum group is fostered through the participation of Turner, Langlands and May in a steering group that informs areas ranging from collection strategy to advising on uses for the new craft galleries at St Fagans National Museum of History.

Strong, reciprocal relationships with local heritage partners and community groups sustain our impact work. Our expertise in commemoration of conflict has informed events to mark the centenary of the Great War, including supporting a HLF project with a local chapel, undertaking research for the national *Pages of the Sea* armistice commemoration, and creating an exhibition to run alongside a major immersive theatrical, *Now the Hero*. In 2014, we continued our partnership with the Swansea City Supporters' Trust that created an online archive of the club's history by researching players who had died in the First World War. The Trust erected a memorial plaque at the stadium and the club published articles by Swansea historians in its match programme.

4.4 Further Contributions to the Economy and Society

The work of **empowering local communities**, by giving them a clearer sense that their stories are valued and form part of public heritage for future generations, is central to our industrial heritage work and partnership with disability organizations and **aligns with wider HEFCW civic mission priorities**.

Our research projects have not just raised awareness of the past, but also provided **training opportunities for members of the public**, helping them to record their memories and experiences and act as **co-producers of historical research**:

Research projects with training opportunities for participants	Berry and Harrison secured a £15,000 HEFCW grant for 'The Ancient World on Film', a collaboration with professional filmmakers, and local community groups on four, research-based films. Partners included 'Unity through Diversity', a charity that works with refugees.
	Langlands led community archaeological excavations at Salisbury that provided training to volunteers and helped locals to uncover the history of their community
	The <i>Legacy of Longfields</i> project trained 6 volunteers to undertake oral history research, and we held a digitization training day in collaboration with People's Collection Wales for 9 participants
	We provided historical advice to two external HLF projects on the history of Welsh hospitals: <i>Memories of St David's Hospital</i> (West Wales Action on Mental Health, 2016-17) and <i>A Mental Picture: Celebrating the History of Cefn Coed Hospital 1931-2018</i> (ABMU Health Board, 2017-18)

We continue to work on **forging new external partnerships, especially in the creative industries**. This has grown out of the AHRC funded Connected Communities project (2013-15), and utilizes the arts and heritage to empower poorer communities and to promote wellbeing and identity. The *Demonology* project included a collaboration with a dancer/choreographer, while in 2019 Kaite O'Reilly was awarded the University's first Creativity Fellowship to produce new writing and theatrical performances on *Disability in the Industrial Revolution: Hidden Histories*. Further opportunity to engage and co-produce impactful research is provided via the University's **Creative Industries Network**. Members include groups such as Disability Arts Cymru, who have collaborated with Swansea

historians to deliver workshops to explore the history of disabled people's experiences through creative expression.

Such collaborations illustrate how we anticipate, and align strongly with, UKRI research priorities in Heritage and Care for the Future. **Historians at Swansea use their research to help communities and individuals understand and benefit from their pasts.** This happens through the media, community co-production and co-operation and the creation of public resources. Across all periods, and on a local and global level, Swansea's historians are making a difference through their research.