

Institution: University of Edinburgh
Unit of Assessment: 28 (History)
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Overview</u></p> <p>History at Edinburgh now comprises one of the largest communities of historical researchers in the world (75.15 FTE, an increase of 13.93 FTE from REF2014). We encompass research interests which run from the Fall of Rome to contemporary indigenous social movements in Latin America and span a range of methodologies. Building on our longstanding strengths in Scottish, British, Irish, North American and European history, since 2014 we have made substantial strategic investments to develop our global research strengths across five continents. Through new appointments and the development of our Edinburgh Centre for Global History our researchers have generated pioneering new work on the history of medicine in the early medieval world, contested modernities in Latin America, the dynamics of early Islamic and modern African states, and the global histories of people, ideas, and material culture. This strength in breadth and depth we believe to be an essential goal for a community of historians based in a major European capital city, the home of national, political, and cultural institutions that have supported centuries of engagement with the wider world.</p> <p>Since 2014 we have made dedicated efforts to enrich our research environment for our growing numbers of postgraduate researchers (71% increase in doctoral completions from REF2014) and to develop mechanisms that support all of our historians to realise their research and impact ambitions. The overwhelming majority of researchers in the submission are located in the School of History, Classics, and Archaeology (HCA) in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. The global and thematic range of historical research at Edinburgh is further enhanced by the work and collaboration of historians located in the departments of Asian Studies (6), Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies (3), both of which are located within the School of Languages, Literatures and Culture (LLC), and Psychology (1). Finally, within our low boundary environment, we have close ties with Edinburgh's researchers in classics, archaeology, art and architectural history, and social and political sciences, who are returned in other units of assessment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Research Strategy</u></p> <p>Our overarching strategic goals since 2014 have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To expand the chronological, geographical, and methodological range of our research strengths, with a focus on African history, Latin American history, late antique and early medieval history, and history of science and medicine. • To build on our strengths in the history of migration and diaspora and the histories of consumption, material culture, and ideas to establish Edinburgh as a leader in global history. • To enhance our existing international reputation in modern and contemporary history of Britain and Ireland, Western Europe and North America. <p>We have delivered on our strategic goals by reviewing and restructuring our research centres (see section 1); pursuing a staffing strategy focused on renewal in areas of existing strength coupled with strategic appointments across our targeted areas (see section 2); developing a series of measures to support and integrate our postgraduate researchers and early career historians more effectively into our research culture and to build research and leadership capacity in key areas (see section 2); and making substantial investment in growing and professionalising our support for research, impact, and knowledge exchange</p>

activities (see section 3). Collectively these measures have allowed us to maintain our strong commitments to providing intellectual autonomy and support for scholars in developing ambitious intellectual goals and collaborations; to delivering focused strategic support for cutting edge areas of the historical discipline; and to enabling and enhancing scholarly engagement with communities of citizens in Edinburgh and the wider world.

Key indicators of success include:

- Overall **growth in Edinburgh's community of historians** (23% increase on REF2014) underpinned by **key strategic appointments** with recruitment to new lectureships in early medieval history (2), Latin American history (2), African history (2), to the William Robertson Chair of History, and the appointment of an historian to the Handa Chair of Japanese-Chinese Relations.
- **49 research monographs and scholarly editions** across the census period, published with world-leading presses (12 with OUP, 7 with CUP, 2 with Penguin, others with prestigious university presses of Duke, Edinburgh, Florida, Georgia, Harvard, McGill-Queen's, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Yale).
- **£7.9M in external awards for our research** including major awards in **new areas of strategic focus**, including African history (Hunter, Nugent £2.2M), late antique history (Legendre £1.2M), global history (Bates, Delaney £1M), history of Britain, Ireland, Europe (Bloxham, Chabal, A. Jackson, L. Jackson, Nenadic £672k), and history of medicine (Bouras-Vallianatos, Davis, Mistry £551k).
- Success in **high-quality funded postdoctoral competitions** in these areas (5 Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships, 3 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowships, 1 Wellcome University Award, 1 ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship).
- **Substantial growth in our cohort of postgraduate researchers** with 122.5 doctoral completions in the REF period (a 71% increase from REF2014).

The unit's research is focused around three centres: the **Edinburgh Centre for Global History**, the **Centre for the Study of Modern and Contemporary History**, and the **Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies**. The organisation of our environment is the outcome of a comprehensive review and consultation after 2014, which recommended the transformation of our existing centres (Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies, Centre for the Study of Modern Conflict, Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies) as a key to delivering our strategic goals. The centres act as hubs of shared intellectual inquiry and emphasise the growing of disciplinary and interdisciplinary collaborations and the integration of postgraduate research students in their activities. They sustain a wide range of research groups and seminar programmes, which constitute the grass roots of our research environment, build on existing areas of strength, and empower our researchers to respond flexibly to new directions in the discipline.

Global History (21.8 FTE, £2.3M awards)

The **Edinburgh Centre for Global History** was inaugurated in 2019 to capitalise on the intersection of the developing research interests embodied in the Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies and the rapidly-growing Global and Transnational History Research Group. Members of the Centre have produced research that drives forward critical reflection on the past histories of global connections and explores the limits and challenges of the global as an analytical category.

Research in global history at Edinburgh has flourished on the basis of strategic decisions about recruitment and the organisation of our research environment. A range of appointments since

2014 has enhanced our expertise in the theory and practice of global history, complemented our ongoing efforts to globalise our undergraduate programmes, and augmented other established areas of research strength, including intellectual history (Hunter, Dell), African history (Brownell, Dell, Hunter), and Latin American history (Priyadarshini), as well as ensuring methodological and thematic breadth with appointments in environmental history (Brownell) and gender history (Yildiz). Leadership in the field is provided by a strategic appointment to the William Robertson Chair of History (Paton) as well as by colleagues with existing and developing interests in the 'global turn' (e.g. Delaney, J. Gentz, N. Gentz, McDowall, Zahedieh).

Our historians have made transformative interventions in the history of **migration, diaspora and slavery**. Bates' 'Becoming Coolies' project (AHRC £770k), for example, focused on neglected subaltern perspectives in exploring the history of forced migration and indentured labour in the Indian Ocean region. Paton's work on diasporic religion in the Caribbean resulted in a prize-winning monograph *The Cultural Politics of Obeah: Religion, Colonialism and Modernity in the Caribbean World* (CUP, 2015) and delivered impact through an important theatre-in-education project 'Freedom to Believe' (AHRC £101k). Zahedieh's contribution to the *Historical Journal* made a critical intervention on the role of the Jamaican Sephardim in the functioning of the Atlantic economy, while her collaborative research with National Museums Scotland deepened our understandings of Scotland's relationship with slavery and the slave trade through the use of material culture in public collections (RSE £8k). Several colleagues have developed research in the **global histories of colonialism and decolonisation**. Hunter's RHS Gladstone-prize-winning monograph *Political Thought and the Public Sphere in Tanzania: Freedom, Democracy and Citizenship in the Era of Decolonisation* (CUP, 2015) furnished themes for a project on the intellectual history of global ideas in post-independence states 'Another World? East Africa and the Global 1960s' (LT £371k). Cunningham's research on Scottish missionaries in Kenya has focused on the 'everyday' practices of colonial rule and recovering the agency of technically 'colonised' people (ESRC £119k). **Material culture, production, and consumption** provide a third strand to our work in global history, exemplified by Priyadarshini's *Chinese Porcelain in Colonial Mexico: The Material Worlds of an Early Modern Trade* (Palgrave, 2018) and Yildiz's comparative work on textile production in the Ottoman Empire and British India. Longstanding strengths in **political violence and conflict** provide a final cutting edge to our work in global history, for example Delaney's innovative project bringing together research into Irish revolution and migration 'A Global History of the Irish Revolution' (AHRC £359k).

Modern and Contemporary History (31.65 FTE, £3.7M awards)

The **Centre for the Study of Modern and Contemporary History** was established in 2017. It built on and expanded our existing Centre for the Study of Modern Conflict and is the hub for an enviably large and diverse group of colleagues with research interests in modern (post-1750) and contemporary history.

Appointments since 2014 have been directed to supplementing our strengths in modern history with colleagues working on non-Western history. In addition to researchers working on modern and contemporary themes, but primarily associated with global history, new appointments have focused on Latin American history (Blanc, Gibbings), East Asian history (Huang, Jin, Moore, Stephens), and the history of medicine (Turkowska).

Collectively our research has driven forward **critical reflection on modernity** from a number of perspectives. Cutting edge publications by Gibbings and Blanc, including *Our Time is Now* (CUP, 2020) and *Before the Flood* (Duke UP, 2019), and National Endowment for the Humanities and AHRC Leadership (£205k) Fellowships for Blanc's work into national mythologies surrounding the Prestes Column rebellion in Brazil, for example, have led in uncovering the struggles over the meaning of modernity in twentieth-century Latin America. A similar concern underpins our research on Ireland (Delaney), France (Chabal), China (Huang), Japan (Harding), the Middle East (Gorman), and Korea (Stephens and Jin). Our research has included pioneering inquiries into the writing of modern history, such as Bloxham's two long-range disciplinary treatments *Why History? A History* and *History and Morality* (both OUP, 2020).

and Chabal's research into the intellectual biography of Eric Hobsbawm (AHRC £176k). Our scholars have pushed the boundaries of research into the histories of **conflict, political violence, and war**. Combatant and civilian experiences of war and comparative perspectives underpin important research such as Nugent's comparative and interdisciplinary African study 'Combatants' Economic and Social-political Power During and After War' (ESRC £480k), Bloxham's 'The World We Fought For? Systematic Violence in Global History since 1945' (LT £145k), and key publications such as Ruiz's, *'Paracuellos': The Elimination of the 'Fifth Column' in Republican Madrid during the Spanish Civil War* (Sussex Academic Press, 2017) and Moore's *Bombing the City: Civilian Accounts of the Air War in Britain and Japan, 1939-1945* (CUP, 2018). We have built on past successes in our world-leading work on the modern histories of **politics, governance, and the state** exemplified in A. Jackson's comparative long-range research into political unions (LT £141k), Nugent's major investigation into 'African Governance and Space' (ERC £1.8M), and Boecking's analysis of the collapse of nationalist government in China in *No Great Wall: Trade, Tariffs, and Nationalism in Republican China, 1927-1945* (Harvard UP, 2017). In the history of science and medicine our work is distinguished by world-leading research into the **history of fertility** embodied in Davis' 'biography' of the Abortion Act of 1967 (AHRC £300k), her innovative cross-disciplinary *Handbook of Infertility in History: Approaches, Contexts and Perspectives* (Palgrave, 2017), and a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowship for Roth (now U of Georgia) researching enslaved women's fertility control in Brazil (£141k).

Medieval and Early Modern History (21.7 FTE, £1.9M awards)

The **Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies** is a longstanding centre of excellence for interdisciplinary research into the medieval and early modern worlds and connects our historians with around 70 researchers drawn from Art History, Literatures, Law, Divinity and elsewhere.

Appointments have focused on building expertise in early medieval history (Mistry, Sowerby) and on recruiting in Mediterranean world, Islamic and Byzantine history (Aščerić-Todd, Bouras-Vallianatos, Carr, Legendre) to maximise synergies with interdisciplinary research communities of classicists, ancient historians and Byzantine scholars. Recent appointments have enabled us to achieve a critical mass of researchers working on the crucial period between classical antiquity and the middle ages.

Our strategic investment in **history of medicine** has seen our research opening up entirely new areas. Mistry has conducted pathbreaking research into fertility in the early medieval world, both through a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship on infertility in Carolingian Europe (£52k) and in an important monograph *Abortion in the Early Middle Ages, c.500-900* (Boydell, 2015). Bouras-Vallianatos' research for 'Making and Consuming Drugs in the Byzantine and Italian Worlds' is remapping how we think about the theory and practice of Byzantine medicine (Wellcome, £259k) and the first fruits of this work are embodied in a series of important publications including *Innovation in Byzantine Medicine: The Writings of John Zacharias Aktouarios, c. 1275-c.1330* (OUP, 2020). This sits with pioneering work by researchers on **cultural exchange and conflict in the Mediterranean and middle east**. Legendre's prize-winning research on the state in Islamic Late antiquity has explored how the Umayyads mixed Byzantine and Islamic forms of governance and administration and she was awarded an ERC starting grant (£1.2M) for an ambitious programme of research into Abbasid fiscal practice. Carr's Leverhulme ECF 'Managing Otherness: Papal Permissions for trade with the "Infidel", 1342-1394' (£72k) has yielded important insights into the interaction of Latin, Greek and Islamic cultures; and Aščerić-Todd's *Dervishes and Islam in Bosnia: Sufi Dimensions to the Formation of Bosnian Muslim Society* (Brill, 2015) has presented a powerful case study of Islamisation in the Ottoman Empire. We have built on our longstanding strengths in **intellectual history and history of the book**. Ahnert's work, for example, in *The Moral Culture of the Scottish Enlightenment, 1690-1805* (Yale UP, 2015) presents an innovative thesis about the relationship between enlightenment and religion, while Oosterhoff's work in *Making Mathematical Culture: University and Print in the Circle of Lefèvre D'Étaples* (OUP, 2018) and elsewhere has broken new ground in historicising communities of knowledge in early modern Europe. Taken together Budd's research for *Circulating Enlightenment: The Career and Correspondence of Andrew Millar 1725-68* (OUP,

2020, funded by AHRC 2013-15 £201k) and Fox's important monograph *Print and the People: Cheap Print and the Press in Scotland 1500-1785* (OUP, 2020) entirely remap our understanding of early modern print culture in Scotland.

Impact Strategy

Our impact strategy has focused on:

- **Growing our support for knowledge exchange and impact (KEI)**, raising awareness of opportunities, and enabling all colleagues to realise their own impact ambitions.
- **Deepening and widening our collaborations with communities, institutions and creative industries** (for example, National Museums Scotland, History & Policy, games industries) in Edinburgh, the UK, and the world to ensure that our research challenges and inspires local citizens and global audiences.
- **Developing strong clusters of expertise** (especially through our Impact Champion scheme) in nurturing, planning, and delivering impact from our research.

Our overall success is indicated in the **range and reach of our impact case studies**. These include examples of where our research has had a formative influence in **challenging and changing public attitudes** (Crang, 'The Spirit of the Blitz'; Harding, 'Changing How the BBC Covers Japan and the Relationship between Culture, Politics and Mental Health'; Ruiz, 'Paracuellos: The Most Contested Atrocity of the Spanish Civil War'), **engaging with industry** (Raccagni, 'Deepening Public Engagement in Medieval History via New Design Strategies for Table-top Games'), and **informing and shaping important public inquiries and legal proceedings** (L. Jackson, 'Historicising "Historic" Child Sexual Abuse and Safeguarding Practices', which won an RHS Public History Prize 2018). These case studies are part of a research culture in which we have **actively cultivated awareness** of the opportunities for and the benefits of impact activities, so that these are pursued and supported widely, from working with original participants to recover the histories of postwar historical pageants in Carlisle (Bartie) to a public exhibition of the history of indentured labour in New Delhi (Bates).

These goals have been met through **growing and professionalising our support for KEI** since 2014. A **Deputy Director of Research Impact** (Harding) provides strategic direction, reflection on and discussion of KEI have been made integral to our career development processes, and research groups and centres consider KEI as part of their planning and review activities through the annual reporting mechanism. **Growth and restructuring in our Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact Office** (see section 3) have delivered responsive and tailored one-to-one support for the development of KEI activities. Historians are kept up-to-date with opportunities in this area via a dedicated KEI mailing list; and members of academic staff with relevant expertise and experience lead regular 'Learning Lunches', themed around impact opportunities specifically relevant to historians (e.g. working with schools, the museums and heritage sectors, and theatre and media organisations) providing a valuable means of cultivating awareness and building capacity in this area.

We have **deepened our relationships with key institutions**, in Edinburgh and beyond, which provide opportunities for our research to challenge and change public perceptions of the past. This can be seen through our successful film series at the **Edinburgh Filmhouse**, in which historians curate and comment on a season of films open to a wide public (Irish history (2014, 2015, 2019), US history (2016), and Korean studies (2019)). We have a longstanding relationship with **National Museums Scotland** and the research of our historians frequently shapes major public exhibitions (for example McDowall, 'Ming: The Golden Empire', 2014 and Nenadic and Pentland, 'Wild and Majestic: Romantic Visions of Scotland', 2019), and drives the impact activities of our funded research networks on 'The Matter of Slavery' and 'Second World War Studies Network' (Royal Society of Edinburgh Research Network Awards, 2017 and 2020). We have generated new partnerships, including a four-year agreement (2016-20) with **History and Policy**, which delivered policy-oriented impacts on the themes of historic child sexual abuse (L. Jackson) and on wealth taxes (Chick).

These overlapping levels of support have allowed us to develop **clusters of expertise** and breadth of experience in delivering impact in certain areas. Researchers have collaborated closely with **creative industries** to produce a range of original public outputs and impacts. Examples include Nenadic's research into Scotland's craft economy in the long nineteenth century ('To Tell a Tale, to Story a Craft' (craft workshop), Scottish Storytelling Centre 2015), Ugolini's oral history research into Italian-Scottish female migration ('A Bench on the Road' (play), supported by Creative Scotland for Scottish tour and Piccolo Teatro, Milan, 2016/17), Pentland's research into Scottish radical politics ('Spun' (short story) in *Protest: Stories of Resistance*, reading and discussion at Edinburgh International Book Festival, 2017), and Beattie's discovery of and research into the lost manuscripts of Alice Thornton ('The Remarkable Deliverances of Alice Thornton' (play) supported by Being Human Festival and performed at Scottish Storytelling Centre, 2019). Our research has informed **television and film** which has reached and challenged large international audiences. L. Jackson and her research into women police officers and community policing, for example, made major contributions to a range of BBC programming, including the documentaries *A Fair Cop: A Century of British Policewomen*, (BBC4, 2015, viewing figures 722,000) and episode 1 of *The Force: The Story of Scotland's Police* (BBC1 Scotland, 2017, 336,000). Our **collaborations with schools** provide final examples of how our research has been used to effect change beyond academia. Paton's work on religion and slavery in the Caribbean, for example, produced an AHRC-funded collaboration with Talawa Theatre Company to develop and pilot a series of Theatre in Education workshops at English secondary schools. Budd's AHRC-funded research on the print culture of enlightenment Scotland underpinned his creation and delivery of a professional development course for teachers 'Circulating Enlightenment: Edinburgh Then and Now' (General Teaching Council Scotland recognised) and furnished teaching and assessment materials for the 'History in Schools' widening participation initiative.

Historians at Edinburgh have thrived in particular through our **Impact Champion scheme**, which was piloted in 2014 and has been sustained annually since then. The purpose of the scheme is to provide workload credit to individuals to plan and carry out activities that enhance the impact of their research. In most cases, this has allowed colleagues either to 'scale up' and deliver impact activities (e.g. Beattie was enabled to develop impact activities from her work on Scottish women's wills and from her discovery of Alice Thornton's manuscripts, Harding developed successful BBC documentary pitches) or to cultivate and develop innovative activities that require the investment of a researcher's time (e.g. Raccagni's exploratory engagement with the tabletop wargaming and video games industries). The scheme complements rich sources of support elsewhere at UoE. Raccagni's initial work, for example, was expanded with **KEI grants** (£8k) and **Challenge Investment Funds** (£7k). His expertise, nurtured by this support, has underpinned the establishment of the History and Games Lab, a hub bringing together researchers and practitioners to explore games as a medium for historical research and teaching and a key driver of future impact from our research. Ruiz (2015-16), Hilfrich (2016-17), and Delaney (2018-19) have been enrolled on the **MediaTalent programme**, which provides intensive and innovative media training for researchers. The active role of historians has ensured not only the development of their own individual KEI activities, but also wider engagement from their colleagues. Impact Champions, for example, have taken roles as advocates and mentors and have allowed us to build rich resources of expertise and experience.

Research Ethics and Open Research

Historians at Edinburgh are collectively committed to the highest ethical standards in the planning, conduct, and dissemination of their research. Colleagues are prominent within debates around research ethics in their respective fields and our large group of contemporary historians, frequently working on living subjects and/or employing oral history as a research methodology, are especially active. L. Jackson's work into the **ethical dimensions of research into historical child sexual abuse** (ESRC £133k), for example, is at the cutting edge of the field and generated journal articles and powerful *History & Policy* contributions. Bloxham's important

monograph *History and Morality* (OUP, 2020) is a landmark disciplinary intervention dealing with the role of **value judgements in the research and writing of history**.

These commitments inform a culture of supportive and rigorous ethical review of research. The **Research Ethics Committee** ensures that all work planned by staff or postgraduate research students undergoes a research ethics assessment before it begins (with further ethics assessments where risks are identified). Training is provided for both postgraduate research students (through induction and our 'Professional Skills for Historians' course) and staff (through induction and one-to-one advice and training from the Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact Office) and we have agreed and published a Statement of Principles to provide guidelines for the conduct of ethical research. This is complemented by Edinburgh's wider research ethics framework and the College Research Ethics Committee, which has provided detailed and responsive guidance for rethinking research activities during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Openness is prioritised within the UoA and we have achieved a **96% rate of compliance** with REF2021 open access requirements. There has been substantial raising of awareness of open access issues since 2014, with dedicated local provision complemented by comprehensive Research Support Services offered by the University Library. The Research, Impact and Knowledge Exchange Office provides a dedicated email address for staff inquiries and one-to-one advice and training and information on publisher open access policies, copyright issues, and support for gold open access and since 2014 open access has been a key heading in our annual research monitoring processes. Edinburgh's historians have been **leading in discussions around open research, data and methods**, through widespread editorial roles and membership of editorial boards and membership of professional bodies and peer review colleges. Cameron, for example, as Chair of the Trustees of Edinburgh University Press, has made a sustained contribution to the debate on open access. Similarly, individual research projects have been pioneering and 'Mapping Edinburgh's Social History' (AHRC 2013-17, 633k), for example, used OpenStreetMap, allowing anyone to use the maps which constituted an important research output of the project. This combination of academic leadership and administrative expertise fed into HCA's **Open Research Strategy (2019)** and puts us in a strong position to continue to support our researchers in engaging with the opportunities and challenges of continued movement to open access, data, and methods.

Future Strategic Aims and Goals

Our future strategic aims are:

- To drive forward our strengths in the **history of medicine** by growing our links with the wider community of medical humanities scholars in Edinburgh and building on our recent success to make ambitious bids for Wellcome Trust University Awards.
- To capitalise on our strong concentration of researchers working on the Mediterranean world and Islamic history to establish a **Centre of Late Antique, Islamic and Byzantine Studies** as one of the world's leading interdisciplinary communities working on these areas.
- To empower our established research centres in **Global History, Modern and Contemporary History**, and **Medieval and Renaissance Studies** to expand their research activities and collaborations by targeted support for the development of large funding bids, especially to the Global Challenges Research Fund.
- To **expand our collaborations** with other institutions in Edinburgh and beyond, including existing partners such as National Museums Scotland and the National Library of Scotland and **forge new research collaborations** with, for example, the tabletop and video games industries and the Scottish Government.

2. People

Staffing Strategy

The UoA has achieved sustainable expansion from our highly inclusive submission in REF2014 (96% of eligible staff), growing from 61.22 FTE to 75.15 FTE submitted in 2021 (23% growth), so that Edinburgh hosts one of the largest concentrations of historical researchers in the world. We have committed to a staffing strategy with three key aims:

- To ensure that **individual appointments further more than one of our strategic research goals** and create opportunities for new collaborations.
- To make appointments, wherever possible, to **open-ended teaching and research posts which further our equality and diversity goals**.
- To provide dedicated and appropriate opportunities for **early career researchers**.

Our appointments since 2014 have been to all levels of the profession, 7 of them **appointments of early career staff to their first permanent academic post**. We have been especially keen to create and support high quality opportunities for early career researchers, both through large research projects (e.g. Mannion, Milford) as well as through the creation and funding of dedicated **Early Career Development Fellowships** (3-year and 1-year Fennell Early Career Fellowships for Johannesson and Ballantyne made possible by fundraising, 1-year Teaching and Research Postdoctoral Fellowship in Korean Studies for Jin). Half of our new appointments since 2014 have been of women, including the most senior appointment (to the William Robertson Chair) to provide leadership in global history. In the context of sectoral concerns around casualisation we have made dedicated efforts to reduce the overall proportion of **temporary contracts** in our submission. These accounted for 21% of our 2014 submission (12.8FTE) and only 8% of the current submission (5.8FTE).

Our attractive and supportive research environment has contributed to **high levels of staff retention** and we have seen only a very limited number of departures since REF2014. Strategic renewal has been made possible by 5 retirements and the movement of 4 permanent postholders to senior positions in Finland, Italy, USA and Canada (Professorship and Vice Head for Research and Innovation University of Jyväskylä, Associate Professorship University of Bologna, Associate Professorship Virginia Tech, Scottish Studies Foundation Chair University of Guelph).

Collectively new colleagues have allowed us to make substantial progress in meeting our ambition of **globalising our research strengths**. Blanc, Hunter, Mijers, Paton, Priyadarshini, Brownell, for example, have been active in establishing, leading, and sustaining the Global & Transnational Research Group and the Edinburgh Centre for Global History. These and other appointments have also allowed us to **consolidate existing areas of research strength**, e.g. economic history (Kosmetatos), medieval history (Mistry, Carr, Sowerby, Legendre, Bouras-Vallianatos), Scottish history (Bartie, Mijers), North American history (Ballantyne, Johannesson) and to achieve our important strategic goal of **expanding the chronological, geographical, and methodological range** of our research strengths by the creation of new clusters of expertise. The appointment of historians to the Handa Chair of Japanese-Chinese Relations (Moore), to a lectureship in Japanese and Korean Studies (Stephens), and to a Teaching and Research Postdoctoral Fellowship in Korean Studies (Jin) has strengthened and diversified our expertise in east Asian history. Two appointments within medieval history and a Wellcome University Award have enabled us to establish expertise in medieval science and medicine (Mistry, Sowerby, Bouras-Vallianatos) and a range of appointments has created strong groups of historians of the Islamic world (Aščerić-Todd, Legendre) and Latin American historians (Blanc, Gibbings, Priyadarshini).

Career Development

We aim to provide support and career development opportunities for individual researchers at every stage, with an especial emphasis on providing support around important transitional moments. **New appointees**, whatever their level, take part in a full induction programme organised at school and university level. From 2018, historians have been offered a history-focused 're-induction' event to answer questions and discuss experiences after a semester of research and/or teaching. New appointees are given a reduction of one-third in their workload (focused on reduction of administrative tasks) for their first year in post, while postdoctoral researchers are not normally expected to teach as part of their duties.

All postdoctoral researchers, research assistants and new colleagues are supported by an **academic mentor** within History as well as having access to wider university schemes (such as Mentoring Connections). Discussions between mentor and mentee are confidential and entirely discrete from annual and research reviews. In addition, and in recognition of the particular challenges faced by early career researchers, new colleagues themselves received support to establish the Post New Club in 2014, now the **Early Career Researchers Forum**. This provides a valued space for all research staff and lecturers within three years of their first appointment to discuss and access research support and career development opportunities.

The organisation of our research environment around our 3 centres has proved to be an effective means of integrating postgraduate and early career researchers and new colleagues at all levels and of **building capacity in research leadership**. Through mentoring and research interviews colleagues are encouraged to identify with one or more centre and/or research group at an early opportunity. Colleagues appointed since 2014 have been the driving force behind the Edinburgh Centre for Global History and played prominent roles on the steering committee and as directors of the Centre for the Study of Modern and Contemporary History (Blanc, Brownell, Dell, Gibbings). The flatter structure of management in the research groups has empowered early career researchers to take prominent roles in establishing them and steering their activities. For example, the Gender and Sexuality, Science, Medicine and Technology, and Global and Transnational groups all count colleagues appointed since 2014 among their originators and co-ordinators. Two new colleagues (Mistry, Priyadarshini) sit on the History Research Committee.

All researchers participate in an **annual research review** with a senior colleague (complementing the university's formal appraisal mechanism through the annual review), where the emphasis is firmly developmental. From 2018 this annual **research review was opened to teaching fellows** as a means of supporting early career colleagues on short-term contracts. These reviews aim to support colleagues in planning future research, to identify specific forms of support that might be required (e.g. dedicated research mentoring, one-to-one meetings with members of the Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact Office to identify appropriate external funding), and to consider any obstacles or challenges that might hinder colleagues from realising their research ambitions. A valued additional source of support is Edinburgh's **Institute for Academic Development**, which provides a full range of researcher development workshops and programmes covering research supervision, career management, production of research outputs, and leadership in research.

Managing the **expansion of academic roles** in a way that enables colleagues to realise their research potential has been a key priority in the UoA. Colleagues on research and teaching contracts benefit from a Workload Allocation Model (regularly reviewed to ensure that it captures new roles and remains appropriate), which affords an allowance of 40% for research. Radical improvements to our planning cycle and, in particular, the investment in a dedicated Curriculum and Quality Assurance team, has allowed us to manage teaching and administrative duties prospectively. This has meant that colleagues on teaching and research contracts in History have been enabled formally to identify a dedicated research day as part of our curriculum planning. These efforts are well supported by Edinburgh's promotion of a range of health and wellbeing activities, such as the Counselling Services' workshops on mindfulness, confidence,

presentations, and managing anxiety, mood, perfectionism, sleep, people, pressure, procrastination, and time.

History operates its own scheme of **internally-funded leave**, which is generous by sectoral standards. Colleagues are currently entitled to apply for one semester of leave for every five completed semesters of full-time teaching and administration. Periods of maternity/paternity and/or statutory sick leave are counted toward this entitlement to apply. From 2019, the scheme was amended to recognise the additional challenges faced by colleagues who have taken a semester or more of leave for parental or other caring responsibilities. Those colleagues are now entitled to enhanced sabbatical accrual (x1.5) for four semesters from taking leave. In June 2020 the scheme was amended to ensure priority was given to leave applications from those colleagues most affected by COVID-19, especially care-givers and BAME colleagues.

Historians have access to **generous internal funding** (up to the level £4000 per annum per person), administered through a simple application and reporting process, to support conference hosting and/or attendance, research travel and expenses, publication expenses, KEI activities, and pump-priming projects. This internal funding has been critical in supporting research for and completion of key outputs (e.g. Malinowski *Nazis and Nobles: The History of a Misalliance*) and seeding larger projects (e.g. Hunter, 'Another World? East Africa and the Global 1960s'). Responsive funds are supplemented by schemes that provide targeted and incentivised support in certain areas. For example, the annual Impact Champion Scheme ringfences a part of colleagues' workload allocation for developing and delivering impact activities and sharing best practice more widely.

This comprehensive package of support from academic and professional services colleagues is designed to assist every individual researcher to grow and realise her/his research and impact goals and to develop these as part of wider academic roles and careers. The effectiveness of our career development mechanisms is demonstrated in a **strong record of promotions** across the census period. There have been 26 promotions within the UoA (academic years 2014/15-2019/20). It is notable that 8 of these promotions were of colleagues within five years of their appointment (Bartie, Chabal, Huang, Hunter (x2), Mijers, Raffae, Silkenat). Additional evidence of the effectiveness with which we foster and develop early career researchers is the **career destinations of postdoctoral research fellows**. Our externally-funded early career fellows have been appointed to open-ended lectureships at University of Edinburgh (Carr, Mistry), University of St Andrews (Petrie), University of Strathclyde (Whelehan), University College Cork (McLaughlin), and University of Georgia (Roth). Our dedicated support for the **research development of colleagues on temporary and/or teaching-only contracts** has yielded similar successes, with colleagues moving to permanent posts at the universities of Huddersfield (Visana), Manchester (Houghton), Oslo (Nathaus), Portsmouth (Ng), Toronto (More), Yonsei and Aberdeen (Bow).

Research Students

We are home to a large and vibrant Graduate School and we have achieved sustainable growth across the census period with the completion of 122.5 doctoral degrees to academic year (up 71% on REF2014). We currently have 80 students registered on PhD degrees in history, with a proportion of female PhD students (50%) higher than national and Russell Group benchmarks. A **Graduate Director** provides strategic leadership and in 2015 the post of **Deputy Graduate Director with specific responsibility for postgraduate research (PGR) students** was created. There has been growth in the Graduate School Office, including the appointment from 2017-18 of a Graduate School Administrator with the specific role of providing support to PGR students.

One key strategic goal since 2014 has been to **enhance the training and support** in place for our PGR community. At MScR and PhD level core courses provide a spine of training ('Historical Research: Skills and Sources' and 'Historical Methodology' for MScR, 'Professional Skills for Historians' for PhD, fully revised in 2015-16) and supervisors agree tailored training (in e.g.

languages, palaeography, statistical methods) according to students' individual research programmes. Our PGR community has full access to the resources and support offered by Edinburgh's **Institute for Academic Development (IAD)**, which includes transferable skills and career management training, funding for researcher-led academic networks, and a recognised route to work towards HEA Fellowship status (the Edinburgh Teaching Award) for our PGR teachers. The AHRC-funded DTP Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities is a rich additional source of training and support, offered through its Discipline+ Catalysts, KE Hubs, and paid internships.

PhD students benefit from **annual review** for each year of their programme at 9 to 12 month intervals. The assessors at the first annual review include at least one member external to the supervisory team (and for subsequent reviews this is normally the case as well). Assessors review a portfolio of written work including a 10,000+ word piece of PhD-level writing, a research plan, and a reflective statement of training undertaken in the previous year and/or required in subsequent years. From January 2019 our PGR training was expanded and formalised with the introduction of **Training Needs Assessment** for all new PhD entrants, which was extended to MScR and on-programme PhD students in the following academic year, 2019-20. This ensures that we are closely monitoring, identifying and supporting the training needs of our PGR students from the very beginning of their doctoral research. The training needs of each PhD student are then reviewed automatically as part of the annual review process.

PGR students (both MScR and PhD) have access to the **Research Student Support Fund**, which supports UK or overseas research trips and fieldwork and additional training expenses and to a dedicated **Conference Research Fund** to support students presenting papers at conferences in the UK or internationally. Since academic year 2013-14 these funds have provided just under £100k of support. In addition, the UoA offers a Student-Led Initiative Fund, which supports learning and community-building projects led by our students, while PGR students have access to wider University funds (e.g. Innovative Initiative Grant and IAD Action Fund).

We are committed to **supporting and developing our student teachers**. PhD students are offered opportunities to teach undergraduate students on a range of courses and recruitment has been professionalised so that Guaranteed Hours Contracts are awarded following a competitive interview process. Around 40 to 50 of our registered PhD students have been engaged in undergraduate teaching in each year of the census period. Building on training delivered in collaboration with IAD in 2015-16 a new training and development programme (supported by the newly-formed PG and Part-time Tutors Forum) was piloted in 2016-17. All PGR teachers in History have access to the Teaching Circle, a forum for the sharing of best practice in teaching through reflective seminars and presentations from external speakers.

Our PGR students have benefited from the support of **over 60 substantial scholarship awards** from internal and external funding sources. These included 16 AHRC Scholarships (from 2014 from the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities), 5 ESRC Studentships, 3 Wolfson Postgraduate Research Scholarships, 2 Leverhulme Trust Project Grants, 2 AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Awards, 1 AHRC Project Studentship, 1 Scottish Government PhD Studentship in Scottish Diaspora Studies, 1 Japan Student Services Organisation Scholarship for Long-term Study in a Foreign Country, and 1 Carnegie PhD Scholarship. We have devoted considerable effort and resources to **growing our own provision of funded studentships**, which was a key priority identified in the Graduate School Strategic Plan for 2010-15. These include the consolidation of our endowment income to provide 7 competitive School Doctoral Scholarships, which cover fees and pay an annual stipend at UKRI rates, and the addition of 5 Fennell Doctoral Scholarships on the same terms. These join our established awards (3 Jenny Balston, 2 Justin Arbuthnott, and 3 William R. McFarlane Scholarships and 6 McMillan awards for on-programme PhD students) and competitive schemes at university level (6 Principal's Career Development Scholarships, 3 College Research Awards, 1 Edinburgh Global Doctoral Scholarship) to broaden and diversify the range of awards available for the very best starting PGR students.

The aspiration to **integrate PGR students more consistently into our research community** was central to the rationale for reforms to our research environment after 2014. Membership of research groups and/or centres has been strongly encouraged for PGR students and following dedicated information and discussion sessions in Welcome Week, most starting PGR students joined one or more research group or centre in 2019-20. PGR students have played central roles in the running of research groups and centres, which have also supported applications for funded studentships, where the articulation of the 'institutional fit' for PhD projects is an important consideration. The research environment provided by our centres for Global History and Modern and Contemporary History, for example, was key to successful doctoral applications to the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities scholarship competition for students with projects examining the radical left and nationalism in Scotland from the 1960s and Medicine and transatlantic slavery in the Caribbean.

We are exceptionally proud of the many and diverse **achievements of our PGR historians**. Growing concerns around employability within and beyond academia have prompted us to develop provision concentrating on this theme and targeted at the PGR community. Large careers events have been held annually since 2017 and designed in conjunction with the Careers Service and Development and Alumni. Our PGR graduates have moved into senior positions for a range of employers, many of which appointments serve also to strengthen the UoA's ties with cultural and policy-oriented bodies in Edinburgh and beyond (e.g. UK and Scottish Governments, Ipsos MORI, National Museums Scotland).

Edinburgh's PGR historians have published **world-leading monographs and articles** and engaged in knowledge exchange and impact activities and collaborations with colleagues at Edinburgh and beyond. PGRs who have completed PhDs since 2014 have moved into research and/or teaching roles in more than **25 institutions across the world**, including permanent lectureships at the universities of Exeter, Manchester, and Liverpool John Moores, Aichi Prefectural University and Tojo University in Japan, and postdoctoral research positions including Durham, Oxford, St Andrews, Sussex, Warburg Institute, Warwick, Maynooth, NUI Galway, Helsinki, Leuven, and Wuhan. They have published high quality monographs and research articles in journals including *Historical Journal*, *Historical Research*, *History*, *Scottish Historical Review*, *Diplomacy & Statecraft*, *Studies in Church History*, *International History Review*, *Journal of Urban History*, *Radical History Review*, and *Urban History*. Collectively, they make a major contribution to the sustainability of the discipline worldwide.

Equality and Diversity

We achieved an **Athena Swan Bronze award in April 2016** and are currently preparing to apply for a Silver award in Autumn 2020 (deferred application from April 2020 due to impact of COVID-19). One result of these efforts has been much more consistent monitoring of and discussion around equality and diversity (E&D) issues within the unit and wider recognition of the scale of some of the challenges in this area. Preparations for the bronze application, the action plan to which we committed, and greater awareness and engagement with these issues by our community have ensured significant progress. In 2016 we appointed an **E&D Director**, with *ex officio* membership of the School Management Committee and a Deputy E&D Director with responsibility for our undergraduate and postgraduate communities. The E&D Director and the committee they chair develop policies and routinely collect and analyse data from the biennial workplace culture survey and other sources. To promote transparency and awareness, E&D committee minutes and survey results are posted on the staff SharePoint and regular updates are presented at School Forums and department meetings. We have expanded the E&D pages of our website to incorporate dedicated 'Gender Equality and Athena Swan', 'Training', and 'Events' pages and links to family-friendly policies, mental health and wellbeing resources, and disability, LGBT+ and BAME support groups.

Progress on gender equality has been tangible around **appointments and promotions**, which have seen significant movement towards greater gender balance within the unit. Within the UoA

as a whole the proportion of women in the submission has increased from 26% in REF2014 to 31% in the current submission, with an improved female representation at senior grades UE09 and 10 (now 56%). Four women were promoted or recruited to UE10 (Professor). Progress is measured too in an increased response rate and substantially increased positive responses to 26 out of 32 questions on the academic staff working culture survey and 19 out of 28 questions on the PGR equivalent. There was a 67% increase of staff indicating that they had undertaken UoEs 'Overcoming Unconscious Bias' training, which is mandatory for office-holders and those involved in recruitment.

A range of measures has contributed toward this demonstrable progress. The E&D Director is a member of the **HCA promotions committee** and there is greater communication and transparency about promotions procedures within the unit. A rigorous process of **open advertisement for all school management and leadership roles** has been adopted and this has ensured much greater representation of women in these roles and on key committees. In 2019/20, for example, the School Management Committee embodied an even gender balance (6 females and 6 males). Structural and procedural reforms have been accompanied by developments within the research environment more generally, including the introduction of a **female PGR mentoring scheme and of group meetings for female academics and PGRs**, held once a semester off-site, for informal conversation and mentoring. Equality and diversity considerations were paramount in reconsidering and reforming the **structure and organisation of our research environment** described above. For example, part of the strategic rationale for reconstituting the Centre for Modern Conflict as the Centre for the Study of Modern and Contemporary History was to encourage the engagement of a more diverse body of staff and PGR students. The Centre has made gender-balanced seminars and events a key part of its developing programme. Monitoring access to role models and the gender balance of seminar speakers is a substantial part of the Deputy E&D Director role and analysis indicates that since 2015/16 the average proportion of female seminar speakers in History has risen from 41% to 48%. Similarly, the formation of new research groups has provided key opportunities for female colleagues and 6 women act as conveners or co-conveners of these groups. Members of the UoA sit on the steering group of GenderED (L. Jackson, Mistry, Paton), which was launched in 2017 to showcase and promote research, KE, and impact in gender and sexualities studies at UoE. The first challenge moving beyond 2021 is to **maintain momentum in our efforts to address gender equality**. We are conscious, for example, that at 31% the overall proportion of women in the unit sits below national (43%) and Russell Group (41%) benchmarks.

The second challenge is to **expand our efforts to take on other areas of equality and diversity**. Our community is an increasingly cosmopolitan one comprising colleagues from 14 different nationalities. The efforts to globalise our research expertise support our aspiration to further diversity among our staff and students and Edinburgh's historians are making leading contributions to these debates. For example, Budd co-authored the influential Royal Historical Society *Race, Ethnicity and Equality in UK History: A Report and Resource for Change* in 2018, while the E&D Deputy Director organised an Equality and Diversity Workshop event in March 2019 to set strategic priorities and a workshop with our PGR community in May 2019. Ahmed, Cunningham, Oosterhoff and Paton were founder members of the RACE.ED initiative, established in 2020 to act as a hub for research, teaching and knowledge exchange around race, ethnicity and decolonial thought. In July 2020, for example, the network hosted with the Edinburgh Centre for Global History a public event, 'Historians on Dundas and Slavery', providing researchers' insights at a time of urgent public debate around the legacy and memorialisation of a controversial historical figure. Members of the UoA have made major contributions to lead the university's engagement with Black History Month and PGR students led the UncoverED research project and exhibition, which aimed to produce social histories of the marginalised student experience at Edinburgh. The parallel effort to globalise and diversify the research interests represented in the UoA, the revised management structure, which ensures leadership on these issues from the E&D Director, and the hard work since 2014 put us in a good position to confront these challenges.

In line with the UoE REF2021 **Code of Practice**, we have adopted an inclusive approach to defining 'independent researcher' and have embraced the decision to return 100% of eligible academic staff, which builds on our inclusive submission to REF2014 (96% of eligible staff). We adopted a rigorous, fair, and transparent approach to selection of outputs, fully accounting for staff special circumstances which have affected their research activities. The process took full account of E&D considerations, building in unconscious bias and E&D training. We also established an independent E&D oversight group to review the distribution of outputs across staff by gender and career stage (noting that we were unable to access accurate data on other protected characteristics because of the voluntary nature of the information and constraints to updating personal details).

The result of this review demonstrated a balanced spread of outputs across gender and career stage: 30% of outputs submitted are authored/co-authored by female staff (who comprise 31% of our staff, including REF1bs); 38% by ECRs and Grade 8 colleagues (40% of our staff). Overall 67% of our staff contributed 2 or more outputs. This we believe is evidence of how our inclusive approach to research support has enabled researchers to flourish, across gender and career stages.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income

Since REF2014, members of the unit have won external awards totalling **£7.9M** to undertake historical research. This comprises 53 awards, received by 39 members of staff. Our research income is distinguished by the wide range of funders from which it comes, the diversity of the research and impact activities that it supports, and the various career stages of the researchers to whom it has been awarded.

Our UoA has won **20 awards in excess of £100k**. The largest awards have been collaborative and interdisciplinary and have been built on our researchers' links within and beyond UoE. Nugent's 'African Governance and Space (AFRIGOS)' project (ERC £1.8M), for example, involved colleagues in Edinburgh's Centre for African Studies and Bates' "'Becoming Coolies": Rethinking the Origins of the Indian Ocean Labour Diaspora' (AHRC £770k) was built on a collaboration with colleagues at Leeds and on the interdisciplinary expertise of Edinburgh's Centre for South Asian Studies.

Other large and medium awards have been won in areas of **established research strengths** (e.g., Delaney, 'Global History of the Irish Revolution' (AHRC £359k); A. Jackson, 'The Union: A New Political History' (LT £141k); Nenadic, 'The Business of Art in Scotland, 1700-1900' (LT £112k)) and in **areas of strategic focus** (e.g. Hunter, 'Another World: East Africa and the Global 1960s' (LT £371k); Bloxham, 'Systematic Violence in Global History since 1945' (LT £145k)).

The further development of a supportive and developmental environment where senior professors regard the mentoring of colleagues and peer review of their funding applications as a priority has ensured substantial research income generated by **colleagues at comparatively early career stages** (e.g. Legendre 'The Finances of the Caliphate: Abbasid Fiscal Practice in Islamic Late Antiquity' (ERC £1.2M); Bouras-Vallianatos, 'Making and Consuming Drugs in the Byzantine and Italian Worlds' (Wellcome £259k); Chabal, 'An Intellectual Biography of Eric Hobsbawm' (AHRC £176k)). 35% of these larger awards were won by women.

While the bulk of these larger awards has come from a limited range of established funders the unit sustains a very **active culture of applications for smaller grants** from a much wider range of funders (which include Carnegie Trust, Royal Society of Edinburgh, US Embassy in London, Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, and Universities China Committee) something which is supported by the increased capacity within the local Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact Office. These smaller grants are used to support discrete individual research projects and the production of high quality outputs (e.g. McDowell, 'China in British Visual Culture'

(Carnegie Collaborative Research Grant £5k)); to capitalise on knowledge exchange opportunities and enhance the impact of our research (e.g. Zahedieh, 'The Matter of Slavery in Scotland' (Royal Society of Edinburgh Research Workshop Grant £8k)); or to scope and build towards larger projects (e.g. Chabal, 'Intellectual Biography of Eric Hobsbawm' Carnegie Grant £5k)).

Infrastructure

These successes are underpinned by an **holistic and responsive research support infrastructure** at Edinburgh and have been enabled through substantial investment since 2014 in the dedicated local support from the Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact Office (RKEIO). Research strategy is led by the Director of Research, by a Deputy Director of Research with responsibility for Impact and Knowledge Exchange, and by a History Research Committee.

Professional support is centred on a substantially restructured RKEIO, which has grown from 3.5 FTE in 2014 to 5 FTE. We have made a key investment in a senior grade 8 post of **Head of Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact** to provide experienced leadership and enhance the support for the UoA's research strategy. The RKEIO provides expert assistance for research centres and groups and offers tailored support across all areas of research: matching academic staff and potential funders, coordinating the rigorous academic peer review of funding applications, managing successful awards, and advising on open access and research data management. Colleagues are given one-to-one support in developing individual research plans, establishing and developing research collaborations, and making applications for external funding.

This improved local support has been especially effective in empowering new colleagues to progress quickly to identify and secure sources of research funding (e.g. Blanc, 'The Prestes Column Rebellion' and 'Interior History: Rethinking Space and Nation in Brazil' (both AHRC £248k), Gibbings, 'Geography, Technology, and Political Violence in Cold War Guatemala' (BA/LT £10k)). Professionalisation in our RKEIO and the academic leadership provided by the **Deputy Director for Research (Impact)** have ensured that our support for impact directly addresses the distinctive opportunities for and challenges faced by historians. These enhancements have enabled colleagues to respond quickly where their planned research has the potential to impact and inform current public debates (e.g. L. Jackson, 'Historicizing "Historical Child Sexual Abuse"' was funded under ESRC Urgency Grants Mechanism and Davis, 'The Abortion Act (1967): A Biography', was supported to impact debates around the 50th anniversary of the act).

Our UoA invests more than **£30k annually in direct support for research centres, seminars and groups** and provides generous individual funding for the development of research and impact activities. The creation of research groups was undertaken to provide a more flexible and responsive means of supporting developing research interests and collaborations among researchers at all career stages. On establishment, each group receives a dedicated annual budget (up to £1,750), principally to support research workshop activities, visiting speakers, and PGR-led research initiatives. Light-touch set-up and reporting mechanisms ensure these groups can adapt to capture the existing and emerging research interests of Edinburgh's historians. This responsive investment complements targeted investment in areas of strategic priority, such as the establishment of the Edinburgh Centre for Global History and the Centre for the Study of Modern and Contemporary History, each with a dedicated annual operations budget (£4,500), which supports workshops and seminars, PGR conferences and workshops, and an annual 3-month visiting fellowship in collaboration with the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities.

Local research support is complemented by the rich resources available elsewhere in the university. The **Edinburgh Research Office** provides information events and additional expertise and support (e.g. a briefing session by the EU and International Team and subsequent

one-to-one support were central to Legendre's successful ERC Starting Grant, 'The Finances of the Caliphate', £1.2M). The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences hosts a dedicated **Knowledge Exchange and Impact team** (5 FTE), whose remit is to support engagement with policy makers, practitioners, industry and the public, to enhance the impact of research beyond academia. Members of the UoA have benefitted from over £40k in KEI Grants and Challenge Investment Funding since 2014.

Collectively, these changes (along with the mentoring and research review mechanisms described in section 2) have seen a **transformation of our overall research support infrastructure** and a shift from reactive 'one-size-fits-all' provision to proactive, tailored and individualised advice and support.

Facilities

Historians at Edinburgh have been concentrated since 2010 in the **award-winning refurbished premises of the west wing of the Old Medical School**, designed by the Victorian architect Robert Rowand Anderson. Growth in the UoA has seen additional expansion into David Hume Tower and listed Georgian buildings on Buccleuch Place. All of these sites are clustered around George Square and Edinburgh's Main Library and situate our historians at the centre of a range of local collaborators, both within the University (the School of Social and Political Science adjoins our main building and the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures and the new Edinburgh Futures Institute are very nearby) and within the city (we are 0.2 miles from both the National Museums Scotland and the National Library of Scotland). The Old Medical School building provides office space for all research staff; desk space, computing facilities, and research rooms for PGR students; and a large communal social space for staff and postgraduates. Our historians have hosted **over 700 research events** across the census period, ranging from small work-in-progress lunches to large international conferences. These have been accommodated in a wide range of different bookable and accessible spaces and receive administrative support. Our central location at the heart of the city's historic centre supports our continued efforts to contribute to the cultural life of Edinburgh's citizens, while our dedicated IT support and Edinburgh's investment in VLE and Videoconferencing facilities enabled us to sustain a full range of research events following the impact of COVID-19.

Historical research at Edinburgh benefits from **world-class library facilities and a dedicated academic support librarian**. As well as one of the largest collections of printed books (2M) and journals in the UK, the University Library has invested substantially in e-books (1.4M), e-journals (185k), and in the large electronic databases which are central to so much current historical research. HCA **expenditure on print books and e-books** has nearly tripled across the census period (from £74,132 in 2014-15 to £216,830 in 2019-20). We have over 600 digital primary source collections and focused **acquisition of major databases** has been especially important in sustaining existing areas of research strength (e.g. recent purchases of *Daily Mail* Historical Archive and Mass Observation Online for modern British history, African American Newspapers series 1 and 2 for modern US history) as well as in resourcing areas of emerging strength and strategic investment (e.g. purchases of Archives Unbound and US Foreign Office archives databases for global history).

The **Centre for Research Collections** curates the university's extensive collections of rare books (over 400,000), manuscripts, and personal and institutional archives (over 6km), which support research in a range of areas including Chinese history, early modern religion, the Enlightenment, and the history of medicine. Funded research projects (e.g. Budd, 'Circulating Enlightenment' (AHRC, 2013-15)) and world-leading research outputs (e.g. Fox, *Print and the People: Cheap Print and the Press in Scotland 1500-1785* (OUP 2020)) make extensive use of the university's own collections, which were central to the student-led collaborative decolonial research project UncoverEd, which aimed to produce social histories of the marginalised student experience. The proximity of a number of other world-class collections for historical research, including the National Library of Scotland, National Records of Scotland, National Museums

Scotland, National Gallery of Scotland, and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery combine with these university resources to create an outstanding environment for historical research.

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

Historians at Edinburgh work within a dynamic and thriving collaborative research culture. Colleagues frequently engage in **collaborative research and publication** with historians from other institutions around the world, while **interdisciplinary collaborations**, such as Ugolini's establishment of the Second World War Studies Network Scotland (RSE Research Network Award) with colleagues in Anthropology and National Museums Scotland, are enabled by our low boundary environment and responsive research support. Our range of **institutional collaborations** runs from established and fruitful partnerships with local institutions to leadership of wide-ranging and ambitious international research collaborations, such as Bates' 'Becoming Coolies' project (AHRC), involving partners in multiple countries. The increasingly global orientation of our research effort is supported by Edinburgh's **Global Academies**, and historians work with colleagues in the Global Development Academy (Bates), and the Global Justice Academy (Bloxham, Crang, Gorman, Hilfrich, L. Jackson, Malinowski, Ruiz). The University's **Edinburgh Global** and our own **International Office** promote collaboration and co-operation with universities abroad and run established and successful **Visiting Scholars and Visiting PGR Students** schemes.

The breadth of our collaborations is illustrated by the number of our co-produced outputs. Edinburgh's historians have **co-authored or co-edited 58 books or journal special issues and co-authored 34 articles and essays** across the census period. These collaborative outputs include path-breaking exploratory work (e.g. Paton's co-edited special issue of *Slavery and Abolition* on motherhood, childlessness, and care of children in Atlantic slave societies, Bowd's co-edited special issue of *Renaissance Studies* on animals in Renaissance Italy), collaborative co-authored monographs and articles (e.g. Oosterhoff et al, *Logodaedalus: Word Histories of Ingenuity in Early Modern Europe*, L. Jackson with Bartie, *Policing Youth: Britain, 1945-1970*) and agenda-setting disciplinary overviews (e.g. Davis, *Palgrave Handbook of Infertility in History: Approaches, Contexts and Perspectives*, A. Jackson, *Oxford Handbook of Modern Irish History*, Crowcroft/Pentland, *Oxford Handbook of Modern British Political History, 1800-2000*) and have involved scholars from across the globe.

Many of these collaborative outputs had origins in **seminars, conferences, workshops, or other events**. Edinburgh benefits from a central location, state-of-the-art facilities and dedicated research support in the form of an events team to sustain a huge number of collaborative activities. Since 2013-14 we have hosted over 700 individual seminars and workshops, around 50 public lectures, and 20 major conferences. We value the full range of these events, which run from small, tightly-focused workshops designed to integrate PGR students into collaborative research, to major international conferences and congresses.

Formal collaborations were central to a number of large awards. Bates' 'Becoming Coolies' project (AHRC) was based on research conducted all around the Indian Ocean region with collaboration from local academics in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar, Mauritius, India and South Africa. Delaney's 'A Global History of Irish Revolution' (AHRC) was a major collaboration between leading UK centres for the study of modern Irish history and involved scholars from Ireland, the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Colleagues have been active in establishing and participating in **collaborative research networks**. Zahedieh's 'The Matter of Slavery in Scotland' (RSE Research Workshop Grant) brought together historians, curators, teachers and charities to explore the material culture of Scotland's past relationship with slavery and engaged wider audiences with two public lectures from Jennifer Anderson (Stony Brook, NY) and Beverley Lemire (Alberta). Carr's 'Medieval Mediterranean Exchanges: New Approaches and Collaborations' (BA Rising Star Engagement Award) involves collaboration between PGRs, ECRs and heritage professionals. Bowd's 'Shadow Agents of War: Italy, 1480-1530' (Edinburgh Global Partnership Collaboration Award) builds on an institutional partnership with Sydney to collaborate on transforming the way we think about pre-modern war.

We see collaborative activities as a key means of enhancing the experience of PGRs at Edinburgh and of integrating them into our research culture. For example, Irish historians at Edinburgh hold regular joint PhD research workshops with the modern Irish history group at the University of Cambridge. American historians run an established collaboration, the Global Dome PhD Dissertation Accelerator programme, with the Universities of Oxford, Heidelberg and Notre Dame, which holds intensive workshops with the aims of developing participants' PhD projects and fostering international and interdisciplinary networks.

Links with other universities are enriched and stand alongside relationships with a range of other institutions in Edinburgh, the UK, and internationally. Edinburgh's historians are in a privileged position through their proximity to a number of national cultural and political institutions with whom to develop relationships. For example, institutional-level **Memoranda of Understanding** underpin and formalise the longstanding and fruitful links between members of the UoA and the **National Museums Scotland (2014), the National Library of Scotland, and the Edinburgh Filmhouse (2015)**. Historians have collaborated with all three of these institutions in a number of areas across the census period including: exhibitions and film series (Delaney, McDowall, Mason, Nenadic, Pentland); funded research workshops and projects (Budd, Ugolini, Zahedieh); publications (Ugolini); and the supervision of collaborative doctoral awards (Nenadic, Pentland). These collaborations enrich the research culture at Edinburgh and the focus on PGR employability has helped to create strong links that underpin some of these collaborations (e.g. recent appointments of Edinburgh PGRs to curatorial posts at NMS in Modern and Contemporary and Modern and Military).

Our strong group of **modern and contemporary historians** has forged effective relationships with policy- and decision-making bodies. Collaborative projects have addressed areas of national and international priority (e.g. Chabal, 'Seeing Illegal Immigrants' (ESRC), L. Jackson, 'Historicizing "Historical Child Sexual Abuse"' (ESRC)), while Edinburgh's historians have contributed regularly to discussions within the Scottish Parliament (e.g. N. Gentz as a member of the Scottish Cross-Party Group on China), within the UK Parliament and government bodies (e.g. A. Jackson lecture to Constitution Group, Cabinet Office, L. Jackson co-author of report to HM Prison and Probation Service, *Safeguarding Children in the Secure Estate 1960-2016*, Chick presentation to Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Crowcroft contribution to Cabinet Office roundtable on the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011) and to other decision-making and policy-oriented organisations.

Historians at Edinburgh are committed to **engaging wide and diverse audiences** with their research. Researchers regularly share their research with local schools, through local historical associations, and through inclusive public events. Delaney and Mason, for example, have run successful film series featuring Q and A sessions with historians through the Edinburgh Filmhouse and the Scottish Parliament's annual Festival of Politics. L. Jackson's collaboration with the British Association of Women in Policing generated an exhibition which has been displayed at an international policing conference in Cardiff, the British Library, and 6 other venues across the UK. Our historians engage wide audiences through dedicated podcasts and contributions to print and online media, which use research to contextualise and enhance understanding of pressing national and international priorities. Examples include the American History 'Whiskey Rebellion' podcast, and Chabal and Malinowski's contributions to online and print media around the EU Referendum and Brexit. Some of the largest audiences for our research have been reached via contributions to television and film. Examples in addition to those included in impact case studies are Lauchlan's contribution to the ZDF documentary on Russia's secret intelligence services, *The Sword and the Shield*, and Crowcroft's consultation on the script for the academy-award winning 2017 film *Darkest Hour*.

Historians at Edinburgh play leading roles in contributing to the **sustainability of the discipline**. During all or part of the census period, colleagues were active as **editors of leading scholarly journals**, including *Contemporary European History* (Chabal as reviews editor), *History Workshop Journal* (Paton as member of editorial collective), *Journal of Modern African Studies*

(Nugent), *Journal of Scottish Historical Studies* (Cameron), *Social History* (L. Jackson), *The Medieval Journal* (Sowerby as reviews editor) and as **editors of book series** (e.g. *Elitenwandel in der Moderne* (Malinowski), *Gender and Slavery* (Paton), *Mental Health in Historical Perspective* (Davis), *Passold Studies in Textile, Dress and Fashion History* (Nenadic), *Reappraisals in Irish History* (Delaney)). Membership of **editorial boards** of journals and other scholarly resources is widespread (titles include *British History Online*, *British Journal of Chinese Studies*, *Contemporary British History*, *Economic History Review*, *Early Popular Visual Culture*, *Grotiana*, *History of Parliament*, *History of Psychiatry*, *International Communication of Chinese Culture*, *Journal of Eastern African Studies*, *Journal of Modern African Studies*, *Modern Intellectual History*, *Slavery and Abolition*, *Social History*, and *Women's History Review*). Historians play crucial roles within **Edinburgh University Press**, one of the UK's leading university presses and a major publisher of books and journals in the humanities and social sciences. Cameron is chair and A. Jackson a member of the board of trustees, which holds ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the business of the press, while Newman and Pentland sit on the Press Committee. Collectively this involvement in academic publishing has provided colleagues with a powerful platform for engaging with and influencing current debates around open access within the humanities.

Colleagues are similarly active in their participation as part of **research councils and grants committees** and our efforts to enhance in-house peer review has helped to build capacity in this area. Currently four colleagues have been appointed as academic reviewers to the AHRC peer review council (Mijers, Paton, Pentland, Nenadic) and Nenadic also acts as a Knowledge Transfer reviewer. Two colleagues are members of the ESRC peer review college (Chick and L. Jackson). In addition colleagues act widely for other reviewing bodies (e.g. Irish Research Council, European Science Foundation, British Academy East Asia Panel), with senior colleagues playing leading roles within these bodies. For example Davis chairs the Humanities and Social Science Research Resources Committee of the Wellcome Trust and serves on the Medical Humanities Interview Committee and A. Jackson has chaired the International Assessment Committee for the Irish Research Council's postdoctoral competition, the Carnegie Trust's Collaborative Research Grants competition, and the International Evaluation Panel for the Groeningen Research Institute for the Study of Culture. Members of the UoA play active roles on **international advisory boards** for a range of research bodies (e.g. Alliance for Research on East Asia, Ruhr (N. Gentz), International Center for Jefferson Studies, Monticello (Cogliano), International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, U of Erlangen-Nuremberg (J. Gentz), Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa, U of Ghana (Nugent)).

The work of Edinburgh's historians has been recognised through the award of competitive visiting fellowships, research and book prizes, and membership of learned and professional societies. Colleagues are supported in applications for **competitive visiting fellowships**, which enhance individual research activities, and provide opportunities for collaboration and engagement with new audiences. Examples held across the census period include All Souls, Oxford (Zahedieh), Australian National University (Pentland), as Quentin Skinner Fellow in Modern Intellectual History, Cambridge (Hunter), Cambridge (Crowcroft), International Center for Jefferson Studies, Monticello (Cogliano), Monash University (Bloxham), Mount Vernon (Cogliano), Stanford Humanities Center (Cogliano), Wilson Center, Washington DC (Boecking).

The work of historians has been nominated for and awarded **prestigious prizes**, including the RHS Gladstone History Book Prize (Hunter, 2015), James Alexander Robertson Prize (Gibbings, 2016), BSECS Prize for Digital Resources (Budd, 2016), Bethwell A. Ogot Prize (Hunter, finalist, 2016), Elsa Goveia Prize (Paton, 2017), North Caroliniana Book Prize (Silkenat, 2017), RHS Whitfield prize (Sowerby, shortlisted, 2017), International Society of Anglo-Saxonists Best First Book Prize (Sowerby, 2017), Ecclesiastical History Society Book Prize (Sowerby, 2017), RHS Public History Prize (L. Jackson, Public Debate and Policy category, 2018), *German History* Best Article Prize (Gibbings, 2018), Fritz Theodor Epstein Prize (Turkowska, 2018) Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize (Silkenat, finalist, 2020). 32 colleagues are Fellows of the Royal Historical Society and senior colleagues have been made Fellows of a number of other prestigious learned

societies during the census period (e.g. Academy of Social Sciences (Zahedieh), Royal Irish Academy (A. Jackson), Royal Society of Edinburgh (N. Gentz)).

In sum, history at Edinburgh is distinguished by the high value placed on both academic interaction and on individual scholarship, the range of our impact activities and of the audiences we seek to engage with our research, and the consistent and widespread contributions we make to sustaining the discipline and nurturing the next generation of scholars.