

Institution: University of Manchester
Unit of assessment: 25 (Area Studies)
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>The UoA consists of 16 researchers from the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI), an interdisciplinary research institute that transcends the boundaries between humanities and STEM disciplines to address and critically examine the demands of the humanitarian, conflict and disaster response sectors. As befits the focus of area studies, HCRI's research is geographically diverse and promotes 'innovative approaches to contemporary and historical foci' of global relevance [https://www.ref.ac.uk/about/blogs/a-disciplinary-perspective-on-interdisciplinary-research-area-studies/]. Founded in 2008-9 and housed in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (SALC), as a cross-faculty initiative between the Faculty of Humanities and what is now the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, HCRI was established with investment from the Tuixen Foundation (www.tuixen.org.uk) and the ESRC. HCRI responds to the research needs of what the United Nations now calls the 'triple nexus' – humanitarian response, development and peace – through close collaboration across education, research and practice. Its educational and professional training mission is delivered through PGT and PGR programmes, with approximately 220 registered postgraduates, and an undergraduate degree programme with 120 students per annum. In the past seven years, HCRI staff have published 13 monographs, edited books and special issues of journals and more than 110 peer reviewed articles and chapters, supervised 18 PGRs to completion (70% of whom hold academic positions), and won over £3million in external research awards.</p> <p>HCRI has grown to become the largest research institute of its kind in Europe, and is unique in its involvement of scholars from across humanities and STEM disciplines around the core staff returned in UoA25 (in bold): Education (MacCorkindale), Drama (Thompson), History (Burgard, Davey, Gatrell, Kelly, Taithe), Anthropology (Jasani, Roborgh), Geography (Haworth, O'Grady), Development Studies (Duffy, Hawkins, Jacoby, Howarth, Müller, Sou), Management and Disaster Studies (Fatoum, Shaw), Peace and Conflict Studies (Arthur, Fast, Mac Ginty, Read, Turner, Vogel), and Public Health, Clinical Medicine and Epidemiology (Cha, Dark, Lecky, Jafar, Redmond, Tomkow).</p> <p>1.1 Research structure</p> <p>REF 2021 is our first opportunity for a standalone UoA submission, reflecting our strategic plan since REF2014. As the British Academy commended, HCRI 'bridges the Faculties of Humanities and Medicine in partnership with NGOs, and aims to help lead improvements in crisis-response on a global scale' [http://www.blog.hcri.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/BAPaperMay2013.pdf]. Our researcher profile has grown and diversified, with University appointments, joint ones with the National Health Service (NHS) and clinical lecturers funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). HCRI's growth reflects its significance for the University of Manchester's cross-disciplinary research culture and social responsibility emphasis. HCRI is one of the core contributors to the UoM 'Global Inequalities Research Beacon' (university areas of excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration to tackle global challenges) and the University's COVID-19 response. HCRI's humanitarian focus extends and impacts other REF units, such as History (UoA28, particularly its impact work), Classics (UoA29) and Art and Design (UoA32).</p> <p>In addition to staff returned in UoA25, HCRI draws on associate researchers returned with other REF units (Professors Dark, Gatrell, Jacoby, Lecky, Müller, Shaw, Thompson). Honorary and emeritus scholars further enrich our community, such as eminent humanitarian medical Professor Tony Redmond (hitherto deputy director of HCRI until 2016) or Professor Mark Duffield, a leading theorist of humanitarian practice who joined in 2018. HCRI brings in prominent humanitarian leaders such as Dr Rony Brauman (ex-</p>

President, Médecins Sans Frontières, MSF), Dr Caroline Abu Sa'da (Director, SOS Méditerranée Switzerland), Gareth Owen (Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Save the Children, SCF), Dr Jane Cocking (previously CEO, Mines Advisory Group, MAG) and David Wightwick (CEO, UK-Med, fractional appointment in HCRI). This network of associates enhances our teaching, publications and grants, and the supervision of doctoral students.

1.2 Research strategy

Our strategy is to integrate research, learning and practice in real-world contexts. This strategy revolves around three core themes that transcend disciplinary boundaries and the United Nations' triple nexus. Research themes are reviewed regularly in research-led dialogue with our partners.

- **Theme 1: Health, wellbeing, and social justice**
Built on a rights-based approach to health encompassing physical, mental and emotional wellbeing and access to care, this theme focuses on disaster and conflict. It arose from research on access to health (Haiti 2010). It addresses how access to health care has been denied as part of political or military agendas (Dark, **Duffy**, Redmond, **Fast**, **Roborgh**, **Jafar**), and how the struggle for social justice has proposed forms of direct action and solidarity as alternative frameworks for change (**Cha**, Duffield, **Jasani**, **Taithe**, **Tomkow**).
- **Theme 2: Knowledge production in intervention and response**
This research theme interrogates the epistemologies of intervention, drawing attention to how knowledge production constrains and enables different responses. It includes work on the politics of data (**Jafar**, **O'Grady**), how data systems are designed to capture incidents of violence or monitor behaviour during warfare (**Fast**, **Read**, **Roborgh**, **Taithe**), or to promote development (**Haworth**). It considers qualitative representations of conflict or disaster in narrative and symbols, highlighting the power of representation and voice (**Arthur**, Howarth) and the ethics of field research (**Vogel**). We actively seek to diversify the research policy-makers and practitioners consult when developing interventions or responding to emergencies such as COVID-19 (**O'Grady**, Shaw, **Sou**).
- **Theme 3: Spaces of peace, conflict, and crisis**
This research theme recognises the spatial and scalar dimensions of societies affected by crisis (**Read**, **Vogel**). It explores how people experience and navigate disasters, violence and emergency and how this impacts on their identities (**Haworth**), how they experience opportunities and challenges in displacement (Hawkins), and their roles as economic, social, and political agents (**Burgard**, **Roborgh**, **Turner**). Here we consider how physical and digital infrastructures influence the way individuals and institutions engage with each other in times of upheaval (**O'Grady**).

Our research strategy has been designed to maximise global capabilities, interdisciplinarity, impact and knowledge transfer.

Globalisation of our research strengths and the development of research capability abroad

- **Theme 1:** Our work on emergency medical teams has received support from the Hong Kong Disaster Preparedness and Response Institute (Hong Kong Academy of Medicine) and the European Commission. It enabled research on data production in emergency situations (**Jafar**) and the development of World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines (Hughes, Redmond) to meet the research agenda of our WHO collaboration (2016-2020). **Cha** is part of a consortium of researchers on humanitarian intervention in North Korea involving Johns Hopkins University, Freie Universität Berlin, and the University of Korea.

- **Theme 2:** Our consortium Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare (RIAH), led by **Fast**, involves **Read, Taithe, Roborgh** and colleagues at the Johns Hopkins University, the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies (University of Geneva), Chatham House, and Insecurity Insight (Switzerland). It exemplifies HCRI's approach of developing alliances across research, policy and practice. The Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) funded this multi-year project with £2.5million in 2019. Its research agenda complements that of the WHO and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- **Theme 3:** Our work in this area involves regional collaborations such as **Turner's** role in the Political Economy Project linking academics and development practitioners working in and on the Arab world. Based at George Mason University (Virginia) and the American University in Beirut, project members conduct research, publish and hold seminars and PhD training workshops.

Across these three themes, our research engages with humanitarian and conflict response issues on all continents. In the Americas, our work addresses violence and artist engagement in processes of peace and conflict (**Vogel**); gangs in El Salvador (Howarth); access to health in Alaskan communities (**Duffy**); and disaster response in the Caribbean (Redmond, **Sou, Taithe**). In Africa it addresses Ugandan healthcare (Walter) and politics (Hawkins); Ebola in West Africa (**Fast, Hughes**); and peacebuilding in South Sudan (**Read**). In the Middle East, our research focusses on state building and the political economy of conflict in Palestine and Cyprus (**Turner, Vogel**); graffiti and conflict in Cyprus (**Arthur, Haworth**); and humanitarian medical response in Syria and Egypt (**Roborgh**). In Europe our work is focused on response and preparedness in general, and on conflict response in the Balkans and Ukraine (Shaw, **O'Grady, Roborgh, Vogel**). Our team's research in South Asia examines the aftermath of violence in India (**Jasani**), conflict symbols in Timor Leste (**Arthur**) and ongoing conflict in Kashmir (**Vogel**). In the current review period our researchers have published on humanitarian response in Thailand and Cambodia (**Taithe**) and disaster management in Australasia (**Haworth**), with ongoing research on health and humanitarian response in North Korea (**Cha**).

Enhancement of interdisciplinary research

Interdisciplinary research and collaborative delivery sit at the core of HCRI's work, as exemplified by the our project on graffiti in conflict zones involving **Arthur, Vogel** (Peace and Conflict Studies), and **Haworth** (Geography). We embed our interdisciplinarity through our co-teaching and our collaborative PhD supervisory teams. HCRI's research events (eg Aid, Peace and Conflict in 2017, A Quest for Humanitarian Effectiveness? in 2015) and our interdisciplinary research seminar series. Internal research funding of £10,000 per annum focusses on interdisciplinary projects that exemplify and promote our research themes.

Our strategy is to enhance collaborative and interdisciplinary research links within the UoM and nationally. In UoM, we collaborate with the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM - **Burgard, Taithe**), the Manchester Institute of Education and Alliance Manchester Business School (Shaw, Fatoum, **Vogel**), and the Global Development Institute (GDI - Jacoby, Müller, **Read, Fast**), for research funding, supervision of doctoral students, and events relevant to themes 2 and 3. We run the regional History of Humanitarianism Network (theme 2, **Burgard, Taithe**), which involves scholars from Nottingham to Glasgow. Nationally, Redmond and **Jafar** developed a course on Essential Emergency Healthcare with the Royal College of Surgeons and **Jafar** coordinates a network of Clinical Academic Fellows across the Northwest (theme 1).

Impact through engagement with wider society

In addition to our Impact Case Studies, which detail broader societal contributions related to Emergency Medical Teams and the role of data in humanitarian and conflict response, HCRI's work in disaster prevention resonates strongly among professional groups in the UK and abroad. For instance, **O'Grady's** research led to the production of two reports for the Fire and Rescue Service (*Getting the Most Out of Performance Monitoring and*

Optimising the Use of Home Fire Safety Checks), that have since been adopted as the organisation's policy on digital technologies. **Turner** advises UK parliamentary delegations organized by the Council for the Advancement of Arab British Understanding. We collaborate with UK-Med, Greater Manchester and the Fire and Rescue service in helping test UK resilience to disasters (**O'Grady**, Lecky, Dark), and supporting the City of Manchester's response to COVID-19 (Shaw, **O'Grady**, Fattoum). HCRI is part of the FCDO-funded K4D Consortium with the universities of Birmingham and Sussex (Kelly). The Consortium's helpdesk answers rapid, desk-based research questions related to governance, social development, conflict, and humanitarian topics for UK government policymakers. All reports are available online [<https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/handle/20.500.12413/13022>].

Knowledge transfer and media presence

Public dissemination and media engagement are aimed at different audiences: for instance, **Sou's After Maria** is a graphic novel aimed at a young and wider public. It received attention in *The Guardian* and at cultural events such as the Blue Dot festival. **Davey, Fast, Redmond, Taithe** and **Turner** regularly deliver public lectures to learned societies. HCRI has generated over 60 research articles for national and international newspapers/TV/major news websites since 2014. This ranges from COVID-19 response at cabinet level (Shaw, **O'Grady**), expert comment in *The Guardian* on the refugee crisis or on attacks on healthcare in the COVID era (**Roborgh, Fast**), research on the use of Twitter in emergencies on *Phys.org* (**O'Grady**), live interviews on *BBC Breakfast* on disaster relief after Hurricane Irma (**Sou**) or 'Inside Story' on Al Jazeera (**Taithe**). **Haworth** and **Arthur's** conflict graffiti article in *The Conversation*, was covered in *The Independent*, *The Wire*, and *MENAFN*. We use our social media channels (combined following of 8,000+) to independently disseminate our research. A recent research spotlight campaign profiling five academics resulted in over 30,000 impressions and 610 engagements.

1.3 Research objectives beyond 2021

Our objectives are to foster debates and exchanges among academia and practitioners, and to shape the research agendas of the global humanitarian and conflict response sectors through collaborations. To date these include research or training-focused MoUs with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Save the Children (SCF), the Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG), Mines Advisory Group, Plan International, and the Tata Institute for Social Science (TISS, India). Our priorities are:

Globalisation of our research strengths and linkages

We will build upon research in our thematic areas. For example, under theme 1, we will research the impact of attacks on healthcare in armed conflict with partners in Afghanistan, Colombia, Nepal, and Ukraine, and examine the relationship between health and peace with the WHO. We intend to develop new collaborations around trauma epidemiology and medicine, with UoM colleagues in the Faculty of Medicine and in collaboration with the NHS through Health Innovation Manchester, and the University of Sheffield. To achieve this we will leverage productive collaborations with existing colleagues abroad (Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Jindal University in Delhi, TISS, the Peace Research Institute Oslo, and University of Korea).

Furthering our interdisciplinarity

In collaboration with other research groups at Manchester (the Manchester Centre for Crisis Studies and Mitigation, the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research) we will examine the impact of climate change on disaster-affected populations (**Haworth, O'Grady, Sou, Turner**). With SCF and UKMed we will examine the disaster response and humanitarian implications of climate change in advance of the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow 2021. With UK-Med we recruited two PDRA in January 2021. We will further develop our collaboration with the Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research to

understand health consequences of refugee status and ageing in refugee groups (**Tomkow**).

Making our research more impactful

We launched a research-led policy brief series in 2020 to further our collaborations with think tanks, such as the Centre de Réflexion sur l'Action et les Savoirs Humanitaires (MSF), the Humanitarian Affairs Team of Save the Children (SCF), the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP), and the Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG) of the Overseas Development Institute. Our policy focus aligns with the Policy@Manchester platform, which seeks to enable researchers to effectively engage with policymakers and showcase Manchester research. We will continue to develop flagship publications such as the ***Journal of Humanitarian Affairs*** [<https://manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/journals/journal-humanitarian-affairs/>] and our Manchester University Press '***Humanitarianism Key Debates and New Approaches***' book series, in which we have 12 volumes so far.

1.4 Impact Strategy

Our impact strategy contributes to the research agendas and priorities of key humanitarian, disaster and conflict response actors, including United Nations agencies (the WHO, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), and world leading NGOs such as SCF, MSF and others. We accomplish this goal by hosting practitioners at HCRI, such as Dan Smith OBE (former Secretary General of International Alert) who joined us on a University Simon Industrial Fellowship in 2017 and Dr. Darryl Stellmach, a former aid worker who joined us on a University Simon and Hallsworth Fellowship in 2019. These individuals work with our researchers and PGRs and develop grants (Wellcome award to **Fast** and Stellmach). Additionally, our joint publications with NGOs and think tanks (**Fast, Taithe, Turner**), with government actors (K4D helpdesk) and policy makers (**Fast, Read, Shaw, Kelly**), our involvement in key high-profile debates (within MSF, at ALNAP and the UN World Humanitarian Summit) grant us access to influence global policy developments in humanitarian and conflict response.

HCRI's researchers share a belief in applied research underpinned by a social responsibility ethos that challenges inequalities and engages diverse communities.

Our **impact case studies** exemplify this policy engagement. Our collaboration with the WHO sets up a framework for international interventions in times of disaster via the guidelines for and validation of emergency medical teams (EMTs; Redmond, **Jafar Taithe**, Hughes). This enabled the UK to develop its EMT through UK-Med and HCRI to participate in validating the Chinese government EMT. Our second impact case study examines how and why data are collected and used by those intervening in conflict zones. It examines UN peacekeeping data (**Read, Mac Ginty, Taithe**) and data about attacks on healthcare and their impact (**Fast, Read, Roborgh, Taithe**). The research has shaped key debates and informed advocacy and policy development in the humanitarian sector.

Our research is predicated on producing impactful outcomes. We collaborate with local organisations to research peace indicators and trade in Sudan, Kashmir, the Balkans (**Mac Ginty, Read, Vogel**); access to food in Venezuela (**Duffy**) and Islamic healing among diaspora groups (**Jasani**). Our work with the Athabascan Nation in Alaska on community health and wellbeing expands previous research on grassroots organisation among indigenous populations (**Duffy**). We have used internal and external funding - UoM knowledge and cultural exchange bursaries, UKRI Impact Accelerator Accounts, Wellcome Trust and British Academy Small Grants - to advance these partnerships. As well as accessing School and Faculty financial support, HCRI annually allocates £35,000 of its core budget to support impact engagement with external partners.

1.5 Open research environment

An open research environment is essential to the sectors with which we interact most, and for which paywalls constitute major impediments. We co-produce an Open Access (OA) research journal with Manchester University Press, the Journal of Humanitarian Affairs. Our book series (**Taithe**), established in 2013, aims to produce a majority of OA publications in future; 25% of our book series publications are available on Green Open Access following UoM guidelines. One of our monographs was published with UoM OA support (**Taithe**).

Within the university, we promote dialogue among Research IT, IT, Information Governance, Data Management, and others to improve institutional technological support across UoM, to enhance compliance with research ethics and develop legal data management guidelines (**Roborgh**).

To contribute to public debate, our research events are open to the public and promoted via public sites, partner organisations and social media. Since 2019 all our events have been converted to podcast format, and we have live-streamed high profile events on the Ebola outbreak, Syria uprising and 2015 Paris attack.

1.6 Research integrity

HCRI is particularly involved in developing strong ethical research practices and risk management (**Fast**). We participate in UoM debates on research integrity processes by having staff serve on (**Cha**) or chair (**Sou**) SALC and UoM Ethics committees. Working closely with our research partners and NGOs means that we are still able to place researchers and doctoral students in extremely challenging contexts (e.g. South Sudan, Syrian border, Ukraine, Egypt) despite sector wide anxieties on shrinking research opportunities in conflict zones. We are consistently engaged in reforming and enhancing ethical processes to enable research with the highest standards of integrity.

Section 2. People

Staffing strategy and development

HCRI's growth has emerged from a process of continual development and adaptation. As a young research institute many of our colleagues began their careers on temporary appointments, and were made permanent in this REF period (**Duffy**, Howarth, Hawkins, **Jasani** and **Vogel**). New permanent appointments were made from 2016 (**Read**, **Haworth**, **O'Grady**, **Burgard**, **Roborgh**). **Fast** and **Cha** were appointed at SL level in 2018, while **Davey** was promoted to SL in 2018. We have recently made joint appointments with the NHS (Walter 2017) and NIHR (**Jafar** and **Tomkow** - 2020). Our senior team comprises two FT professors (**Taithe**, **Turner**) and fractional professorial appointments of UoM staff: these provide leadership in clinical/medical issues (Lecky and Dark in replacement for Redmond) and disaster management (Shaw). All senior staff lead on engaging ECR colleagues with NGO partners, UN and state actors, introducing and involving them in long established partnerships.

The HCRI strategy during the REF period focussed on developing a permanent team while maintaining flexibility to respond to external events and engage across STEM and humanities subjects. We have prioritised employing practitioners (**Cha**, Walter) and ECRs, some of whom have trained with us (**Vogel**). Having a substantial number of ECRs has presented greater opportunities for interdisciplinary dialogue in shaping common research agendas and impact strategy. Staff who have departed HCRI have moved to prestigious positions in leading institutions or aid organisations around the world (Howell/Rutgers University; Peterson/University of British Columbia; **Mac Ginty**/Durham University; Noor/SIDA in Sweden; O'Driscoll/SIPRI in Sweden etc.).

We actively seek applicants from all contexts, looking always to attract the best staff available. Our staff represent 10 nationalities and 5 continents and 25% of our academic staff are from BAME backgrounds. We aim to increase the proportion of senior staff via promotion from within, while maintaining our gender balance as detailed below and

strengthening our BAME representation. All staff are involved in the planning and implementation of our staffing strategy, and recruitment panels involve ECRs and reflect our diversity.

Sustaining a supportive research environment

Our strategy has been to continue to build and sustain a research culture that is both productive and supportive of career development. We have been able to build confidence and competence, especially among ECRs, and have encouraged innovative research initiatives as well as helping all researchers target high-calibre research outlets. We will continue to develop a culture in which research is debated and discussed collegially. Our focus on mentoring and supervising has been recognised internationally. For instance, **Turner** was recognised for her outstanding contribution to mentoring women by the International Studies Association's Women's Caucus.

HCRI implements a strategy that involves the development of common spaces and informal support for research and writing (a writing group is led by **Fast**, reading groups are led by PGR students). Our programme of research-based social activities involve all staff and students throughout the year, even during the periods of COVID-19 lockdown.

ECR colleagues benefit from reduced teaching and administration in the first three years in post (75% load in year 1; 80% in year 2 and 85% in year 3). ECRs have access to SALC grant capture workshops and funding initiatives that specifically support ECR development. All new staff are paired with an experienced mentor with whom to discuss publication plans, funding and strategic planning of their careers. Mentors can be recruited in partnering sections of the university: for instance, colleagues in CHSTM mentor **Burgard**. All staff receive research and career planning advice from the Faculty's Humanities New Academics Programme (HNAP, accredited by Advance HE) and annual Personal Research Expectations Plan (PREP) meetings.

Our support for ECRs enabled several to secure funding, fellowships and lectureships: **Read**, a lectureship in HCRI; Schemper, a lectureship at the University of Vienna; O'Driscoll a post at SIPRI/Stockholm; Duursma a senior researcher post at the Center for Security Studies/University of Zurich; and Bertolucci, a postdoctoral position at the Université d'Auvergne.

All staff benefit from a flexible institutional research leave (IRL) policy of one semester's leave in every seven. IRL has recently been complemented by a SALC competitive Supplementary Research Leave Scheme (**Vogel**, 2019), and external funding. IRL is granted subject to a viable research plan: post-leave reports are circulated among the wider team and colleagues returning from leave are invited to share their findings in research seminars.

All research staff, including PDRAs and research fellows have access to an HCRI personal research allowance of £1,000 per annum and can access another £1,000 from SALC and further funding from SALC research and development funds. Staff planning large grant bids have access to a range of support from the SALC research support office, including grant writers who assist with developing grant applications, from idea to submission.

Staff exchange programmes

HCRI offers postdoctoral exchange visits of up to 18 months: we have hosted visiting fellows from the Universidade Federal de Uberlândia (Aureo Toledo), University of Belgrade (Nemanja Džuverović), the Holocaust Memorial Fund, the Swiss National Fund (Dr Desgrandchamps, who worked with **Taithe**), and visitors from Australia (Dr. Stellmach, MSF and University of Sydney worked with **Fast**) and from industry (Smith, SIPRI). Doctoral students from other institutions have been welcomed for short periods and we have opened our doors to colleagues from Lund University in Sweden and Stanford University (USA) who have been interested in our institutional model.

Colleagues have been invited to take up fellowships at the University of Notre Dame, USA (**Mac Ginty**), the Graduate Institute in Geneva (**Taithe**, Pinaud), Wollongong University (**Haworth**), and UoM strategic partner, the University of Melbourne (**Sou**).

Impact and knowledge exchange support

During voluntary annual reviews (P&DR) and research planning discussions (PREP), staff develop their strategic plans with senior colleagues and receive advice on how to develop impact aspects of their research. These processes provide support and development space specifically beneficial for impact work, which requires sustained development. Our institute has two PS staff whose roles include knowledge exchange activities and who can guide staff in disseminating their research for the general public and in networking with external partners. They have recently been instrumental in highlighting HCRI COVID-related research [<https://www.hcri.manchester.ac.uk/research/covid-19/>].

Arising from our research 'away days', groups working within a research theme are encouraged to begin with outreach activities, which develop into sustained relationships. In recognition of the fact that genuine research impact takes an investment of time over many years, colleagues share best practice in developing impact routes. **Read** and **Duursma** were awarded ESRC IAA grants to pursue connections with United Nations staff in Mali and New York (2016).

Research students

Since 2014 HCRI has recruited and trained 18 research students to completion (34, including ongoing students and 52 since 2009). These students have been recruited as part of the Development and Humanitarianism pathway of the ESRC North West Doctoral Training College, through industrial partnership studentships with Mine Advisory Group (MAG), Save the Children (Chapman, Schläpfer) and MSF (Atherton). HCRI has received funding outside the arts and humanities through EPSRC (Gittins). HCRI consistently attracts pre-doctoral projects in medicine. Some funding has come from governments such as the Malayan government funding (Hatta) or the Disaster Preparedness and Response Institute of Hong Kong (**Jafar**).

97% of our PhD students have received external (47%) and internal funding (50%) from HCRI, School and Faculty (including impact funding). Our student profile is international, including students from Bosnia (Ramovic), Canada (Lepp), Denmark (Buer), France (Pinaud), Germany (Tschunkert), Japan (Nakagawa), Peru (Olafsson), Switzerland (Schläpfer, Matt), Spain (Avendaño), Sweden (Delgado), Syria (Khalaf), Turkey (Cetinoglu), and the USA (MacCorkindale). At any given time, up to 60% of our PGR cohort is composed of overseas students.

Research students progression and development

All PhD students are supported by a supervisory team of two supervisors (usually on a 60-40 split) with whom they meet fortnightly, and a third, experienced panel member who reviews progress at twice-yearly meetings in which submitted chapters and plans are discussed. Some have an additional mentor in a partner institution or NGO. The supervision process is supported by the University's 'eprog' online system, which records expectations, results and the student's training regime. All new doctoral students undertake Research Evaluation and Methods training tailored to their specific needs. They also receive training in order to operate as graduate teaching assistants (with many opportunities open to them) and visiting lecturers. This training leads to an Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy. We also run 6 seminars per year concentrating on post-graduate life (publishing, employment post-graduation, research ethics and fieldwork, applying for further funding). Our annual PGR conference offers opportunities to present work in a supportive public context. This training package has enabled students to develop their skills and develop events as well as generating research panels in international conferences (Cetinoglu at IHSA in 2018, Lepp at ISA). Our doctoral students have benefitted from opportunities to work on UKRI policy internship schemes with the Scottish government (Field) and FCDO (Gittins).

HCRI PGR students are fully embedded in SALCs support systems and HCRI dedicates funding for research activities, such as travel, accommodation and registration at conferences: £300 in first year and £600 in the second and third years. Additionally, through SALC, all students have access to free printing, interlibrary loans and up to £400 per student per year to support conference attendance. HCRI PhDs who are carers can access extra funds to enable conference attendance and research trips. The Carers' Network, run by the school's postgraduate office, also assists and they benefit from adapted timetabling when employed as Graduate Teaching Assistants. The success of our training is evidenced by the prestigious destinations of our graduates: 70% our doctoral students have, for example, found positions in Conrad Grebel University College/University of Waterloo (Canada - Lepp), Exeter (Tudor), Keele (Polanska), UCL (Field), Coventry (Celestina), Wageningen (Cetinoglu), Bern (Shlapfer) Manchester (Ramovic, MacCorkindale, **Jafar, Tomkow**) and 30% now have key roles in Industry, policy or humanitarian organisations (Mullen, Jones, Tschunkert, Viney Wood).

Equality and diversity

HCRI's staff have led on the equality and diversity agenda. **Davey** led SALC's Athena Swan applications (2018-9), and SALC's Equality and Diversity committee. HCRI has been working continuously to create a team that resembles our students and our research (75% of our online MSF students are from the global south). HCRI is committed to an agenda of diversifying and decolonising the curriculum, including revising course units, increasing non-western sources in reading lists, and collaborating with our students in this endeavour.

Our staff profile is gender balanced (58% of staff are female), 25% of staff are of BAME origin. 50% are non-British. Our culture supports LGBTQI and other rights, holding public Zoom events around Stonewall and on BLM and racism. All major religions are represented (from non-conformist, Christianity, Judaism, Shia and Sunni Islam to Zen Buddhism). Our review of staff wellbeing in 2018-2019 highlighted the considerable challenges for ECRs and the need to manage workloads more transparently. We now have a Work Allocation Model run by a team of three but owned by the entire institute. Through it, we ensure that flexible working arrangements are in place for young parents and those whose health requires monitoring.

Section 3. Income, infrastructure, facilities

Research Income

Since REF2014 HCRI staff have brought in £3,004,055 in research awards (£1,447,231 in HESA-reported spend). Awards range from small individual grants to large collaborative ventures: **Jasani** (Co-I) was awarded British Academy Small Research Grant; **Sou**, a Royal Geographical Society award; **Fast**, awards from Wellcome Trust and the Research Council of Norway; **Vogel** (as Co-I) a large AHRC Research Grant, 'The Art of Peace' (£739,000); **Mac Ginty, Taithe** a large ESRC Research Grant, 'Making Peacekeeping Data work for the International community' (£807,000); and in 2018 (**Fast, Taithe, Read**) received a consortium award of £2.5million (£1.5million value to HCRI) from FCDO for the project 'Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare'.

We have received over £1million in other funding for our research. This includes charitable donations such as £521,000 for Research Development for Emergency Medical Teams Initiative and WHO Classification and Standards, from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Disaster and Preparedness Response Institute (Walter, Redmond), and £300,000 from the Tuixen Foundation (**Taithe**), as well as £150,000 from Philanthropic donor Peter Englander; and £88,985 from the University's GCRF institutional allocation (Aubrey, **Vogel**, Walter).

Research funding strategies

Our diverse funding streams reflect the unique structure and pro-active grant capture agenda of HCRI. We contribute to the UoM strategy for the use of its Global Challenges Research Fund and its research responses to COVID-19. Colleagues are matched to relevant funding schemes and given support to bid for grants through the SALC Research

Support Office and peer review by senior staff. The institute aims to capture a range of awards, and to deepen collaborations with other Manchester based projects. We have strategically developed partnerships for example, with In Place of War, led by Thompson in UoM Drama, as a key collaborator in several project applications (**Vogel**, Aubrey). In response to COVID-19, HCRI led on major responsive research bids aiming at strengthening recovery worth £780,000 (Shaw, Fattoum and **O'Grady**) and collaborated on an award of £1.3million to explore the effects of COVID-19 in North Korea and four other countries (**Cha**). These awards have combined values of over £2million.

Our research funding strategy enables our team to develop networks, secure funding, establish impact strategies, and grow their research profiles first as Co-Is or PIs of small grants. This funding strategy has underpinned the production of many of our REF2021 outputs.

Scholarly infrastructure

UoM and the city provide an internationally excellent environment for sustaining our interdisciplinary research. Facilities include the University library (ULM), Manchester museums, and archives. The John Rylands Research Institute (JRRI) is widely considered to be the fourth most important archive (by collections size) in the UK. The University Library, one of only five national research libraries in the UK, has the largest collection of electronic resources in any university library in Europe: currently over 43,500 e-journals, 500,000 e-books and a complete range of research databases (Section 4.2 REF5a). The University's publication repository (PURE) Manchester enables researchers to deposit and disseminate their research outputs through open access.

HCRI collaborates with the library on several projects. It has provided archival support to HCRI early career research staff (**Burgard**), and seed-corn funding to develop projects arising from its collections (**Taithe**). JRLRI sponsors and develops research projects in Digital Humanities, and this will prove a vital resource as HCRI expands its research capacity. In 2021, the library and HCRI launched a new archival acquisition strategy targeting specifically the preservation of the records of small humanitarian organisations (UK-Med, Eritrea mission, Saigon British mission 1966-1971) and at-risk personal archives (Elizabeth Wilson Archive, 1943-1999; Tony Redmond Archive 1988-2020). The official launch of this new 'hub' archive is planned for October 2021 using HCRI networks to pursue a strategic investment in collating at-risk documents that will support HCRI and other scholars' research on humanitarian history and action in the future. HCRI is thus contributing to the development of scholarly infrastructure as well as benefiting from the library's exceptional wealth of research material.

HCRI also benefits from and contributes to collaborations with the Imperial War Museum-North (IWM-N). To date this has taken the form of pop-up events related to its Yemen exhibit (Howarth) involving staff and students. **Fast** serves on the advisory board of a current IWM-N exhibit (October 2020 – May 2021), focused on NGOs working in war zones.

Organisational infrastructure

Research policy is discussed within research themes, at institute level, with SALC Research Committee and at university levels with faculty leadership and with partners in the Global Inequalities Research Beacon (GDI). This enables a balance between individual endeavours and institute and school research strategies. Within SALC the research committee meets five times a year, reports to the School Policy and Resources Committee (SPRC), and is led by the SALC Director of Research. The HCRI Director of Research sits on the Committee and the HCRI Director is a member of the School Planning and Resource Committee and at university level the Inequalities Beacon and GCRF committees. The Research Committee implements the School strategic plan for research, including targets for research income, research output quality and academic impact, and is responsible for the allocation of SALC's research budget. The School Research Support Office offers funding, supports the implementation of strategy and facilitates research collaborations, informs staff of funding opportunities, and assists in

developing applications and managing awards. The Faculty of Humanities research infrastructure facilitates university-wide strategic initiatives and international collaborations. This is primarily achieved through the Humanities Strategic Investment Fund, which encourages production of world-leading research projects, impact and publications.

Support infrastructure

At both School and Faculty level, colleagues have had access to impact support funds. Social Responsibility funds have supported, for example, a Mapathon event to provide detailed maps of the Acholi region of North Uganda (**Haworth**). The University's ESRC Impact Accelerator funding stream supports existing or new partnerships with organisations operating in a development assistance context to advance research projects (**Read**), to realise the potential of data that benefit low- and middle-income countries (**Fast**), and to disseminate research about the effects of COVID on LGBTIQ+ populations (**Haworth**).

HCRI colleagues have access to well-developed Impact Support at UoA and school levels. SALC has an experienced Impact Support Officer and an academic lead for Impact (the Associate Director of Research: Impact), who offer advice and training for colleagues on maximising impact, working with external partners, and designing impact activity for external research grant bids. Our research has been supported by philanthropic donors since the inception of the institute and the university Division of Development and Alumni Relations has fostered opportunities for gifts supporting research students over the years as well as continued interactions with our alumni, many of whom are now working in the humanitarian field.

Specialist shared research infrastructure and benefits-in-kind

HCRI shares research resources with the Johns Hopkins University, University of California-Berkeley, and the Geneva Centre for Humanitarian Studies within the RIAH project. Our close collaboration with leading research institutes in our domain amounts to a global research network including universities or institutes in Norway, Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, India, and Hong-Kong. Our main benefits-in-kind for research have arisen from our collaborations with international NGOs which have enabled our researchers to benefit from their security management provisions and accommodation in a variety of research contexts.

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

Research collaborations, networks and partnerships

HCRI is part of a range of global networks and collaborations enriching the research base in disaster and humanitarian work: as a WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) since 2016, HCRI has a membership of a prestigious international network of researchers and practitioners in emergency health response. HCRI research has contributed to shaping WHO policy on applied methodological practice for emergency medical teams worldwide. In 2020, WHO renewed the HCRI's CC mandate to work on the triple nexus and the impact of conflict on health, the first of a small handful such CC (for instance IRD in Paris). HCRI's collaboration with UK-Med enabled the deployment of NHS staff during the Ebola outbreak of 2014-2015 and, more recently, in the current COVID-19 emergency, in directing the COVID-19 Manchester Nightingale hospital (Redmond). Work on COVID-19 recovery led by Shaw involves municipalities in the UK (**O'Grady**), Palestine (**Turner**) and on 4 continents.

Research generated by HCRI is used by and influences the International Humanitarian Studies Association (**Davey, Taithe, Fast, Müller**); leading think tanks such as the Overseas Development Institute's Humanitarian Policy Group (**Fast**) and the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP) (**Davey, Taithe, Fast**). HCRI partners in research, postgraduate and continuing education with the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC, since 2014) and MSF (since 2016, via the joint Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine Leadership Education Academic Partnership

(LEAP) programme). It collaborates with Save the Children (2017), MAG (since 2019), Humanity & Inclusion, and International Alert, among NGOs of local, national and international significance. In 2016 HCRI both organised and collaborated in events that led to the United Nations World Humanitarian Summit.

Large grants enable HCRI to develop research networks and collaborations. As a notable example, **Read**, an ECR who was originally involved in the **Mac Ginty/Taithe** 2014 ESRC award, set up a workshop at the University of Khartoum Peace Research Institute in 2015. This event brought together researchers from across Sudan, including Darfur, and led to a workshop in New York to share the project's findings with representatives from UN entities (the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Crisis Center, Human Rights section and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs). **Read** coordinated themed panels at international conferences, including the 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations September 2019, and the joint HCRI-Save the Children 'A Quest for Humanitarian Effectiveness' in September 2015. In March 2016, **Read** and **Taithe** organised a workshop in Addis Ababa together with MSF and the Centre Français des Études Éthiopiennes to debate with practitioners and scholars regional findings on humanitarian security issues. Thus, our research brings together local, regional and global networks in dialogue.

Contribution to economy and society

Our contribution is made through our collaborations with international NGOs of global significance. These partnerships are the bedrock of our collaborative research culture and a pathway to impact. We host and collaborate on research projects with UK-Med in a reciprocal Memorandum of Agreement. The CEO of UK-Med (Wightwick) is a professor of HCRI (0.05FTE) and the director of HCRI (**Taithe**) a trustee of UK-Med. Through the UK-Med collaboration, HCRI colleague Dr Amy Hughes deployed during the 2014-2016 Ebola crisis. She was awarded an MBE for her work and designated the '200th Point of Light' by then-Prime Minister, David Cameron. Our MoU with the IFRC includes research and training; our work with Save the Children led to doctoral collaborations on the contemporary history of British medical humanitarian aid (Chapman, 2019) and on the role of the private sector in humanitarian response (Schlöpfer). HCRI researchers also worked with the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) on land use following de-mining in Cambodia (Mullen). HCRI and MAG share a MoA for collaborative research and **Taithe** is trustee of MAG. HCRI signed a research-centred MoU in 2018 with HPG that resulted in multiple policy publications (**Fast**). HCRI staff also work with the UK-Uganda health alliance to strengthen emergency care training (Walter) with local medical providers.

Relationships with recipients of humanitarian aid to develop impact:

We have a significant national and local, as well as global focus. HCRI staff have developed meaningful research partnerships with with local partners, supporting the research capacity of grassroots groups in the North West UK. In Greater Manchester, for example, we engage with disenfranchised groups and groups working for victims of torture (**Tomkow**). Our Greater Manchester work with Women Asylum Seekers Together (WAST) (**Jasani**, Lopez) is an example of how we co-produce research with disenfranchised groups who have no access to research results or research training. The project prioritised a Peer Ethnographic Evaluation Research (PEER) approach to defining and addressing core issues impacting destitute female asylum seekers via a sustainable and equitable community research programme. Ten WAST Peer Researchers completed their research training. Together they defined the core health and social issues impacting on the lives of asylum seekers from the perspective of those experiencing it. Funded by the British Academy and shortlisted for the University's Making a Difference Awards for Social Responsibility, the project continues to produce workshop and training materials for early career healthcare professionals. From a more global perspective, our postgraduate LEAP programme developed with MSF, provides national staff from Congo to Yemen with access to research training and MA level educational opportunities.

Contributions to support peaceful relations:

HCRI researchers work on gender, community-based and sub-national approaches to peace, humanitarian response, and development (the triple nexus). The Making Peacekeeping Data Work for the International Community (**Mac Ginty, Taithe, Read**; ESRC funded) project examined how the UN can better interrogate the data peacekeeping missions collect, comparing bottom-up narratives of conflict and local solutions and investigating how wider geopolitical or justice-based interventions may hinder justice and create conflict and insecurity. It analysed how global justice dynamics may produce detrimental developments on the ground. A recent HCRI collaboration with Imperial War Museum-North (IWM-N) led to an innovative digital installation exploring the humanitarian crisis and on-going armed conflict in Yemen. Created by digital agency FutureEverything in October 2019, with input from Howarth and Hawkins, the exhibit involved HCRI postgraduate students inviting the public to connect with the issues people face in Yemen through touch and voice-activated technology.

HCRI researchers also explore the formation of economies in order to better understand how societies recover from war (**Turner, Vogel**). This includes research about the potential peacebuilding role of the private sector in post-war contexts (**Vogel**). HCRI was recently awarded an AHRC grant for a project examining how grassroots organisations can foster social change using art in conflict-affected societies. This project aims to understand how art can be used in local peacebuilding and evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the process (**Vogel**).

HCRI researchers have written policy documents and participated or led in international debates: for instance in drafting WHO guidelines on EMTs (Hughes, **Jafar**, Redmond); developing international standards on spontaneous volunteers and community resilience (Shaw); contributing to Humanitarian World Summit preparatory and policy documents (**Mac Ginty, Read, Taithe**); writing research reports and field manuals on humanitarian security management, local humanitarian action, and the protection of civilians (**Fast**). **Turner** served as Expert adviser to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on economic development and aid in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Her work has and continues to be fed into their reports. To highlight this work, HCRI launched its Policy Brief series in 2020.

Engagement with education providers in Greater Manchester

HCRI has designed programmes for secondary school students in Greater Manchester, delivered through the Schools Linking Network Model United Nation (SLNMUN) in Stockport and the Young People in Humanitarianism Conference. SLNMUN involved over 500 students from a variety of schools throughout the five years that it ran. From 2016, HCRI engaged with local secondary schools through the creation of the Young People in Humanitarianism Conference. In 2017 over 150 students from 30 different local secondary schools attended the event which showcased HCRI research.

Contribution to the sustainability of humanitarian studies in Area Studies

HCRI is a key contributor to defining humanitarian studies as a field of research and stands as a British Academy recognized example of the interdisciplinary potential of area studies. It exemplifies the intellectual value of interdisciplinarity combined with responding to the realities of research and policy in this field. Our colleagues have won prizes for their research: **Sou** received the Rob Potter Prize, awarded by Royal Geographical Society, **Jafar** won the RCEM Rod Little Prize in 2018; **Davey** won the ISA Ethics Section and the Fondation de la Croix Rouge prizes for her monograph (2017) and **Burgard** the Society for the History of Childhood prize (2019).

Evidence of our contributions can be found in our impact work (see above), but also in the specific nature of the other esteem indicators that have been awarded to our staff: Professor Redmond was appointed President of World Association of Disaster and Emergency Medicine, Honorary Colonel of 207 Field Hospital, and received the University of Manchester Medal of Honour (2018). He was elected President of Manchester Medical Society in October 2017. **Davey** was appointed to the Conseil Scientifique, Fondation

Croix-Rouge Française in 2018. She served on the Save the Children Centenary Conference advisory board in 2019. **Jasani** is a Trustee for Sisters for Safety and Women Asylum Seekers Together. **Taithe** (FRHisS) serves on the MSF-CRASH scientific committee, the board of the IHSA in 2017, and has been elected to represent academia on the steering committee of ALNAP (2015-2018). Between 2013 and 2020 he was a Member of Conseil Scientifique, Pôle Afrique, Ministère Affaires Etrangères, France. Shaw sits on the United Nations HABITAT and UNISDR and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe panel on gender in standards.

Senior staff serve on grant panels of the British Academy (**Davey**), and review for UKRI (AHRC, ESRC, MRC), Leverhulme, Wellcome Trust, NIHR, ERC, Horizon 2020, and the Irish, Israel, Canadian, Australian, Swiss and US research councils (**Fast**, Lecky, Dark, **Turner**, **Taithe**). Colleagues are regularly asked to act as referees for publishers (**Read**, **Fast**, **Taithe**, **Turner**, **Vogel**), and work with publishers on editorial boards (**Taithe** for University of Manchester Press, **Vogel** as Assistant Editor for *Peacebuilding*, Taylor and Francis).

Over the past ten years HCRI has organised over 80 research events of national and international significance, 3 major conferences and several ESRC funded seminars.

Colleagues, including ECRs, have chaired major conferences and delivered plenaries at the Berlin Humanitarian Congress (**Taithe**) and Geneva Red Cross anniversary conference (**Davey**); chaired The Global Development Agenda Roundtable discussion, Royal Geographical Society Annual Conference (**Sou**); chaired the Working Group 5 on Community Resilience for the International Standards Organization, part of Technical Committee 292 on Societal Security (Shaw).

In order to promote excellent research in our domain, HCRI publishes one of only two open access journals in our field, and publishes the largest book series in the UK on humanitarian affairs (which attracts contributors from the USA, Germany, France and Italy) with Manchester University Press. Its staff serve on journals as editors (**Read**, **Sou**, **Taithe** / *Journal of Humanitarian Affairs*), or members of editorial boards (**Fast** / *Disasters*, **Taithe** / *European History*, **Turner** / *International Peacekeeping*).

In sum HCRI is a vibrant and growing institute at the heart of a dynamic and interdisciplinary field that it has had a significant role in shaping, particularly since 2014. Its research offers a sustained contribution to many disciplinary engagements with humanitarian affairs and actors. HCRI is internationally recognised for its productive collaborations with colleagues and peer institutions in Europe and North America, which ensure the sustained development of research that considers the fate of the hundreds of millions of people affected by disasters or conflict, and requiring a humanitarian response.